



March 2019

The Making Peace Operations More Effective (MPOME) Project

Peacekeepers have a critical role to play in efforts to reduce illicit arms flows in the areas of conflict in which they operate. Part of this effort involves ensuring that the weapons that peacekeepers deploy with, as well as those they recover during the course of their duties, are well managed and do not recirculate to unauthorized parties. By addressing illicit arms proliferation, peacekeepers can more effectively achieve their mandates, protect civilians, facilitate humanitarian aid, and enhance security—including their own.

The Small Arms Survey's Making Peace Operations More Effective (MPOME) project contributes to the reduction of violence and insecurity due to illicit arms proliferation in conflict zones. Towards that end, the project is working to **build a collaborative agenda**—with the United Nations, regional organizations, and troop- and police-contributing countries (TCCs/PCCs)—to reduce the diversion of arms and ammunition from peace operations. The focus is to **improve practices** to manage both contingent-owned equipment as well as recovered materiel. Phase 1 of the MPOME project (through March 2019) has worked to:

- produce cutting-edge, peer-reviewed research on arms management and losses in peace operations and establish the Survey's Peace Operations Data Set (PODS);
- assist the African Union to develop and implement a new policy to manage recovered weapons in the peace operations it authorizes;
- support regional organizations to operationalize existing (but unimplemented) commitments on the management of arms and ammunition in peace operations;
- consolidate understanding of existing TCC/PCC practices—in particular, good practices—and training needs through a series of regional workshops in partnership with regional organizations that field peace operations and regional training institutions whose mission is to enhance these operations' effectiveness;
- design training modules for strengthening TCC/PCC practices; and
- promote a gender perspective in arms control initiatives in peace operations to strengthen the effectiveness of those efforts.

Phase 2 of MPOME (from April 2019) will further strengthen the sustainability of Phase 1 activities and expand the scope of this work by:

- expanding PODS—including its methodology and web-based interactive map—to enhance the evidence base for reform efforts and to help assess the efficacy of improved practice;
- supporting existing partners and reaching out to new TCCs and PCCs, as well as regional organizations authorizing peace operations;
- developing reform and accountability initiatives in peace operations to enhance performance, with an emphasis on applying a gender lens and promoting the women, peace, and security agenda;
- delivering the training and capacity-building efforts developed in Phase 1 around arms and ammunition management in peace operations and the evolving legal norms and guidelines of organizations authorizing peace operations;
- enhancing peacekeepers' participation in illicit arms flows reduction efforts in conflict zones in line with recent UN directives; and
- identifying practical measures to strengthen the collection and sharing of information and technical weapons intelligence and analysis in peace operations.

Selected MPOME-related resources

'The Peace Operations Data Set (PODS) Dynamic Map.' Online Interactive Map.

Beyond Blue Helmets: Promoting Weapons and Ammunition Management in Non-UN Peace Operations. Report (2019) by Eric G. Berman. Geneva: Small Arms Survey. March. (Forthcoming in French and Spanish.)

Making a Tough Job More Difficult: Loss of Arms and Ammunition in Peace Operations. Report (2017) by Eric G. Berman, Mihaela Racovita, and Matt Schroeder. Geneva: Small Arms Survey. October. (Also available in French.)

Under Attack and Above Scrutiny? Arms and Ammunition Diversion from Peacekeepers in Sudan and South Sudan, 2002–14. HSBA Working Paper No. 37 (2015) by Eric G. Berman and Mihaela Racovita. Geneva: Small Arms Survey. July. (Also available in Arabic.)

MPOME Regional Workshop Reports, containing papers from subject matter experts including former force commanders and heads of missions of peace operations.

More information on the project, including links to the above-mentioned studies and regional workshops, is available at www.smallarmssurvey.org/mpome.

About the Small Arms Survey

The Survey is a global centre of excellence whose mandate is to generate evidence-based, impartial, and policy-relevant knowledge on all aspects of small arms and armed violence. It is the principal international source of expertise, information, and analysis on small arms and armed violence issues, and acts as a resource for governments, policy-makers, researchers, and civil society. It is a project of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. MPOME is undertaken with the support of:



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For more information, contact:

Emile LeBrun, MPOME Project Coordinator, emile.lebrun@smallarmssurvey.org