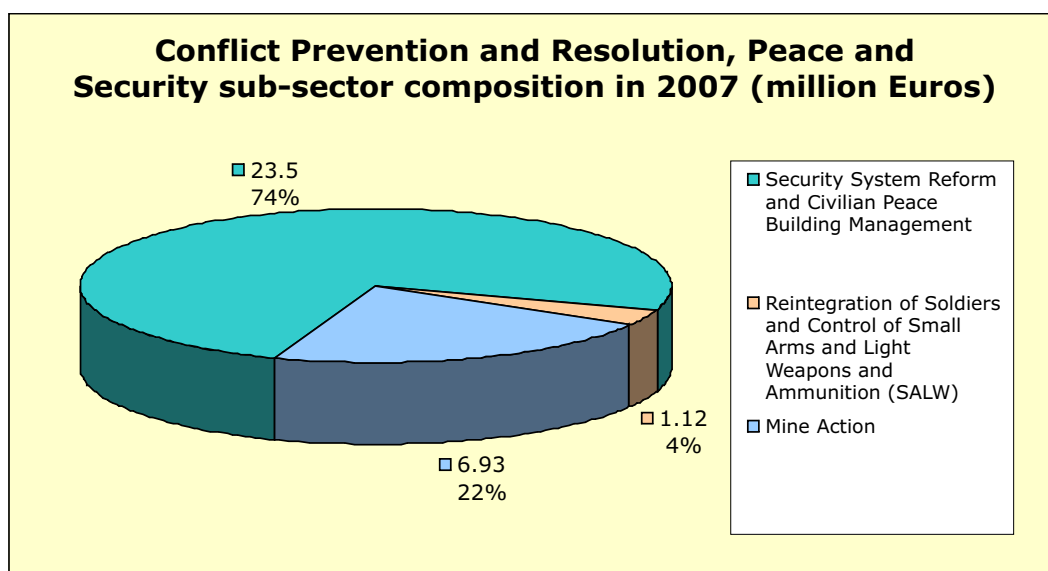


## CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESOLUTION PEACE AND SECURITY

Although it is widely recognized that Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) has moved from a post-conflict reconstruction stage to one of transitional development, some legacies of the 1992-1995 war have yet to be overcome. These include various elements of the Conflict Prevention and Resolution, Peace and Security sector, such as the decentralized police forces,<sup>132</sup> excess military personnel, the large number of small arms and light weapons and ammunitions (SALW), the absence of a coherent emergency response capacity, and the existence of mines and unexploded ordnances (UXO) that contaminate vast areas of the country. These not only pose human security dangers but also loom over the still-fragile political situation in BiH and significantly stunt the country's economic development.

The path from crisis to peaceful governance is never smooth. No simple, straightforward roadmap exists to guide the country. The focus in BiH is on structural prevention building institutional frameworks and processes which can establish and foster non-violent conflict resolution methods and creative, enduring solutions for conflict prevention. In this context, BiH works on several simultaneous reform processes, including those in the areas of defense and police reform, civil protection, disaster response management and civilian peace building, SALW destruction and mine action. Reform of the legal and judicial sector is closely tied to these processes, as a sustainable security environment requires a system that guarantees the rule of law, respect for national and international law, including human rights and international humanitarian law, and democratic development. These latter issues are addressed in the Good Governance and Institution Building chapter of this report.

Several donors assist BiH in initiating or implementing reforms in the Conflict Prevention and Resolution, Peace and Security sector. International agencies work to promote a BiH that is secure within its own borders, at peace with itself and its neighbors, capable of combating crime, trafficking and corruption, democratically governed, pluralistic and tolerant, as well as economically strong. To this end, BiH needs complex strategies embracing political, legal, constitutional, security and economic measures. But to date, despite commendable progress in all elements of Conflict Prevention and Resolution, such a comprehensive approach to security sector reform and interrelated fields has been lacking.



This chapter looks at three major areas of activity within Conflict Prevention and Resolution, Peace and Security. The first sub-section reviews defense and police reforms, civil protection and disaster response, and civilian peace-building activities, which are tied together under the umbrella heading of Security Sector Reform and Civilian Peace-Building Management. The second sub-section examines two prioritized aspects of Defense Reform, namely personnel management (i.e. reintegration of demobilized soldiers) and property issues (i.e. control of small arms and light weapons and ammunition). Finally, the chapter reviews donors' approaches to BiH's significant problem of mine contamination.

<sup>132</sup> *Financial, Organizational and Administrative Assessment of the BiH Police Forces and the State Border Service - Final Assessment Report* (EC, 2004), 15. (Hereafter: *Final Assessment Report*, 2004.) Retrieved from [www.europa.ba/files/docs/publications/en/FunctRew/BiHPoliceFinalReport2004-06-30ENPRINT.pdf](http://www.europa.ba/files/docs/publications/en/FunctRew/BiHPoliceFinalReport2004-06-30ENPRINT.pdf).

## Security Sector Reform and Civilian Peace-Building Management

<b>Sector definition</b>	<p>Based on DAC definitions, the <b>Security Sector Reform and Civilian Peace-Building Management</b> sub-sector has four main elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical cooperation provided to parliament, government ministries, law enforcement agencies and the judiciary to assist review and reform of the security system in order to improve democratic governance and civilian control;</li> <li>• Technical cooperation provided to government to improve civilian oversight and democratic control of budgeting, management, accountability and auditing of security expenditure, including military budgets, as part of a public expenditure management programme;</li> <li>• Assistance to civil society to enhance its competence and capacity to scrutinize the security system so that it is managed in accordance with democratic norms and principles of accountability, transparency and good governance.</li> <li>• Support for civilian activities related to peace building, conflict prevention and resolution, including capacity building, monitoring, dialogue, and information exchange.</li> </ul> <p>DAC codes: 15210, 15220.</p>
<b>Key DCF donors</b>	Austria/ADA, France, Germany/GTZ/KfW, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain/AECID, Sweden/SIDA, Switzerland/SDC/SECO, UK/DFID, USA/USAID, the EC and UNDP.
<b>Other key international organizations (IOs)</b>	The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Union Police Mission (EUPM), the Office of the High Representative (OHR), and European Union Forces (EUFOR).
<b>Key government partners</b>	All bodies dealing with security and justice, including Ministries of Justice and Ministries of Internal Affairs at all levels of government, the BiH Ministry of Security, the BiH Ministry of Defense, the Brčko District Police, the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH), as well as implementing agencies, such as the State Border Police, the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA), and Interpol.
<b>Total amount of donor allocation to the sector in 2007</b>	€ 23.5 million.
<b>Sector strategies</b>	No state-wide security sector strategy; BiH approaches defense, law enforcement, civil protection and disaster response mechanisms and civilian peace-building management separately.
<b>Donor coordination</b>	Regular donor coordination meetings organized by the European Union Police Mission (EUPM); Security Sector Steering Group meetings, chaired by the BiH Ministry of Security (MoS).

### Overview

The multidimensional Security sub-sector in BiH encompasses a variety of institutions. These are namely: the Ministries of Defense, Security, Justice and Internal Affairs at all levels of government, subsequent law enforcement and civil protection agencies, the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH), as well as implementing agencies, such as the State Border Police, State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA) and Interpol. Their activities aim to respond to threats to the State's territory, institutions, and sovereignty, and also to an array of dangers to individual citizens and the public at large.

There are four areas that have shaped the Security System Reform and Civilian Peace-Building Management sub-sector. These are defense reform, police reform, civil protection and disaster response, and civilian peace-building management.

The reforms within this sub-sector have improved the capacity of BiH to prevent possible conflicts and to ensure a stable and secure environment through regulating mechanisms.<sup>133</sup> For example, defense reform guaranteed the supremacy of the State in defense matters and strengthened the Presidency's role in exercising civilian command and control of the AFBiH. Reform of BiH's police structures has also seen progress. In October 2007, six leading political parties in BiH signed the Declaration on Honouring the Commitments for Implementation of the

Police Reform (Mostar Declaration) aiming to fulfill the condition for signing the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA). The Civil Protection and Disasters Response sub-sector stakeholders, specifically the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), UNDP and the working group appointed by the Council of Ministers (CoM), have been cooperating to finalize in 2008 a BiH Law on Protection and Rescue of People and Material Goods.

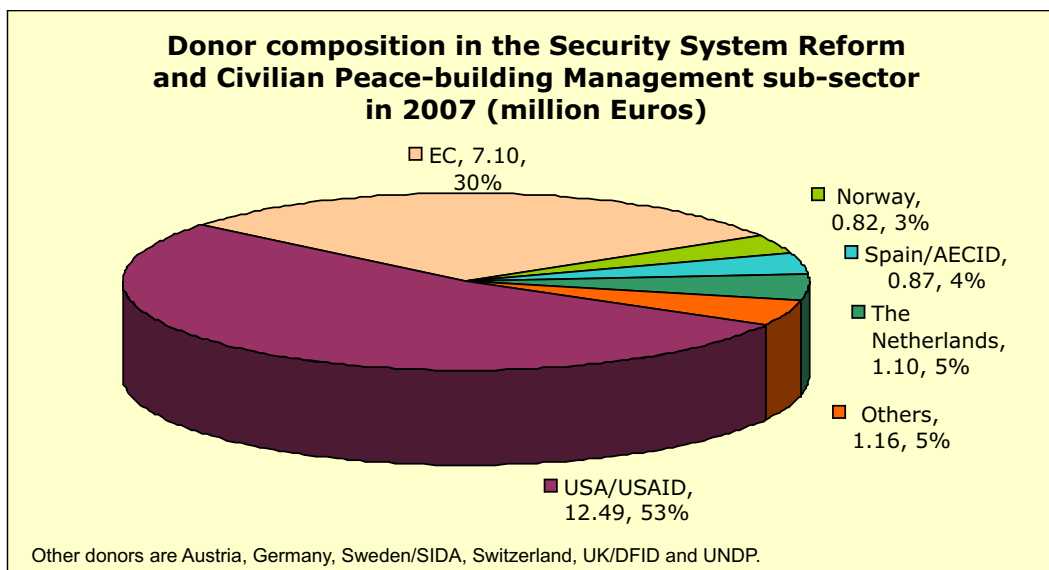
#### Milestones in BiH military reform

- **2005** - Agreement reached on a defense reform establishing a NATO-compatible single military force.
- **January 2006** Implementation of the defense reform began.
- **5 July 2006** - The Presidency approved proposals for the new Armed Forces of BiH.
- **29 November 2006** - Along with Montenegro and Serbia, BiH was invited to join NATO's Partnership for Peace (PfP) and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council.
- **14 December 2006** - Framework Document of the PfP was signed.

**Source:** Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Country Profiles

## Donor activities in 2007

The DCF donors in the Security Sector Reform and Civilian Peace-Building Management sub-sector are Austria/ADA, France, Germany/GTZ, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain/AECID, Sweden/SIDA, Switzerland/SDC/SECO, UK/DFID, USA/USAID, the EC and UNDP. Together they contributed € 23.5 million in 2007, all in the form of grants. These donors are supporting defense and police reforms, civil protection, border management, and civilian peace-building. In addition, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Union Police Mission (EUPM), European Union Forces (EUFOR), and the Office of the High Representative (OHR) play very important roles in reforming this sub-sector.



**Defense Reform** - All support for Defense Reform takes place within the framework of NATO's *Partnership for Peace (PfP)* and *Individual Partnership Action Plan (IPAP)* programmes. While PfP is military-oriented, IPAP covers areas that go beyond military issues, such as democratic control, judiciary requirements, media openness, and access to information for citizens. The BiH Ministry of Defense (MoD) receives significant capacity-building, legal and budgeting assistance from NATO.

In the field of defense reform, **UK/DFID**<sup>134</sup> provides situation analysis, capacity-building support, and assistance in strategic planning and policy development, as well as sectoral donor coordination. It supports the work of the Ministries of Security, Justice and Defense, as well as the AFBiH. In addition, UK/DFID is the leading donor assisting the Peace Support Operation Training Centre (PSOTC), a 12-nation project with the aim of training junior officers from the three constitutive ethnicities in BiH.

<sup>133</sup> It should be noted, however, that this is not an aim to be achieved, but an ongoing process.

<sup>134</sup> Funds for this sector are channeled through the Global Conflict Prevention Pool, which provides a cross-government (MoD, DFID, FCO) comprehensive programme of conflict prevention projects in the Balkans.

**USA** contributed € 6.5 million in 2007 to defense reform. The US Government (USG) funds advisors within the Ministry of Defense (MoD). The USG also equips and trains BiH's Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) team. Advisors provide technical counseling on the structuring of the new state-level MoD and the AFBiH. Additional USG funding was dedicated to advancing officer development in order to meet NATO's PfP requirements.

**Police Reform** - The next step in BiH's candidacy for EU membership, namely the signing of the SAA, is predicated on, *inter alia*, evidence that the police reform is irreversibly on track.<sup>135</sup> In October 2007, six main political parties signed the Mostar Declaration, which committed them to implement police restructuring activities according to EU principles. This Declaration generated some optimism.<sup>136</sup> The **EC** is the lead agency on both of these tracks, having invested in equipment, training and, together with OHR, political brokering of police reform. Currently, the EC provides technical assistance for the implementation of the recommendations of the Functional Review, which constituted the basis for the work of the Police Restructuring Commission. Moreover, the EC is involved in building the capacities of the Ministry of Security (MoS) through the establishment of a National Security Authority.

**USA/USAID** has supported Police Reform with € 3.6 million during 2007. Its assistance is focused on building sustainable capacity in state-level law enforcement institutions, training law enforcement officials in a variety of fields,<sup>137</sup> expanding coverage of the State Police Information Network, and developing specialized software packages, such as the Criminal Intelligence Data Acquisition and Border Control Systems. Moreover, USA/USAID has continued providing assistance to the SIPA to develop and harmonize policy and procedure documents and create secure evidence facilities. USA/USAID also fosters BiH's development, adoption, modification and implementation of export control legislation, in conformance with acceptable international standards.

**UK/DFID** funds an advisor at the MoS, to affect change at the strategic level. Each year, **France** organizes 17 actions in BiH that concern police activities. During 2007, France provided training for various units dealing with security. Topics included arresting criminals, investigating crimes, maintaining public order, and protecting civilians. **Spain/AECID** supported the establishment and consolidation of the SIPA's Financial Intelligence Department since it began operating in 2004. Spain/AECID also assisted the police forces in their fight against human trafficking, and provided equipment and training to the Criminalistic Laboratories.

UK/DFID and **Switzerland/SDC/SECO** aid the strengthening of institutions responsible for community policing and lower-court administration. This support takes the form of training, promoting procedures for the establishment of a legal base for community policing, improving technical capacities, and building facilities for police stations. In addition, UK/DFID and Switzerland/SDC/SECO have provided assistance in the development of the Community Policing Strategy and its implementation.

In cooperation with the Bundeskriminalamt Austria, Switzerland/SDC/SECO supported the education of SIPA's management staff. Trainings in accordance with EU standards have been in the fields of criminal prevention, modern management, planning and controlling instruments, and PR strategies.

**EUPM's** activities in this sub-sector must also be mentioned. EUPM seeks to establish sustainable policing arrangements in accordance with best European and international practices. EUPM endeavors to achieve this aim particularly through monitoring, mentoring, and inspecting managerial and operational capabilities and activities.

Integrated Border Management (IBM) was introduced, aiming to create open borders for the movement of people and goods while ensuring that these borders are closed for illicit trafficking and criminal activities. Several agencies coordinate over border management, including the Border Police of BiH, the Indirect Taxation Authority (ITA), and the Veterinary, Phytosanitary, Sanitary and Market Inspectorates. The **EC** is the main donor supporting IBM initiatives. This donor's activities include technical assistance for the implementation of the national IBM plan, capacity building for all institutions involved, and development of the infrastructure at border crossing points. The EC is also supporting BiH in improving its capacities and facilities for migration management.

<sup>135</sup> *Bosnia and Herzegovina 2007 Progress Report* (EC, 2007), 5.

<sup>136</sup> Since the information collection stage, Police Reform has seen considerable progress. On 10 April 2008, the Lower House of Parliament adopted a key police reform package that was four years in the making and is considered the main requirement for signing the SAA with the EU. The measure moves next to the Upper House, where approval is expected. The new draft does not envision the merger of RS and FBIH police but stipulates the establishment of seven panels to coordinate and supervise police work.

<sup>137</sup> These include the following: academy and instructor development, advanced surveillance, major case management, interviews and interrogations, auto crimes, basic police services, firearms, criminal investigations, criminal justice coordination, information systems, and senior leadership and administration.

**Civil Protection and Disaster Response** - Civil protection and disaster response mechanisms in BiH are underdeveloped. BiH does not have a centralized disaster management and risk-reduction capacity at the state level. Also, there is neither a short- nor a long-term strategy that would clearly define the priorities in upgrading the country's capacities to plan, assess, prevent or mitigate the effects produced by natural or other types of disasters. That said, there is an increasing capacity at the entity level within this sector and an ever-growing donor interest to assist the BiH authorities in upgrading their equipment, enhancing their skills, and develop appropriate strategies to guide their work. On a positive note, with the signing of the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disaster* (Hyogo Framework), BiH has firmly committed itself to meet international obligations.

**UNDP** started working in this area in 2007, through the *Disaster Risk Reduction Project*, which aims to increase BiH's legal and operational capacities for national disaster risk reduction. The project will support the establishment of a state system for coordinating civil protection and disaster risk management within the MoS, as well as provide strategic and training assistance to relevant stakeholders. **France** organizes trainings on civil protection for the specially designated division for civilian protection in the MoS. In addition, non-DCF members, NATO, OHR and the OSCE as well as the Danish Government have all supported efforts in this area, while the Stability Pact has been coordinating regional activities.

#### **Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disaster**

The Hyogo Framework emphasizes the responsibility of states to create sustainable mechanisms and capacities for disaster risk reduction (DRR), and commits states to work towards ensuring that disaster management planning and coordination is prioritised and institutional mechanisms (national platforms) for DRR developed. It additionally commits states to data collection, including monitoring and assessing disaster risks and the development of human capacities through knowledge sharing, training and education. States should also undertake activities at reducing the underlying risk factors and strengthen disaster preparedness at all levels.

**Civilian Peace-Building** - Efforts in this area focus on assisting civilian peace-building initiatives, including the search and identification of missing persons, and the promotion of stability and ethnic reconciliation through grass-roots initiatives. Support to the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) has been given by **Germany/GTZ, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain/AECID,<sup>138</sup> Sweden/SIDA, USA/ USAID** and **the EC** to the value of € 9.6 million (2006-2010). Assistance for reconciliation is provided by the **UK/DFID, Italy/IC, the Netherlands** and **Spain/AECID** with a special focus on returnees. Each of these agencies supports either independent media or civil society initiatives for policy dialogue, advocacy, and building social cohesion. It is foreseen that in 2008, the MDG-Fund-supported *Culture and Development* project (UNDP, UNICEF and UNESCO) will also address this issue through art and educational initiatives. Finally, **Austria/ADA** supports UNDP's efforts in the regular publishing of Early Warning System reports.

## **Sector strategies**

BiH does not have a statewide strategy for the Security sector. Defense, law enforcement, civil protection, disaster response mechanisms, and civilian peace-building management are governed by the respective agreements and guiding documents.

Defense Reform is led by the strategic principles of the Defense White Paper of June 2005. The objectives of Defense Reform are to achieve democratic, civilian control of the military with parliamentary oversight, transparency of defense activities, and modernization of forces, as well as to bring BiH nearer to NATO membership. The strategic development of the Defense sector in BiH has been focusing on the fulfillment of the requirement for full NATO membership. Thus, the Presentation Document of the Individual Partnership Action Plan (PA IPAP) was prepared and adopted by the NATO Coordination Team. The following step is to present the PA IPAP at the next NATO Summit and to receive candidacy status for the Membership Action Plan. Although NATO requirements primarily focus on the Defense sector, they also exert broader impact on the overall social environment.

A Functional Review conducted by the EC in 2005 found BiH's police forces to be divided, over-staffed and not able to operate across the Inter-Entity Boundary Line.<sup>139</sup> Reform of police structures is expected to be governed by clear principles that would make police accountable to

<sup>138</sup> Spain/AECID's funds to the ICMP will become available in 2008.

<sup>139</sup> *Final Assessment Report 2004*, 15.

citizens first, cut bureaucracy, enhance crime prevention, and fulfill EU requirements. EUPM-supported reform provides the means to achieve European best practices in an effective and efficient police service

The lack of a clear strategy has hindered the further development of civil protection and disaster response mechanisms. Recently, however, the CoM adopted the draft BiH Law on the Protection and Rescue of People and Property in Natural or other Disasters in Bosnia and Herzegovina. If passed by the BiH Parliament, the Law would provide a legal framework for the improved role and harmonization of the civilian protection agencies. Currently, disaster response broadly relies on the involvement of the AFBiH.

## Positive developments and challenges in 2007

Among the achievements of 2007, donors mentioned the successful finalization of the selection of personnel to be retrained in the BiH defense establishment. This NATO-assisted process was necessitated by the reduction of AFBiH's personnel from 12,000 to 10,000. Moreover, Defense Reform has seen progress in the transfer of EUFOR's residual tasks and functions to the AFBiH<sup>140</sup>. Donors also noted that the PSOTC continues to be a significant success story, as it is the only in-country training for officers from the three constitutive ethnic groups, preparing them in terms of NATO standards.

Nonetheless, the implementation of Defense Reform suffered a major setback. Namely, stakeholders did not come to an agreement on the transfer of military property from the Entities to the State, which in turn blocked all other reform issues, such as SALW.<sup>141</sup> In order to overcome this problem, the political confrontation between parties based in the Federation of BiH (FBiH) and the Republika Srpska (RS) needs to be resolved. Currently, the BiH MoD and NATO are working to draft a resolution in order to transfer property from the Entities to the State. The agreement for the transfer of movable property (SALW and ammunition) has been endorsed by the CoM and the FBiH Government, but it is awaiting RS government approval.

In terms of police reform, the support of the six main political parties for the Mostar Declaration, which committed them to police restructuring activities in accordance with EU principles, created room for optimism in 2007. Moreover, donors have applauded the fact that after four years of ongoing implementation, the Criminal Investigation Training can now be considered completed. Support to the SIPA Special Support Unit (SSU) has also been largely finalized. According to the *EC 2007 Progress Report*, BiH made improvements in the investigation and combat of terrorism, organized crime and war crimes.

However, donors also noted that corruption in the police is endemic and this hampers the police's own programme implementation. Despite the fact that BiH has a National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan, there has been very limited progress in dealing with this issue in all spheres of life, including law enforcement.<sup>142</sup>

Among the achievements of 2007, the finalization of the Law on Disaster Risk Reduction must be mentioned. The Law, if adopted by the Parliament, will provide a basis for the coordination of Entity efforts, standardization of procedures, and access to equipment and training.

## Coordination and ownership

The Security Sector Steering Group has been established to review progress in this field. Participants to the Steering Group include UK/DFID, OHR, EU, EUPM, the US Peace Project and the MoS. Though progress has been slow, the second meeting of the Steering Group has already been chaired by the MoS. In addition, EUPM convenes a meeting of donors twice a year and invites domestic authorities to participate as well. France also organized actions which foster cooperation among stakeholders. Importantly, donors report full awareness of each other's activities.

Donors' support proved to be important in ensuring significant funds for the easier realization of reforms; however, the donor community increasingly encourages domestic authorities to organize their own programmes and activities in this sub-sector. Defense reform is a good

<sup>140</sup> *Bosnia and Herzegovina 2007 Progress Report*, 12.

<sup>141</sup> The Implications of this impasse regarding SALW control will be discussed in the next section of this chapter.

<sup>142</sup> *Bosnia And Herzegovina 2007 Progress Report*, 14.

example of the implementation of agreed principles, and it continues to be regarded as the most successful area of cooperation. However, BiH ownership still needs to be improved, as there are a lot of highly politicized issues which require the involvement of all stakeholders.

Donors note that the areas of Security Sector Reform and Civilian Peace-Building Management still require assistance from the international community, in terms of upgrading capabilities, improving equipment, developing state organization, and coordinating mechanisms. Continued monitoring of this sub-sector is needed, too. All these dimensions would benefit from improved inter-agency cooperation, exchange of information and experiences on both horizontal and vertical levels. Donors indicated that BiH has to establish clear mechanisms of coordination in this field, agree on priorities, and demonstrate domestic institutions' dedication to working towards building peace.

These areas of concern notwithstanding, it has to be noted that the MoS and MoD have been involved in the successful drafting of several security-related laws. Once these are adopted, they will guarantee the full national ownership of the reform processes in this sub-sector.

### Future activities

The reform of the current police structures in BiH has been the unquestioned priority in this sub-sector. Donors agree that police reform requires a complex, rigorous, and lasting process that encompasses different security segments. It will demand integrated donor action once BiH authorities reach political consensus on the matter.

International agencies identified BiH civil protection and disaster response capacities as a high concern in the security sector chain. Currently there is a poorly developed system of disaster response with incapacitated agencies lacking the tools for adequate response. Indeed, the draft BiH Law on Civil Protection and Emergency Planning for Rescue Matters was adopted by the CoM and most recently by parliament. This process will require financial support in the implementation phase. The Law will have an impressive scope: encouraging cooperation between entity civil protection agencies, improving the coordinating role of the State, and defining the responsibility of international cooperation.

Defense structures are still being reformed. Donors remain committed to assisting BiH in securing NATO membership candidacy, implementing strategic goals, and modernizing the AFBiH to cope with the most complex defense matters. The defense property issues and personnel management are prioritized areas within defense reform, the implications of which will be discussed in the next section.

## Reintegration of Soldiers and Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons and Ammunition (SALW)

<b>Sector definition</b>	Based on the DAC definition, the <i>Reintegration of Soldiers and Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons and Ammunition (SALW)</i> sub-sector refers to the reintegration of demobilized military personnel into the economy; conversion of production facilities from military to civilian outputs; technical cooperation to control, prevent and/or reduce the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.  DAC code: 15240.
<b>Key DCF donors</b>	The Netherlands, Norway, Spain/AECID, Sweden/SIDA, UK/DFID, USA/USAID, and UNDP. Several other donors contribute to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Trust Fund for demobilized troops.
<b>Other key international organizations (IOs)</b>	European Union Forces (EUFOR), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Office of the High Representative (OHR), and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).
<b>Key government partners</b>	The BiH Ministry of Defense (MoD) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Ministerial Coordination Board for small arms and light weapons, or SALW, Control).
<b>Total donor allocation to the sector in 2007</b>	€ 1.12 million.
<b>Sector strategies</b>	National Strategy and Action Plan for SALW Control in BiH.
<b>International obligations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports (2002);</li> <li>• OSCE Document on SALW (November, 2000);</li> <li>• OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (November, 2003);</li> <li>• OSCE Decision on MANPADS (2003);</li> <li>• OSCE Decision on End User Certificates (2004);</li> <li>• OSCE Decision on Brokering (2004);</li> <li>• Stability Pact Regional Implementation Plan November (2001);</li> <li>• UN Firearms Protocol (to be ratified by BiH Mission to the UN);</li> <li>• UN Programme of Action on SALW (2001);</li> <li>• UN Register of Conventional Arms Submitted Returns (1999);</li> <li>• UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (UNA/CONF. 192/15);</li> <li>• Regional Implementation Plan to Combat the Proliferation of SALW;</li> <li>• EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports.</li> </ul>
<b>Donor coordination</b>	Until 2007, donor activities were coordinated through the Small Arms Coordination Group (SACG), chaired by UNDP. In 2007, the BiH MoD established a Working Group for the Disposal of Ammunition and Weapons, which came to replace SACG

### Overview

In addition to the more than 350,000 registered small arms and light weapons (SALW) owned by civilians, an estimated 16% of citizens in BiH possess SALW illegally.<sup>143</sup> This widespread phenomenon is primarily a human security concern, but it also undermines the rule of law and poses an obstacle to social and economic development. As a result of the restructuring of the Armed Forces, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) also has approximately 35,000 tonnes of surplus ammunition<sup>144</sup> and explosive ordinances. Furthermore, 99,661 pieces of SALW and 2,733 pieces of large caliber weapons have been declared unstable. These must be identified, stored, and destroyed according to internationally accepted standards and with particular attention to the protection of human security, health, and the environment.

Like other Defense Sector Reforms, SALW control takes place in a complex institutional and legal framework. Several state-level ministries play a role in the regulation of arms' transfers in and out of BiH. Laws pertaining to civilian possession of SALW are not harmonized across Entities and the Brčko District. Moreover, following the unification of armies, disputes about the implementation of previously agreed principles of the movable and immovable property ownership have blocked any large-scale destruction of SALW.

<sup>143</sup> National Strategy and Action Plan for SALW Control in BiH.

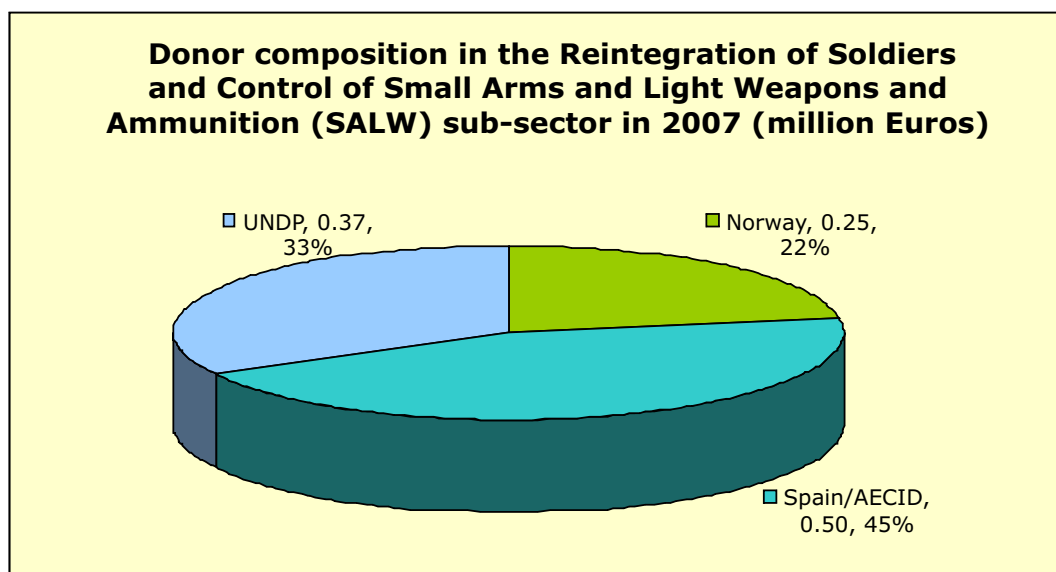
<sup>144</sup> UNDP Study on SALW in BiH (UNDP, July, 2004).

Despite these difficult circumstances, to date, 50,000 weapons have been collected from the civilian population. This significant achievement can primarily be attributed to the strong donor coordination and domestic ownership that exist within the sub-sector. Collection and destruction activities are ongoing, in line with the respective state-level strategy. However, the process is slow and expensive and BiH does not have adequate facilities for more efficient output.

### Donors and activities in 2007

The donors in the SALW Control sub-sector are the Netherlands, Norway, Spain/AECID, Sweden/SIDA, UK/DFID, USA/USAID, and UNDP. In 2007, Norway, Spain/AECID and UNDP contributed € 1.12 million. The other donors also remained active in the sub-sector during the year, but did not report any allocations for 2007.

UNDP's *Small Arms Control and Reduction* project in BiH (SACBiH) is the largest ongoing initiative in this field, having received \$ 2.4 million donations since 2005. It aims to build institutional capacities to manage civilian and military stockpiles, destroy SALW that present safety and security problems, and demilitarize ammunition in line with EU environmental safety, and security standards. To this end, SACBiH provides technical aid to the National Coordination Board of SALW (hereafter the Coordination Board),<sup>145</sup> assists in the introduction of legislation for the management of stockpiles, and aims to raise awareness about the dangers of SALW and UXO. Moreover, UNDP has also been working with the BiH Ministry of Defense (MoD) on destroying surplus SALW stocks and ammunition. SACBiH receives financial support from **Norway, the Netherlands, Spain/AECID, UK/DFID** and the Nordic Initiative (**Denmark and Sweden/SIDA**).



### Sector strategies

The National Strategy and Action Plan for SALW control was developed by the Coordination Board with the assistance of UNDP. It was endorsed by the Council of Ministers (CoM) in May 2006. The Strategy is the basic document for implementing SALW and ammunition collection and destruction. This document also governs the prevention, combat and eradication of illegal SALW trade, and stockpile management. The Strategy approaches these issues through eight functional areas which include state border control, reform of the legal framework, data gathering and information analysis, awareness raising, collection and destruction of arms and ammunition, stockpile management, and general sector reform.

According to donor agencies involved in the development of the document, the Strategy provides sufficient guidance for programme planning. Yet, it remains to be implemented by the domestic authorities.

<sup>145</sup> The National Coordination Board for SALW is an inter-ministerial body consisting of the BiH Ministry of Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Ministry of Defense, Entity Ministries of Interior, Interpol and SIPA.

## Positive developments and challenges in the sector in 2007

Donors have positively assessed the progress of the BiH MoD, which now produces faster, more focused and better-coordinated work. Achievements in this area are due to an extent to the ongoing technical assistance, capacity building and legal advice provided by international agencies involved in the field. Donors also applaud the fact that many staff members in the BiH Ministry previously worked in the Entity Ministries of Defense, therefore carrying forward institutional memory.

Moreover, the AFBiH assumed responsibility for military movement control from EUFOR. This transfer of functions now formally allows the AFBiH to take direct control over the military movements of personnel, weapons and equipment within BiH.

The BiH Ministry of Security (MoS) has also made significant progress in further developing the legal framework of SALW control. In the latter half of 2007, the MoS sponsored the drafting of four laws. The draft Law on Weapons and Ammunition and the draft Law on the Transport of Dangerous Goods were developed with UNDP assistance. EUFOR supported the drafting of two laws – the Law on State Border Crossings and the Law on Weapons and Military Equipment Movement Control – in an effort to transfer its functions to the BiH Government. Donors involved in the drafting process have noted that development of these draft laws was relatively fast. It is expected that once adopted and entered into force, these draft laws will bring the legislative system in line with the EU Integration Strategy of BiH and EU standards.

In 2007, the SACBiH has reported that 400,000 rounds of small arms calibre ammunition were destroyed and over 2,000 tonnes of surplus and unsafe ammunition were demilitarised. In addition, 770 rifles and 400 rounds of ammunition confiscated by the Court Police of BiH and Operations Harvest were also destroyed. SACBiH commissioned a mobile Explosive Waste Incinerator for the destruction of small arms ammunition (up to and including 14.5 mm calibre).

Despite these achievements, donors noted that 2007 has been the worst year for reform implementation in this sub-sector. The Agreement on Basic Principles for Issues Related to Immovable and Movable Property to be Used for the Defense Purposes<sup>146</sup> sets out that the State will have the unlimited right of use over the promising immovable defense property and will have ownership rights over movable property. These resolutions notwithstanding, one of the biggest challenges has been the continued reluctance of the entity authorities to implement this arrangement. However, in 2007, the BiH MoD and NATO brokered an agreement<sup>147</sup> with the Entities that until the issue of ownership is fully resolved, unstable ammunition can be destroyed. As a result, an inventory was developed and this has led to the destruction of 5,700 tonnes of ammunition and the development of an UNDP-supported action plan for the further disposal of SALW. Moreover, NATO and USA/USAID have been lobbying the government, highlighting that further progress in fulfilling PfP requirements, and thus moving towards NATO membership, is conditional on an agreement in this regard. Nevertheless, this political impasse has led to a slowing down of the reforms, and a complete resolution is still pending. As such, the collection and destruction targets set by donors and the SACBiH have not been reached.

Last but not least, many civilians continue to possess weapons, legally and illegally, which is a major threat to human security. In 2007 alone, there have been 281 SALW related incidents, 72 of which proved to be lethal.<sup>148</sup> To date, 50,000 civilian weapons have been collected, but according to a UNDP study, as many as 500,000 people may still possess more than one weapon.<sup>149</sup> The seriousness of this threat was very much felt towards the end of 2007, when the difficult political climate gave way to media speculations about renewed violence.

### Coordination and ownership

The disposal of weapons and ammunition is a good example of coordinated activities on behalf of several international organizations, namely UNDP, EUFOR, the OSCE, USA/USAID, and NATO. UNDP and USA/USAID provide financial support for the destruction process. EUFOR is mainly involved with monitoring the transport of weapons and ammunition carried out by AFBiH and BiH MoD. OSCE gives policy recommendations through their weapons control experts.

<sup>146</sup> The Agreement was signed by the president of the Council of Ministers and Entities' Prime Ministers on 12 July 2007.

<sup>147</sup> The Agreement for the Transfer of Movable Military Properties including SALW and Ammunition.

<sup>148</sup> SACBiH Media Monitoring and SALW Impact Analysis 2007.

<sup>149</sup> UNDP Study on SALW in BiH (UNDP, July, 2004).

Until 2007, donor activities in the SALW Control sub-sector were coordinated in the Small Arms Coordination Group. This initiative was chaired by UNDP and comprised domestic and international stakeholders.<sup>150</sup> Donors have noted that these gatherings were very helpful in terms of information sharing and actual coordination. At the same time, inter-agency expert meetings between NATO, EUFOR, UNDP, OHR, and the OSCE were held, with the aim of identifying problems and solutions to the technical issues of SALW. In 2007, the MoD established a Working Group for the Disposal of Ammunitions and Weapons, comprising both international agencies and domestic authorities. This working group has replaced the Small Arms Coordination Group.<sup>151</sup> Donors expect that if given more authority, this will be a useful mechanism for addressing coordination issues within the Sector.

Several other mechanisms exist for resolving donor impasses and preventing the duplication of donations. For example, the South Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons is an online tool that aims to match donors' and recipient countries' priorities. Moreover, twice a year, NATO organizes a meeting of Defense Attaches to share information and coordinate activities. The NATO Contact Point Embassy serves as an information centre on all defense reform related issues. Although donors assessed the existence of these tools as positive, many were concerned about their ability to achieve substantive coordination.

Nevertheless, international agencies assessed the work in this sub-sector as an example of good cooperation and coordination among the main agencies involved. There is an equitable division of labour and adequate information sharing. Donors have commented that given the different mandates and views of the stakeholders involved, it has been useful that UNDP took the lead role in coordination. In this capacity, UNDP assists all working groups and has a total overview of the sub-sector. Of late, NATO and the US Embassy have also assumed leadership in political lobbying and policy development.

Donors assess that domestic authorities' ownership of this sector is strong, although the lack of political commitment makes it difficult for the involved institutions to implement the reforms. Furthermore, international agencies have noted increasing buy-in and proactivity from their domestic counterparts, but all stakeholders have yet to progress to the level of national execution of projects. Donors reported that the presence of international organizations and a lead donor agency is still necessary, especially given the level of politicization in the sector.

## Future activities

The foremost priority in the SALW Control sub-sector is to resolve the property transfer issue. This will enable the disposal of surplus ammunition, movable and immovable property, weapons and military equipment (WME), and archive material not required for future defense purposes.

Secondly, donors assess that the AFBiH operational planning capabilities need to be enhanced. The sector as a whole would be much stronger if reforms in it would be complemented with stronger parliamentary oversight, the empowerment of other institutions and agencies involved in the SALW control process, and improved horizontal communication.

Most activities identified in the SALW control strategy are addressed by domestic institutions and donor agencies. Nonetheless, there is a significant need for further financial support, technical assistance, capacity development, equipment, and training.<sup>152</sup> An area that has not received sufficient attention is awareness raising about the dangers of SALW possession. One donor recommended organizing a national weapons collection campaign which would guarantee amnesty and anonymity to SALW owners who would voluntarily submit their weapons.

As far as the reintegration of demobilized troops is concerned, donors felt that there is a need to monitor the demobilization process in order to ensure coordination with the NATO Trust Fund.

<sup>150</sup> Members of the coordination group were UNDP, EUFOR, NATO, OSCE, OHR/EUSR, as well as USAID, DFID, CIDA and SIDA, members of the National Coordination Board, parliamentarians and NGOs' representatives.

<sup>151</sup> The coordination board was endorsed by the CoM and consists of MoD, MoFTER, MoFA, MoS, SIPA, Interpol, the state border police, MoIS and the Italian embassy, whereas the working group is an MoD-led group. The two are not overlapping.

<sup>152</sup> Strategy and Action Plan for Small Arms and Light Weapons Control in BiH 2005, 17.

## Mine Action

<b>Sector definition</b>	Based on DAC definitions, the <b>Mine Action</b> sub-sector refers to explosive mine removal for developmental purposes.  DAC code: 15250.
<b>Key DCF donors</b>	Austria/ADA, Canada/CIDA, Germany/GTZ, Italy/IC, Norway, the EC, UNDP, and UNICEF.
<b>Other key international organizations (IOs)</b>	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims (ITF).
<b>Key government partners</b>	The BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs, the BiH Demining Commission, the BiH Mine Action Centre (BH MAC), and the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH).
<b>Total donor allocation to the sector in 2007</b>	€ 6.93 million.
<b>Sector strategies</b>	Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Strategy for the period 2005-2009. A new strategy for 2009-2019 was developed in October 2007. <sup>153</sup>
<b>International obligations</b>	As defined in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personal Mines and on their Destruction (Ottawa Mine Ban Treaty, 1997).
<b>Donor coordination</b>	Board of Donors chaired by the BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs. <sup>154</sup>

## Overview

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) remains one of the most mine-affected countries in the world.<sup>155</sup> There is a lack of reliable data on mines and minefields because their positions were not recorded when they were laid. However, it is estimated that there are 220,000 mines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) scattered over 13,077 minefields. 3.4% of BiH's territory is considered to be suspect land. Returnees and those working in agriculture are particularly in danger of mine-related accidents, and in a larger sense, this situation also blocks the way to economic recovery, tourism and agriculture-based job creation. Since the end of the war, 1,575 people have died as a result of mine casualties.<sup>156</sup>

Demining has been ongoing over the last 12 years and the problem has been reduced significantly. Nonetheless, at the current rate, BiH will need decades to clear its land of mines and unexploded ordnances. The sector itself functions well with domestic authorities having taken ownership of the institutions and activities. However, the difficult terrain conditions (BiH is by and large a mountainous country), the unavailability of mine records, the wide spread of minefields that are low in density and of random pattern, and the lack of funding make it difficult to achieve faster results.

Mine Action in BiH is overseen by the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MoCA) and the Demining Commission.<sup>157</sup> The BiH Mine Action Centre (BH MAC) serves as the technical operational arm for mine action. Demining itself is carried out by commercial demining companies, national and international NGOs, AFBiH, and Civil Protection.

## Donor activities in 2007

The donors in the Mine Action sub-sector are Austria/ADA, Canada/CIDA, Germany/GTZ, Italy/IC, Norway, the EC, UNDP, and UNICEF. Together they contribute € 6.93 million. In 2007, there have not been any significant changes in the composition of donors, although some new non-DCF members, such as Poland, have begun to provide small amounts of funding for Mine Action. It is foreseen that Canada/CIDA and UNDP will cease their funding for Mine Action by the

<sup>153</sup> For more information, see [www.bhmac.org/en/filedownload.daenet?did=2](http://www.bhmac.org/en/filedownload.daenet?did=2).

<sup>154</sup> For more information, see [www.icbl.org/treaty/text/english](http://www.icbl.org/treaty/text/english).

<sup>155</sup> BiH Mine Action Plan for 2007, 3.

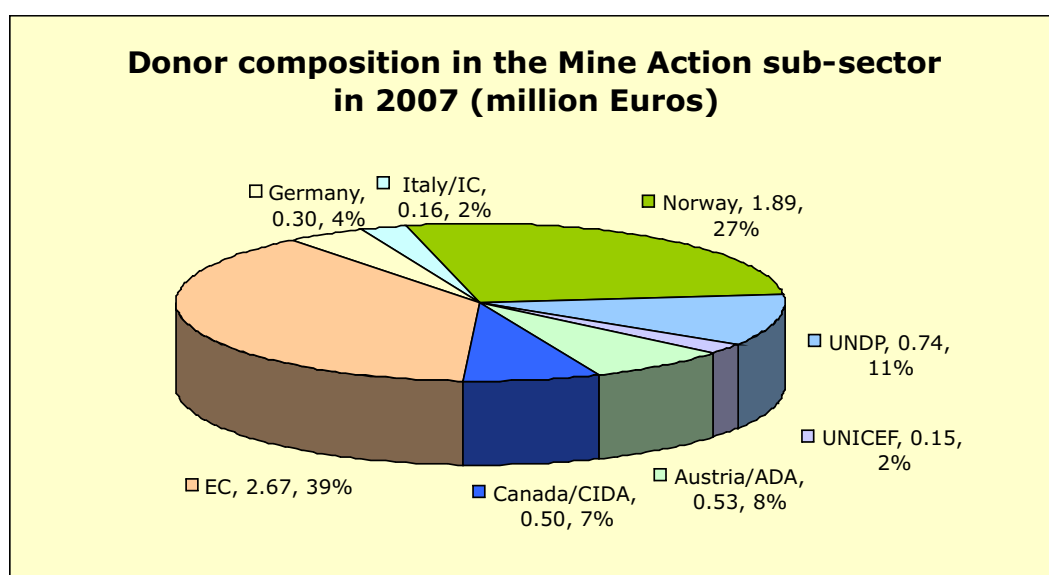
<sup>156</sup> BiH Mine Action Plan for 2007, 5.

<sup>157</sup> The Demining Commission consists of representatives from the MoCA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), and the BiH Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees

end of 2008. On the other hand, Switzerland/SDC/SECO will enter the sub-sector in 2008 by financing the Handicap International's project of integrating mine action and development activities in the Herzegovina region (Stolac and Berkovići).

Most donors channel funds through the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF), where their contribution is matched dollar-for-dollar by the USA State Department. ITF is a regional organization with operations in BiH, Croatia, Tajikistan, Albania, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro. The bulk of ITF's activities (50%), have been implemented in BiH. There are a few donors that also provide funding and in-kind donations directly to the domestic authorities, including UNDP, the EC, Norway, and Austria/ADA.

**UNDP** has been involved in Mine Action since 1998. In 2007, UNDP covered 15-20% of BH MAC-related costs.<sup>158</sup> As UNDP is at the end of its last programme cycle (2004-2008), part of its exit strategy involves handing over the financing responsibility to the BiH Government. Until the completion of its programme, UNDP will also continue to carry out development-related mine clearance and strengthen the AFBiH mine clearance capacity.



The **EC** supports physical demining, technical surveys and assistance to mine victims under the Anti-Personnel Landmines budget line. The EC has traditionally been a very large funder of activities in this sub-sector by providing capacity-building support to the Civil Protection Agencies for demining. However, in an effort to ensure sustainability, the EC has handed over the financial responsibility to the entity governments.

**Norway** funds mine action through the ITF and the NGO Norwegian People's Aid (NPA). This latter organization is responsible for a quarter of the total output in demining. It conducts bilateral operations with the BH MAC and establishes its own tasks based on common agreement. A recent donation by Japan/JICA will enable the purchase of seven GPS devices for general survey, which will be used by the NPA teams. **Austria/ADA** also provided several GPS devices in 2007 and will donate additional terrain vehicles and other equipment for general survey and marking of suspected mine areas. **Germany/GTZ** finances demining activities in Herzegovina through Handicap International. **Italy/IC** supports initiatives to clear Mount Trebević and the municipalities of Trnovo and Hadžići.

In general, there has been a steady decline of donor funding in this sub-sector. It is expected that this trend will continue. Both the strong ownership of the local authorities and donors' shifting attention explain this development. Limited funding for humanitarian demining is one of the reasons for slow progress in mine clearance. It is therefore one of the government's strategic objectives to increasingly advocate the connection of mine clearance to economic development. The current funding appeal, as defined in the 2008 *Portfolio of Mine Action Projects*, totals over \$ 5 million. However, this does not reflect the actual requirement in funding since the participation in the portfolio is voluntary and it relies on organizations to submit their projects.<sup>159</sup>

<sup>158</sup> UNDP reports that in 2008, it will only cover ca. 5% of BH MAC related costs.

<sup>159</sup> The 2008 Portfolio of Mine Action Projects, can be read at [www.Mineaction.Org/Downloads/1/Map\\_Portfolio\\_2008\\_Acrobat7.Pdf](http://www.Mineaction.Org/Downloads/1/Map_Portfolio_2008_Acrobat7.Pdf)

## Sector strategies

The revised BiH Mine Action Strategy, covering the period 2005-2009, was officially endorsed by the CoM in October 2004. The Strategy, which defines all elements of Mine Action in BiH, is complemented by an annual Action Plan and localized Integrated Mine Action Community Plans. Moreover, the Strategy entails an Operational Demining Plan, a Mine Risk Education Reduction Strategy and a Landmine Victim Strategy. Mine Action is also defined in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, connecting it to the overall development of the country.<sup>160</sup> The Demining Law, adopted in 2003, also guides actions in this field.

The BiH Mine Action Strategy aims to address the social and economic impact of mines through an integrated approach of reducing risk, creating conditions for resource use, as well as enabling reconstruction and sustainable return. The overall goal of the Strategy is to clear all mine threat to BiH by 2009. However, this goal will not be met due to lack of funding. All mine action in BiH is based on a continuous assessment of the mine situation.

The **BiH Mine Action Strategy** defines activities in five areas:

1. Humanitarian mine action operations;
2. Mine risk education;
3. Advocacy;
4. Assistance to mine victims;
5. Destruction of stockpiles and prevention of their production and transport.

A new ten-year draft strategy (2009-2019) has been prepared, with a forecasted cost of BAM 80 million per year. As donor contributions are declining, MoCA will increasingly have to take over the funding of the Strategy. However, their ability to manage such a large cost seems to be limited. To counteract this, UNDP has been emphasizing the importance of the establishment of an upper-level strategic capacity within MoCA. This would provide a basis for resource mobilization, and enhance relations between donors and the relevant ministries.

## Positive developments and challenges in the sector in 2007

This is a very well-developed sector that enjoys a strong commitment from the government, particularly MoCA. Since the integration of the state- and entity-level Mine Action Centres in 2002 and the subsequent development of a sector strategy, all stakeholders and their activities have been focused.

Some of the significant developments of 2007 have been the establishment of a Demining Unit within the AFBiH, the transfer of authority for demining from EUFOR to this Unit, and the corresponding establishment of a logistical support system for demining operations.

The biggest challenge facing the sub-sector is the declining funding despite the continued need for additional assistance. UNDP has been gradually handing over the costs related to the BH MAC, and in 2007 MoCA was able to assume an additional 15% of the remaining financing. While this is a remarkable achievement, it is questionable whether MoCA will be able to handle all the costs related to mine action while maintaining the same level of activity. This problem is exacerbated by the lack of high-level strategic management able to attract more funding to the sector.

The goals laid out in the Annual Plans have been successfully achieved in previous years. Annually, over 10 million m<sup>2</sup> are demined. During 2007, mine suspect area was reduced by a total of 139.4 km<sup>2</sup> through different demining methods. Of this number, 9.2 km<sup>2</sup> of land has been released through mine clearance and technical survey activities. In 2007, however, there were difficulties in achieving the year's targets, as only 50% of the 2007 Mine Action Plan for mine clearance and technical survey was completed. The delay in implementation of demining activities was largely caused by the State Department's evaluation of demining companies at the beginning of the year. As a result of the evaluation, some companies had to be removed from the ITF/State Department list of eligible bidders and the beginning of the season had to be postponed until April 2007. In addition, the State Department has confined procedures related to the implementation of its matching funds, which has also caused delays. Introduction of Value Added Tax (VAT) and an ambiguous status of the ITF in relation to the possibility for the VAT reimbursement added to the overall complications. This situation adversely impacted annual results for clearance and technical survey.

<sup>160</sup> BiH Mine Action Strategy, 5.

## Coordination and ownership

Donor activities in the Mine Action sub-sector are coordinated through the Board of Donors, which meets two to three times a year to present results achieved and discuss future strategies. The Board's membership consists of donor representatives,<sup>161</sup> the ITF, BH MAC, and MoCA. Since 2005, the Board has been chaired by MoCA. In 2007, however, the Board of Donors convened only once, which again points to certain weaknesses related to the strategic management capacity.

In general, coordination of stakeholder activities has been assessed as positive. However, donors have reported that in the past year the Board has not been as effective as it had been. It was felt that this may be due to the limited strategic management within MoCA and the general complexity of the political situation in the latter part of 2007. Nevertheless, donors believe that the Board can be an effective coordination body and its activities are necessary for the functioning of this sub-sector.

BH MAC is in charge of operational coordination of Mine Action. This agency does not carry out demining itself, but maintains a database to support surveying, quality assessment, inspections, issuing certificates and prioritization. Demining is carried out by accredited demining organizations, AFBiH and Civil Protection and thus, the Mine Action sub-sector is fully competitive. There are approximately 2,000 accredited deminers in BiH, who are fully trained and qualified for the job.

The BiH Government has an unquestionable leadership role in the sector. Donors align their funding and activities to the BiH Mine Action Strategy and Action Plan. The capacity within this sub-sector is strong. Indeed, BiH is one of the leading countries in this field. In fact BiH has deployed an EOD Unit to Iraq.

## Future activities

Donors suggest that MoCA should be strengthened to deal with strategic management. This capacity building would include dealing with advocacy, attracting donor funding, and coordinating donor and inter-ministerial activities. In general, advocacy should emphasize the positive connection between de-mining and development, particularly in the fields of agriculture and tourism.

The funding appeals for Mine Action efforts have been collected within the 2008 Portfolio of Mine Action Projects and in the BiH Public Investment Plan. Donors looking to fund activities in this sub-sector should consult these documents but primarily they should consult the Mine Action 2008 Annual Plan.

<sup>161</sup> Austria, Canada/CIDA, Germany, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK/DFID, USA/USAID, the EC, EUFOR, OSCE, UNDP, and UNICEF.

## Conclusion

This chapter is an overview of three sub-sectors with the aim to pinpoint the institutional arrangements and strategic approaches to the overall Peace-Building Management in BiH. The contribution of international organizations has been of vital importance of making sustainable improvements in these fields.

The Security Sector Reform is an essential element of post-conflict peace-building and as such it should address wider security issues relating to civilian administration. However, BiH lacks a harmonized approach to all elements of the crisis. The biggest problem remains delivering coherent, focused policy that coordinates BiH's political, military, civilian, and economic capabilities.

However, there have been significant improvements in some sub-sectors. For example, defense reform stands out as having undergone successful transition. Defense reform is led by the framework of NATO's PfP and IPAP programmes with improved local ownership as the international military organizations acting in BiH are transferring more functions to the BiH MoD. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former entity MoD employees and soldiers have been successfully implemented with international donor assistance. On the other hand, the recommendation to create a standing police force that could undertake state-wide missions and organize the start-up of new police components is still to be explored, with a view to its implementation due to political inconsistencies. As police reform is an SAA requirement, donors have invested in equipment, training, and political mediation, but to date lack clear political consensus on this issue.

Policies and approaches to the Civil Protection and Disaster Response and Civilian Peace-Building sub-sectors are as diverse as the actors engaged in the field. The latter sub-sector, receiving multi-national donor assistance, attempts to encourage the development of the structural conditions that will permit peaceful, stable and ultimately prosperous social and economic development. This aim is to be achieved through the identification of missing persons, ethnic reconciliation, and support for civil society initiatives to enhance policy dialogue, advocacy and social cohesion.

SALW and Mine Action have required continued international community support. The former has a direct correlation to defense reform as weapons and ammunition surpluses must be destroyed in accordance with internationally recognized standards. While the activities take place in a complex institutional framework, the sector shows strong domestic ownership and performance in line with state-level strategy. In 2007, a number of draft laws were prepared, applying the highest level of EU requirements. The Mine Action sub-sector is still one of the State's primary concerns as BiH remains one of the most mine-affected countries in the world. The sector enjoys a strong commitment from the government and has technical tools for the implementation of strategic goals set out in the state-level strategy. Donors continue to gradually hand over costs to the relevant domestic institutions. Nevertheless, BiH lacks strategic management specifically aiming to attract funding to the sector.

BiH is working to build its own military and civilian capacities, with appropriate oversight and financing, to provide more timely and effective multidimensional peace-building as well as conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms. State-level institutions are seeking either to ensure greater coordination among relevant entity agencies or to adjust their procedures to provide more flexibility in addressing the critical needs. The coordination of all stakeholders has to be strengthened to guarantee that the end result would be tangible. Donors are encouraged and willing to stay committed to support these reforms, but with the aim of transferring their activities to domestic authorities.

