Small arms survey

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The Small Arms Survey is an independent research project located at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland.

The objectives of the Small Arms Survey are: to be the principal source of public information on all aspects of small arms and armed violence; to serve as a resource centre for governments, policy-makers, researchers, and activists; to monitor national and international initiatives (governmental and non-governmental) on small arms; to support efforts to address the effects of small arms proliferation and misuse; and to act as a clearinghouse for the sharing of information and the dissemination of best practices.

The Survey also sponsors field research and information-gathering efforts, especially in affected states and regions. The project has an international staff with expertise in security studies, political science, law, economics, development studies, and sociology, and collaborates with a network of researchers, partner institutions, non-governmental organizations, and governments in more than 50 countries.

VPA focal person

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Anna holds a degree in Psychology, a post-graduate diploma in Sociology and Research Methodology and a Doctorate in Criminology (University of Bologna, Italy). She worked as a Research Officer at the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), and at the United Nations Office for Drug and Crime Control (UNODC). She is currently the Research Director at the Small Arms Survey. Her main areas of research include crime prevention, crime statistics, corruption, transnational organized crime and illegal markets, comparative criminal justice systems, and gender-related issues.
The Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development represents a high-level diplomatic initiative aimed at achieving measurable reductions in the global burden of armed violence in conflict and non-conflict settings by 2015 and beyond. The Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development highlights the role that states and civil society must play in preventing and reducing violence associated with war, crime, and social unrest. The Declaration was adopted on 7 June 2006 and is now endorsed by over 100 states. The Geneva Declaration commits signatories to:

- Support initiatives to measure the human, social and economic costs of armed violence;
- Undertake assessments to understand and respond to risks and vulnerabilities;
- Evaluate the effectiveness of armed violence prevention and reduction programs around the world; and
- To disseminate lessons and best practices.

Signatories recognize that armed violence constitutes a major obstacle to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. They agree to strengthen their efforts to integrate armed violence reduction and conflict prevention programmes into national, regional, and multilateral development frameworks and strategies. The Geneva Declaration is the strongest political statement to date that addresses the impact of armed violence within a development context.

**VPA focal person**

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Luigi holds a degree in Political Science and a master degree in Anthropology. He has worked as a researcher in political science at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland and then worked for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Central Asia. He has been Research and Program Officer at the Palestinian Research Unit at the Graduate Institute of Development Studies in Geneva and then Fellow at the Geneva Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action. Since 2010 he is the coordinator of the Secretariat of the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development.