

Gender Balanced Approach to Small Arms Control and Awareness for the communities in Libya



Objectives

Build capacity of women as “***agents of change***” to ***raise awareness*** on the risk associated with small arms, light weapons and ammunition, in order to ***reduce the risks, modify behavior and alter attitudes*** in the household, community and society.

Outline

- Problems associated to SALW in Libya;
- Methodology;
- Feedback from the community; and
- Next Steps.

Small Arms Problems



Why is the community suffering from SALW?

- ❑ Libyan Government has lost control of SALW stockpile;
- ❑ Approximately 20m illicit weapons (approx. 3.3 weapons per capita);
- ❑ Porous borders (with little or no arms control);
- ❑ Increased armed violence fuels by the availability of illicit weapons; and
- ❑ Lack of national security capability.

Methodology

- Identify suitable women in the community to undertake the training;
 - Involve political mission (women empowerment division)
- Identify suitable implementing partners;
 - Recognize strength and weakness. Bring added value.
- Design Concept (3 workshops to be held outside Libya);
 - Incremental, step by step, and consistent process (Identify ways to build confidence & trust within local communities)
- Delivery of measureable SALW Risk Education between workshops 1 and 2.; and
 - Strengthening local ownership and enhancing understanding
- Workshop 3 a review of results from RE and lessons learnt and next steps.
 - How to continue to engage - not lose impact

Workshops

- Workshop 1: Local Ownership and the Libyan Message.** Guidance provided to strengthen **knowledge of small arms and ammunition risks** in communities and tools that enabled the women to engage with their communities—**One on one perception survey tool.** Women trained specifically on message delivery, target audience and safety of engagement.
- Activities by the trained women between workshop 1 and 2:** Each women complete 10 perception surveys with elders, religious leaders, combatants, civic leaders, educators and users
 - All materials prepared in Arabic
 - Message for both men and women
 - Guideline for engagement with youth
 - Systematic collection of good experience, challenges, changes needed
 - Weekly follow up

Workshops

- Workshop 2:** Analysis of outcomes and data from the initial surveys. Consolidation of Libya-specific messages on risk awareness designed by the women, modified and consensus reached. Further risk awareness training on arms and ammunition (storage, handling, registration, and education). Revision of one on one perception survey material and facilitation of group and community dialogue sessions.
- Activities by the trained women between workshop 2 and 3:** Each women complete 30 perception surveys with elders, religious leaders, combatants, civic leaders, educators and users in their communities and completed 3 group discussion sessions (approx. 30 people per session)
 - Provided with tablets with all relevant tools
 - Use of visual media
 - Women designed leaflets and flyers
 - Utilizing existing community resources (Universities, civil society)
 - Share and approve with UNMAS the plan of activities; What was done? SALW message? What impact did it have on your community? What were the lessons learned?

Workshops

- **Workshop 3: Shared experiences to better inform strategies and initiatives to reduce risk of SALW in Libyan communities:**
 - **Review activities** conducted
 - **Present** on your activities to international community in Geneva
 - **Share experiences and lessons Learned**
 - **Re-visit vision and strategy** to inform improved initiatives

SALW Risk Education in Libya

How was SALW Risk Education conducted?

- ❑ Baseline assessment of SALW knowledge, attitudes and practices; Now have up to date perception baseline
- ❑ About 300 one-on-one SALW Risk Education sessions;
- ❑ More than 30 group discussions within communities on threats and dangers of SALW reaching over 900 individuals from across Libya; and
- ❑ Materials: posters, leaflets, radio, TV.

SALW Risk Education in Libya

Examples of difficulties faced during SALW Risk Education Activities

- Reluctance of interlocutors to talk about firearms possession/ownership
- Insecurity due to proliferation of armed groups
 - Security issues impeding transportation within and between cities
- Infrastructure problems
 - Blackouts
- Lack of resources for development of supporting materials

Solutions to SALW Problem

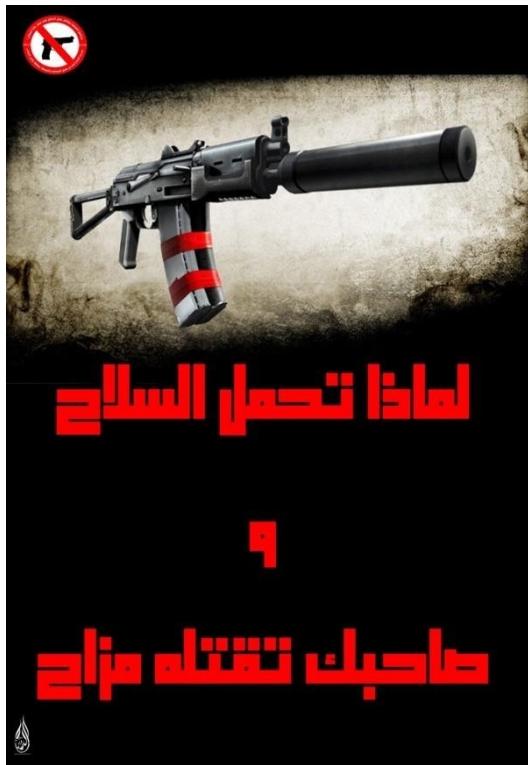
Feedback from Libyan communities for solutions to the threats and dangers of SALW:

- Sustainable SALW Risk Education Programmes
- Development and implementation of SALW control mechanisms, such as registration
 - Through cooperation with technical experts on SALW
- A unified Libyan SALW Risk Education & Awareness Campaign
 - Developed in coopération with media outlets to ensure wider coverage and reach





MATERIALS USED



Why are you carrying a weapon?
You might jokingly kill your friend

You respect to the school system is
a sign of your awareness
Do not carry these items



Together, let's replace a Bullet
with a pencil

Next Steps

How can we go forward?

□ Tailor-made SALW Risk Education for community leaders:

- Traditional leaders; Security providers; Combatants and;
- Young men and youth (under 15);
- Women groups.

□ Implementation of SALW Risk Education activities through cooperation with:

- Local and national officials
- Initiatives dealing with armed violence (e.g. psycho-social support)

Next Steps

- Development of SALW Risk Education & Awareness
Raising media campaigns
 - Integrating beneficiaries in future activities
- Having a common Libyan campaign and message for all the different Libyan communities
- ToT

Across Libya the uncontrolled proliferation and possession of SALW has an impact on peace and security of our communities.