

Promoting Small Arms Control in the Private Security Sector Assistance Project (2015-2018)

This project forms part of a larger initiative led by UNLIREC and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) to promote implementation of the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS), UN SaferGuard Programme's International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATGs) and the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Services Providers (ICoC).

UNLIREC's Contribution

- Prevent small arms and ammunition belonging to private security companies (PSC) from being stolen, trafficked and/or used in crimes.
- Support governments in their efforts to develop mechanisms for good governance over the Private Security Services (PSS).
- Document, highlight and disseminate good practices by governments in control and oversight of PSCs and mechanisms of self-regulation in the same sector.
- Promote implementation of international standards through physical security and stockpile management of arms and ammunition by PSC



Beneficiaries

Costa Rica, El Salvador
and Peru

Project Roadmap

2015 marks the beginning of this 3-year project implemented by UNLIREC, DCAF, national authorities and representatives from private security services (PSS).

Facts and Figures

- PSCs employ approximately 25.5 million people worldwide.
- PSCs are estimated to hold up to 3.7 million small arms globally, not including undeclared holdings.
- Outside of armed conflict settings, PSCs are most highly armed in Latin America, with ratios of arms per employee about 10 times higher than in Western Europe.
- Greater regulation of PSCs can lead to a reduction in the diversion of weapons

UNLIREC's Assistance Approach

National Assessments

Objective: collect baseline information on Private Security Companies and small arms control



Approach: elaborate baseline assessments on the inter relationship between small arms and private security

Technical Assistance in the Implementation of National Action Plans

Objective: elaborate a systematic and viable plan to implement measures related to small arms control in the private security sector.



Approach: provide technical input for implementation of the National Action Plans based on existing national legislation and relevant international standards and initiatives

With the support of:



Capacity-building and Technical Assistance

Objective: increase the knowledge of national authorities and PSC on effective and transparent stockpile management of small arms and ammunition in the PSS



Approach: conduct voluntary assessments of PSCs facilities and deliver on-site training on the ISACS, SaferGuard's IATGs.

Technical Support & Products

Objective: create a training tool that includes guidelines for the oversight of stockpile management practices employed by PSCs



Approach: enhance national authorities' ability to provide oversight/monitoring of PSS management of weapons and ammunition stockpiles and facilitate the self-sustaining capacity-building of the PSS on stockpile management