



## July-August 2007

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### Africa

#### **Regional RECSA workshops on small arms policy and legislation in Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia**

In July, Saferworld helped facilitate workshops on small arms policy and legislation in Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia. The workshops, organised and funded by the Regional Centre on Small Arms (RECSA), were aimed at promoting more effective small arms legislation across the region by raising awareness of new legislation and ensuring that the different laws and policies apply the same minimum standards. They drew a wide range of audiences including representatives from various government ministries and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Similar events are being organised in each of the 12 States that have signed up to the Nairobi Protocol.

#### **Fact-finding in Eastern Equatoria, Southern Sudan**

In July, Saferworld undertook a fact-finding mission to the capital of Eastern Equatoria State in Southern Sudan, together with the Deputy Chair of the Southern Sudan Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Commission. Saferworld met with State authorities, church groups and women leaders to learn more about the small arms and human security situation as well as ongoing civilian disarmament initiatives. Eastern Equatoria borders northern Kenya and Uganda and one of the aims of the trip was to explore options for developing cross-border approaches to the small arms issue.

#### **Uganda and Sudan DDR research**

In August, Saferworld visited Uganda and Sudan to continue researching disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) in the region. The trips allowed Saferworld to assess the political situation in the countries as well as assess progress made on DDR and Security Sector Reform initiatives. During the visits, Saferworld met with a range of government, NGO and donor officials and interviews were held with ex-combatants. The case studies of DDR in Sudan and Uganda will feed into research on which Saferworld is currently working to inform international policy and practice on DDR.

#### **Uganda civil society organisations small arms network development**

Saferworld has recently supported a scoping / needs assessment exercise for the Uganda Action Network on Small Arms to assist them in identifying the strengths, weaknesses and challenges for the network and to document their membership and identify new potential members. In August, Saferworld visited Uganda to begin work with the board of the network to identify ways to begin implementing the recommendations of the needs assessment report and develop a new strategic plan. It is anticipated that Saferworld will provide support to them in implementing the plan.

#### **Uganda CSO conflict-sensitive training**

In August, Saferworld participated in a national civil society organisations' (CSO) training event in Uganda. The training aimed at equipping national CSOs with the skills and knowledge to enable them to make their work and that of other stakeholders more conflict-sensitive. This included sessions on conflict dynamics, conflict analysis tools and the conflict-sensitive approaches (CSA) to development.

This was the second training for national CSOs on the CSA methodology and the event brought together a wide range of NGOs working in the region.

### **Scoping of CSOs in Ethiopia and Southern Sudan**

In August, Saferworld undertook a regional scoping mission to Ethiopia to assess the current operating context of CSOs in the country with a view to re-starting some level of engagement with CSOs on small arms and light weapons (SALW) issues. Meetings were undertaken with a number of NGOs and a roundtable session was held to discuss the concept of CSA to development. A final meeting was held with a regional NGO working on cross-border interventions in peace-building and SALW. Saferworld will continue to maintain contact with CSOs in the country and hold further meetings to review and agree next steps. Saferworld also continued its assessment of civil society in Southern Sudan, begun in June. Follow-up meetings were held with international and Sudanese NGOs, church and women's groups in order to identify how Saferworld can help strengthen civil society action to address arms and insecurity in Southern Sudan.

### **Kenya community-based policing**

In August, Saferworld met with Kenyan community-based policing (CBP) partners, including the Kenya Police, Administration Police, Provincial Administration and community members, to plan future activities and organise a community-safety week scheduled for September. With partner organisation PeaceNet, Saferworld also held a meeting with the Isiolo CBP steering committee to discuss ways of strengthening the capacity of the body and to work on a joint plan of action for the forthcoming community-safety week.

### **KANSA strategy meeting**

In August, Saferworld attended a Kenya National Action Network on Small Arms (KANSA) strategy planning meeting in Nairobi to agree strategic directions and changes for the national network. Saferworld is active in helping to re-energise and institutionalise this important network to strengthen its capacity to co-ordinate effective small arms work.

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## **Asia**

### **Sri Lanka trip**

In August, Saferworld undertook a trip to Sri Lanka to participate in a number of meetings related to current in-country programme work. The visit afforded an opportunity to further meet with the National Commission Against the Proliferation of Illicit Small Arms, further develop relationships with local NGOs and meet officials at the British High Commission.

### **Regional Centre for Strategic Studies**

During the trip to Sri Lanka, Saferworld met with the Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, a Colombo-based security think-tank with 10-12 years' experience in working on security related issues, to discuss working together on a future workshop for regional think-tanks covering non-traditional threats to security. These events have in the past dealt with issues such as small arms and light weapons (SALW), illicit human trafficking, ethnic conflict and environmental security.

### **British High Commission, Colombo**

Saferworld also met with the British High Commission (BHC) in Sri Lanka to outline progress with ongoing strands of work under BHC funding. As well as discussing funding priorities, donor-related projects and regional level activities, Saferworld was informed of a future global/regional security sector reform colloquium due to be held in Kandalama in September. Saferworld is making arrangements to attend and contribute to this event.

### **NCAPISA meeting to discuss finalising Sri Lanka SALW survey**

During meetings with the National Small Arms Commission (NCAPISA), Saferworld discussed the National Small Arms Survey. As well as presenting the survey findings to a number of Commission members, next steps towards finalising the survey were also discussed. Saferworld will continue to assist NCAPISA in further developing a national small arms policy and action plan at future meetings as follow-up to the survey.

## **SASA-Net Sri Lanka**

Saferworld had an opportunity during the visit to catch up with NGO partner SASA-Net, to review their strategic plan and ongoing work. A joint programme of partnership work activity is currently being worked on and Saferworld looks forward to developing future projects with SASA-Net.

## **Nepal mission**

In August, Saferworld traveled to Nepal to present initial findings of ongoing research into public perceptions of the police and security issues to NGO representatives, police and other officials. The meetings were very useful for testing our interpretation of the data, sharing findings to interested audiences and discussing next steps. The trip also afforded a valuable opportunity for Saferworld to monitor the political situation and identify entry points for future in-country security sector reform work. The Strategic Issues Team will be working closely with the Asia Team over the coming months to plan a future programme of work in Nepal.

## **Bangladesh training workshop for journalists on security issues**

In August, Saferworld, with partners the National Forum Against Small Arms (NFASA), provided a training workshop in Dhaka for journalists to develop their understanding of SALW and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) problems in Bangladesh. As well as presenting SALW/IED reporting techniques, the event enabled journalists working in the field to learn more about national and international initiatives to tackle the problem of SALW misuse and proliferation. The workshop received widespread national print and broadcast media coverage.

## **NFASA strategic planning meeting**

In addition to the media training, Saferworld also attended the Bangladeshi National Forum Against Small Arms (NFASA) strategic planning meeting. The meeting was attended by a number of NGO network members and provided an opportunity for Saferworld to constructively engage in NFASA's future planning process for a more structured and focused engagement on SALW issues in Bangladesh.

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## **Europe**

### **Moldova community-based policing workshop**

In July, Saferworld organised a workshop on police reform in Moldova with the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and the Moldovan NGO, the Institute for Public Policy. The workshop was the first activity in a long-term national police reform programme, supported by Saferworld, to make the Moldovan police more professional, democratic and community-focused. This event will be followed by further workshops in October and November designed to expose senior and middle-ranking police officers, relevant government officials, civil society and observers from international organisations to the philosophy, principles and practice of a community-based policing (CBP).

### **Kosovo activities planning**

In July, Saferworld and partner Forum for Civic Initiatives (FIQ) held a strategic planning day in Pristina to agree future activities. Implemented within the joint SafePlace project, these activities will include the publication of findings on public perceptions of security, gathered in June through a Kosovo-wide survey. The report on this study, the second in a series of several tracker surveys, will focus on the work and development of the Kosovo Police Service, in addition to feeding into the SafePlace conflict analysis work, planned for September and October.

### **Bosnia community-based policing**

In July, Saferworld travelled to Bosnia to present a joint proposal with partner Centre for Strategic Studies (CSS) to members of the committee responsible for drawing up Bosnia's national CBP strategy. Following a good deal of preparatory work between Saferworld, CSS and other Bosnian actors, members of the committee welcomed the proposal to produce a 'handbook' focusing on police-community relations and implementation of CBP at a local level.

### **EU advocacy on conflict-sensitive approaches to Kosovo**

In July, Saferworld met with the Advisor to the Secretary General of the European Council's Situation Centre. The meeting was part of a series held in Brussels and in Pristina with EU officials to follow up Saferworld's conflict analysis and use the findings to inform future EU decisions in Kosovo. The session also enabled Saferworld to encourage the EU to recognise the importance of integrating conflict-sensitive approaches in its interventions in Kosovo and elsewhere.

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## **International advocacy and communications**

### **Saferworld report provokes debate on Myanmar EU arms embargo**

In July, Saferworld launched a new report highlighting how the EU arms embargo on Myanmar (Burma) is under threat. Written with other European and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) including Amnesty International, the report provoked widespread national and international comment and debate over the enforcement of arms embargoes and the need for stricter EU arms export controls. As well as news coverage in a number of national and international newspapers, Saferworld gave broadcast interviews to the BBC's World Tonight and World Television programmes and local radio. The report can be downloaded from Saferworld's publications section: <http://www.saferworld.org.uk/publications.php?id=270>

### **Saferworld comments on UK foreign policy approach**

In July, Saferworld responded to the Foreign Secretary's speech at Chatham House outlining his new approach to foreign policy, which highlighted the need to consult more widely, invest in tackling the causes of conflict and strengthen co-operation across the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and other departments. Saferworld welcomes these commitments and looks forward to discussing with the Government how it plans to take forward these proposals. Saferworld is currently feeding into the consultation launched by the FCO on key foreign policy priorities.

### **Saferworld's response to the Conservative Party's policy paper**

In July, Saferworld responded to a final report presented by the Conservative Party's Globalisation and Policy Poverty Group, set up last year by David Cameron to review the Conservative Party's international development policy in preparation for their election manifesto. Saferworld will continue to work with the Conservative Party as it takes these proposals forward towards its final manifesto.

### **Committee inquiry evidence published**

In July, Saferworld's written evidence to the International Development Committee inquiry into the prospects for sustainable peace in Uganda was published. The Committee's final report noted a number of Saferworld's recommendations, including the need to focus efforts on addressing security challenges and ensuring that the Peace Recovery and Development Plan covers all of North Uganda, to help prevent a spread of violence into neighbouring areas. The submission can be downloaded from Saferworld's publications section: <http://www.saferworld.org.uk/publications.php?id=274>

### **Saferworld's EU advocacy work on fragile states**

In July, Saferworld attended meetings to discuss fragile states at the Secretariat of the Council of the European Union in Brussels and with officials from the UK Department for International Development EU department in London. Organised by the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office, the Brussels event brought together Council Secretariat and civil society representatives to discuss fragile states, governance, and the EU-Africa Strategy. The London meeting, organised by BOND (British Overseas NGOs for Development), provided Saferworld with a valuable opportunity to underline the necessity of evaluating the impact of EU activities in developing countries and the need to ensure that context analysis, including conflict analysis, informs programme design and aid delivery. Saferworld is currently co-ordinating BOND's response to the European Commission consultation on Fragile States.

### **Saferworld welcomes latest Parliamentary committee report**

In August, Saferworld responded to the release of the UK Parliament's Annual Quadripartite Committee report. While the report warns that UK legislation is struggling to deal with an increasingly globalised defence industry, Saferworld felt it underplayed the negative impact that the UK's arms exports could have on developing countries. The press release can be downloaded from the media section: <http://www.saferworld.org.uk/pressresult.php?id=273&lang=en>

### **Arms Trade Treaty advocacy work**

In August, Saferworld attended a two-day conference in Argentina entitled 'Current initiatives in the field of conventional arms: perspective from Latin America and the Caribbean' to promote the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and develop Saferworld's profile in the region. Thirty governments were represented and the event afforded Saferworld a valuable opportunity to establish relations with key officials and NGO representatives working towards the successful implementation of the ATT. In the UK, Saferworld attended a meeting hosted by the FCO to discuss next steps on the ATT.

### **Whitehall meeting on GCPP Funding**

In August, Saferworld attended a cross-departmental meeting with the FCO, the Department for International Development and the Ministry of Defence to discuss planned changes and future priorities for the Global Conflict Prevention Pool (GCPP). The meeting, organised by the UK NGO network the Peace and Security Liaison Group (PSLG), provided an opportunity to discuss the Government's funding priorities and departmental allocations as well highlight PSLG concerns.

### **International transfer controls advocacy in China**

In August, Saferworld undertook a trip to China to promote the ATT and raise awareness about the ATT process amongst leading think-tanks, academics and other opinion formers. As well as discussing opportunities for a future programme of work in China with local NGOs and government officials, the trip enabled Saferworld to strengthen its understanding of arms transfer controls in the region and engage more fully with China on peace and security issues.

### **SALW control meeting in Geneva**

In August, a number of Saferworld representatives attended a United Nations inter-sessional informal meeting on transfer control principles for small arms and light weapons (SALW), organised by the Canadian Government to review progress on the UN Programme of Action (PoA) commitments at the national, regional and international levels. The event, attended by over 100 governments, also provided an opportunity to discuss progress on the ATT.

### **South Asia informal side meeting**

During the event, Saferworld hosted a South Asia programme side meeting to promote dialogue between states from the South Asia region on the UN Programme of Action, particularly the role of national commissions in small arms control and the ATT. Representatives of the Governments of Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka attended the event and discussions focused on areas of cooperation and collaboration bilaterally and regionally.

### **Launch of Biting the Bullet report on diversion of small arms and light weapons**

The Biting the Bullet joint project, involving International Alert, Saferworld and University of Bradford, also used the Geneva event to launch a new report on preventing and reducing unauthorised diversion of SALW. The paper provides an up-to-date analysis of existing tools to prevent diversion of SALW and a review of states' progress towards implementing key UN PoA commitments in this area. The report can be downloaded from Saferworld's publications section:

<http://www.saferworld.org.uk/publications.php?id=275>

### **Parliamentary meetings on the ECA**

In August, Saferworld met with a number of Liberal Democrat advisors and researchers to discuss the ongoing review of the first three years' operation of the 2002 Export Control Act. Saferworld is meeting with a number of NGOs and parliamentarians to outline four key issues that need to be addressed in the review including: brokering, end-use monitoring, licensed production overseas and enforcement.

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## **Strategic issues**

### **Peace Support Operations: Information and guidance for UK police personnel published**

In July, the UK's Foreign Office published 'Peace Support Operations: Information and guidance for UK police personnel'. With contributions from Saferworld, the publication is a reference guide for UK police personnel being deployed overseas in support peacekeeping operations. The guide can be downloaded from Saferworld's publications section:

[http://www.saferworld.co.uk/images/pubdocs/Peace\\_support\\_operations.pdf](http://www.saferworld.co.uk/images/pubdocs/Peace_support_operations.pdf)

### **Presentation at the International Peace Support Briefing Programme**

In July, Saferworld, at the invitation of Major Colin Armstrong, presented at the International Peace Support Briefing Programme (IPSBP – British Army) on civil-military relations in Peace Support Operations. As well as familiarising the participants on the course with Saferworld's work, the session afforded the opportunity to outline conflict-sensitive approaches to military operations. The event was attended by army and service personnel from Bosnia, Indonesia, Macedonia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and the UK.

### **OECD-DAC Handbook on Security System Reform published**

In July, the 'Handbook on Security System Reform: Supporting Security and Justice' was published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC). Saferworld was part of the consortium that led the first phase of developing the handbook. The handbook can be downloaded from Saferworld's publications section:  
[http://www.saferworld.co.uk/images/pubdocs/OECD\\_SSR\\_Handbook.pdf](http://www.saferworld.co.uk/images/pubdocs/OECD_SSR_Handbook.pdf)

### **DFID/UNDP meeting on armed violence**

In July, Saferworld was invited to attend a meeting, jointly organised by the UK Department for International Development and the United Nations Development Programme, on armed violence. The meeting brought together international NGOs to discuss and review the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and related guidance on addressing armed violence through development interventions.

### **Bradford DDR project meeting**

In August, Saferworld attended a meeting of the disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) and human security project partners at the Overseas Development Institute to review progress to date in the thematic working papers being written for the project. As well as producing papers on DDR and security sector reform and small arms and light weapons control, Saferworld is also conducting field research in Uganda, Sudan and Nepal to inform the project's findings. Saferworld will now begin working on incorporating the findings of the field research into the working papers.

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## **Organisation**

### **Saferworld planning week**

In July, Saferworld held a cross-organisation planning week at its London office. Bringing together Saferworld staff from our offices in Asia, Africa and Europe, the week provided a valuable opportunity to review strategic and communication objectives, as well as affording country teams the chance to review country strategies and thematic priorities. The next planning week will be held in January 2008.

### **Funding**

Saferworld is grateful to the following donors who have agreed funds over the past couple of months to support Saferworld's work:

- The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency for a grant of SEK 12.6 million over three years for Saferworld's work to create safer communities and support effective SALW and arms transfer controls
- The British High Commission to Bangladesh for a grant of £75,713 to identify and tackle community insecurity and armed violence in Bangladesh

### **New appointments:**

Larry Attree – Team Leader, Asia

### **New Trustees:**

Alice Hills – Saferworld is pleased to welcome Alice Hills to the Board of Trustees. Alice joined the School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds in 2004, and is also a member of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations' International Policing Advisory Council.

### **Sabbatical:**

Bernardo Mariani – Arms Transfer Controls Adviser (September 2007 - August 2008)

### **Good bye and thank you to:**

Juliana Sokolová – Project Officer, South Eastern Europe

Goska Wasilewska – Senior Project Co-ordinator, Eastern Europe

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