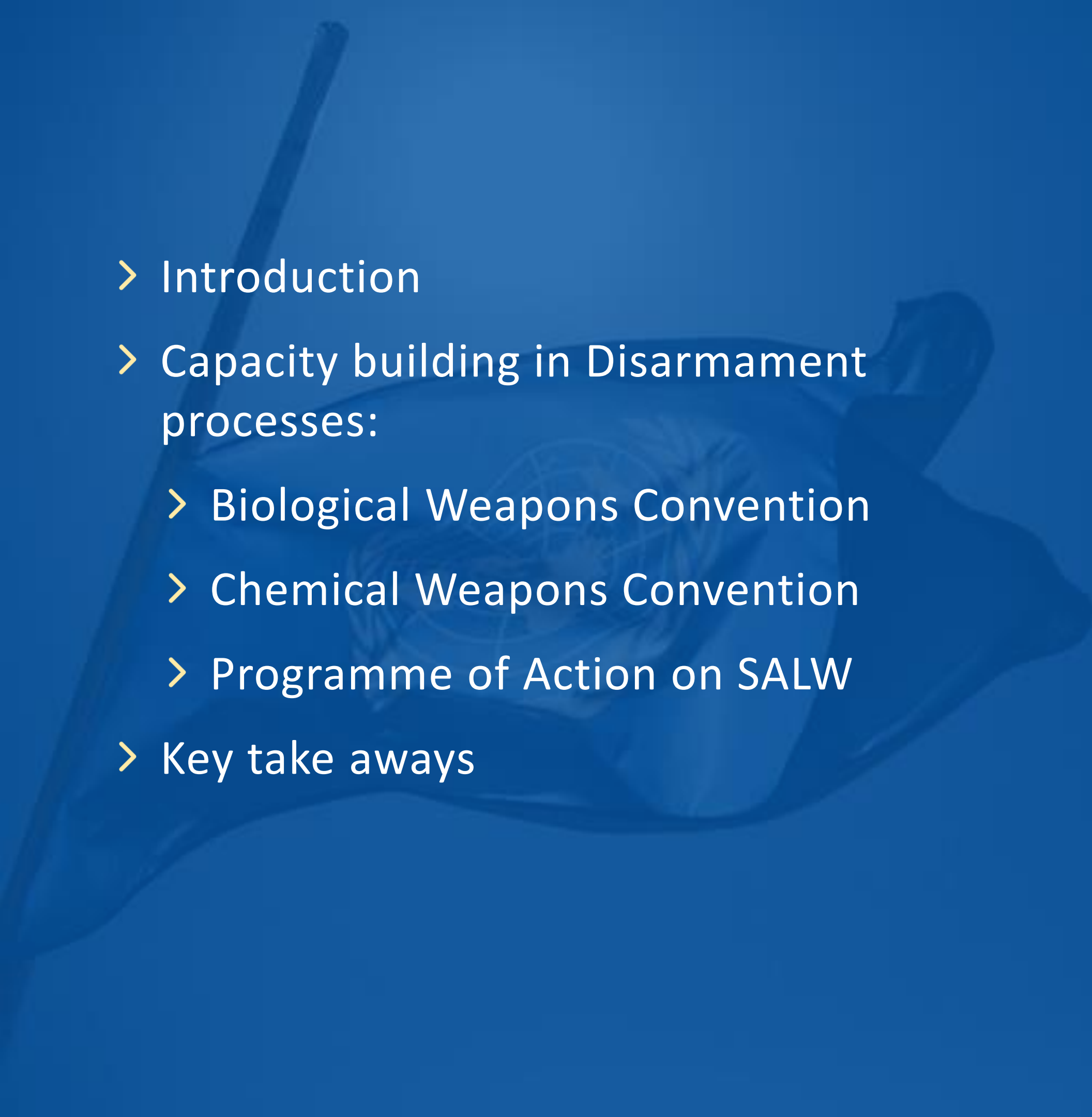


27 July 2022

Capacity-building efforts in UN disarmament processes: best practices and lessons learnt

Dr Giacomo Persi Paoli, Maria Garzon Maceda, Ruben Nicolin

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

- 
- > Introduction
 - > Capacity building in Disarmament processes:
 - > Biological Weapons Convention
 - > Chemical Weapons Convention
 - > Programme of Action on SALW
 - > Key take aways

AGENDA

Introduction

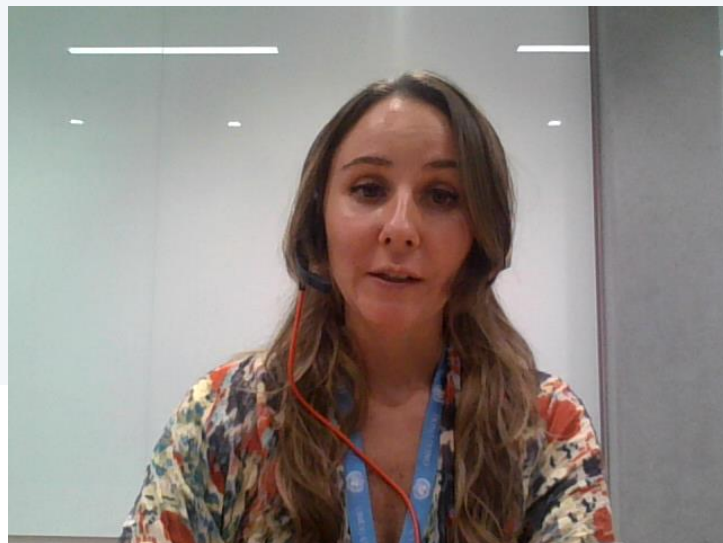
- Capacity building is a key pillar of the framework of responsible state behavior in cyber space
- The ability to prevent or mitigate the impact of malicious ICT activity depends on the capacity of each State to prepare and respond
- As the digital environment is interconnected and borderless, and as threats continue to evolve, increasing cybersecurity capacities is a global issue that can only be addressed through efforts centered around sustainability: “one-off” solutions have limited shelf-life in the cyber context

Introduction

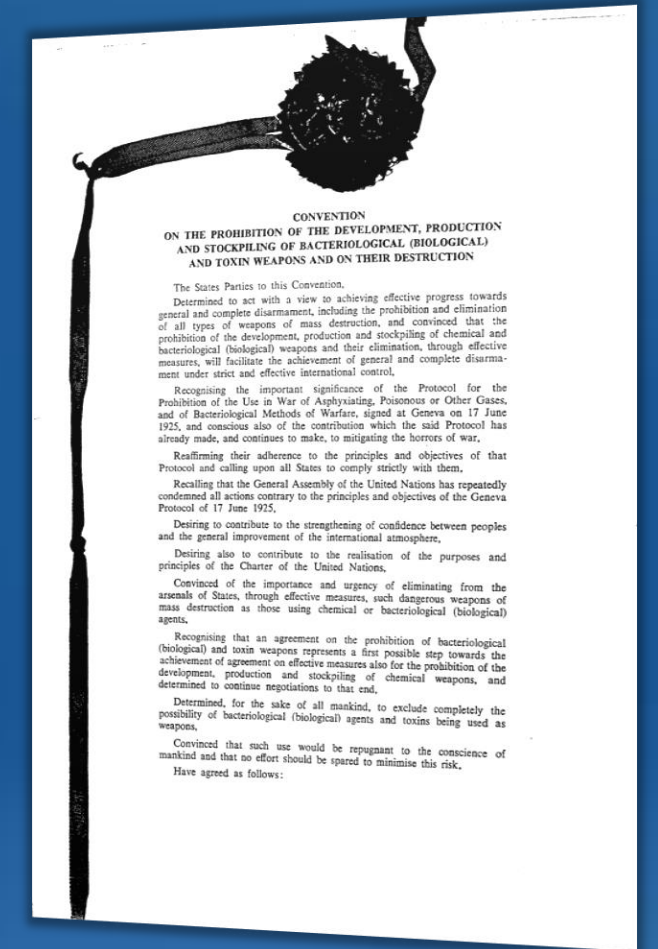
- Capacity building is a multi-layered endeavor:
 - National level
 - State to State
 - Regional level
 - International Level
- This presentation will focus on selected examples for other disarmament processes to highlight best practices and lessons learnt that could be used to inform the discussions on capacity building within the OEWG

Biological Weapons Convention

Context



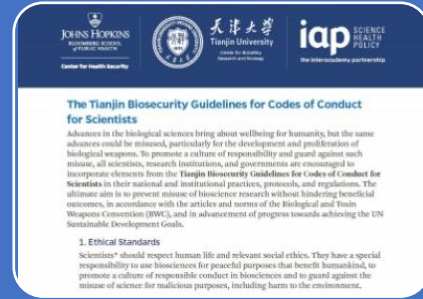
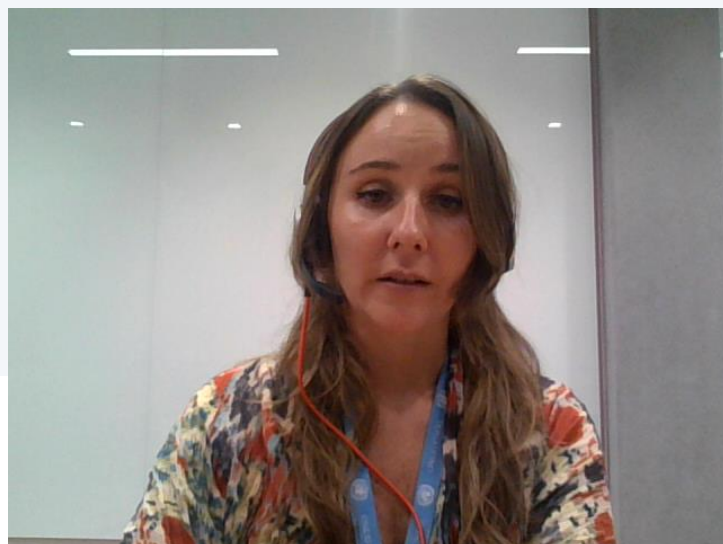
- Opened for signature in 1972
- Entered into force in 1975
- 184 States Parties
- 3-person Implementation Support Unit within UNODA



- Capacity building of relevance to *inter alia*:
 - Art. IV: National implementation
 - Art. VII: Assistance and protection
 - Art. X: International cooperation

Biological Weapons Convention

Capacity Building illustrative examples



Awareness on dual use risks, biosafety and biosecurity through education & codes of conduct
“Tianjin Biosecurity Guidelines” (2021)



BWC Art. X Assistance and Cooperation Database (22 offers of assistance in “capacity building”)



G7 Global Partnership: Signature Initiative to Mitigate Bio threats in Africa



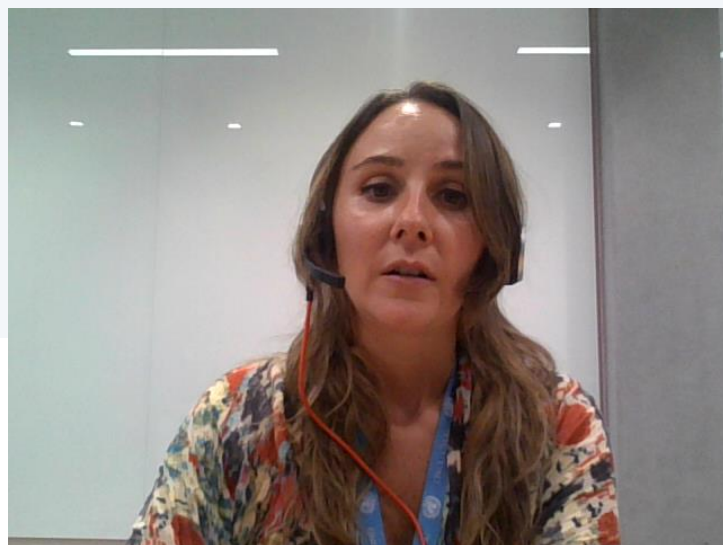
EU Extended Assistance Programme (includes Component on capacity development)



Youth for Biosecurity Initiative
Biosecurity Diplomacy workshops for young scientists from the Global South

Biological Weapons Convention

Challenges & Successes



Challenges

- Sustainability and national ownership

“Challenges to transforming external assistance to sustainable national policies and practices. This can result from problems with short-term projects; the absence of sustainability plans; or a lack of political will or capacity to invest national resources to sustain positive outcomes”

Einas Mohammed IN: UNIDIR (2022) *Options for International Cooperation under the BWC*

- Financial and institutional capacity

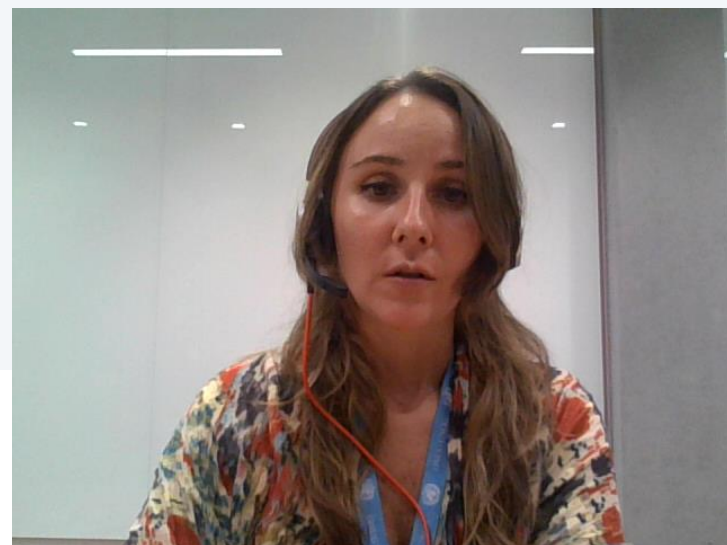
What worked

- Extra-budgetary projects funded by States and implemented by the ISU

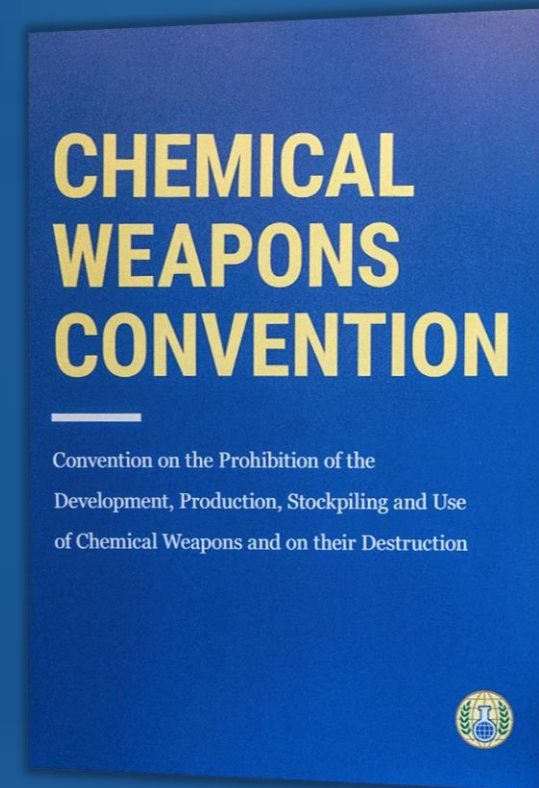
- Partnerships

Chemical Weapons Convention

Context



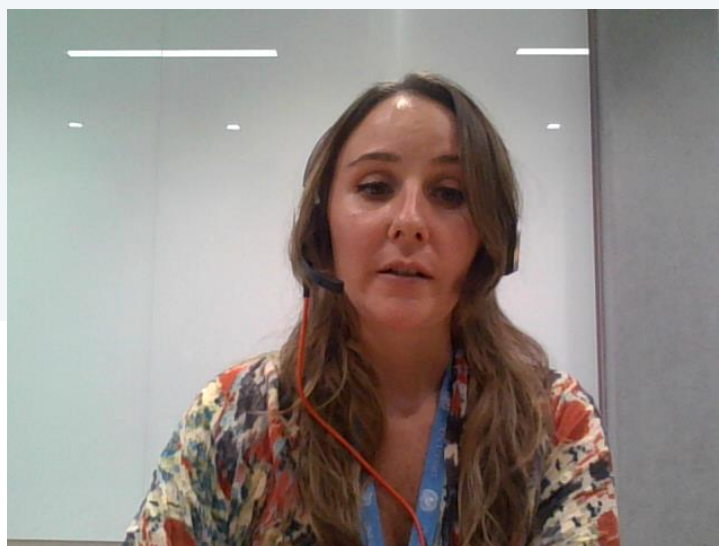
- Opened for signature in 1993
- Entered into force in 1997
- 193 States Parties
- OPCW Technical Secretariat



- Capacity building of relevance to *inter alia*:
 - Art. VI & VII: National implementation
 - Art. X: Assistance and protection
 - Art. XI: International cooperation

Chemical Weapons Convention

Capacity Building illustrative examples



National Implementation

- National Authorities training courses and meetings
- Mentorship and Partnership Programme



Assistance and Protection

- Training Cycles for first responders
- Training of Trainers



International Cooperation

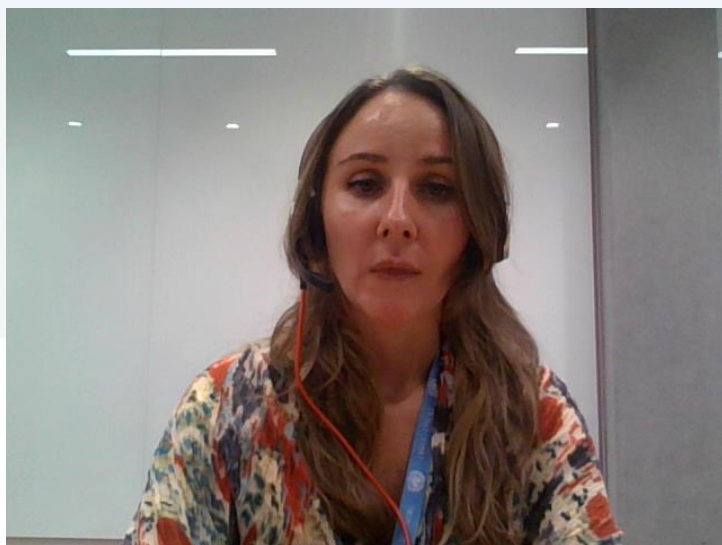
- Associate Programme
- Equipment Exchange Programme



Women in Chemistry Africa Programme

Chemical Weapons Convention

Challenges & what worked



Challenges

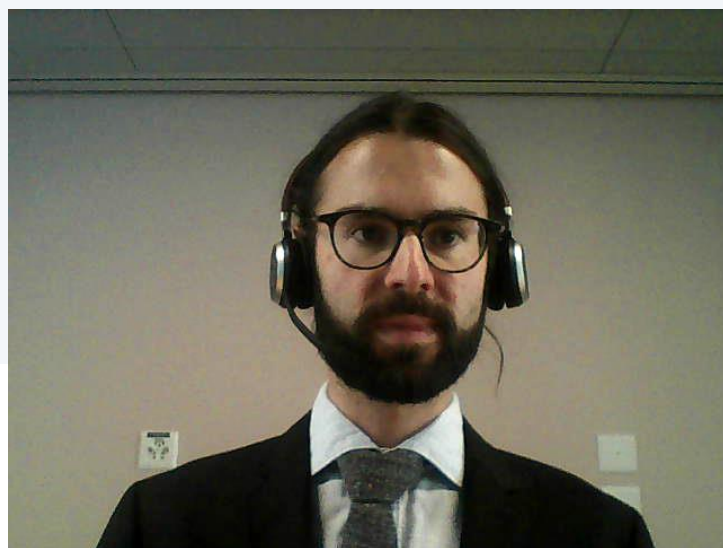
- Remaining fit for purpose
- Sustainability and effectiveness of activities

What worked

- Targeted trainings
- Training Cycles
- Train the Trainers
- Education and outreach activities + capacity building on peaceful uses
- Focused programmes

Programme of Action on SALW

Context



Origins

- July 2001: UN Conference on small arms produces Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (A/CONF.192/15), welcomed by General Assembly in December 2001
- UN Instrument on the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons (SALW)
- Complemented in 2005 by the International Tracing Instrument (ITI)

Structure:

- Universal membership
- UNODA functions as secretariat
- Biennial Meetings of State Parties (2022: BMS8)
- Every 6 years Review Conference (2018: RevCon3)

Multiple parallel processes (ATT, Firearms Protocol, regional instruments, ...)

Programme of Action on SALW

Context



- Prevent illicit circulation and unauthorized usage & users of SALW
- Respond to illicit circulation (seizure, destruction)
- Life-cycle management and regulation of SALW
- National, regional, and global level

- Means: improve national laws regulating SALW, strengthen national institutions coordinating & controlling SALW, import/export controls, and stockpile management

Key component: International cooperation & assistance to achieve its effective implementation

- Frequent references to the importance of strengthening assistance but lack of provisions for facilitation

Programme of Action on SALW

Capacity building



UNPoA Approach: facilitating assistance through reporting

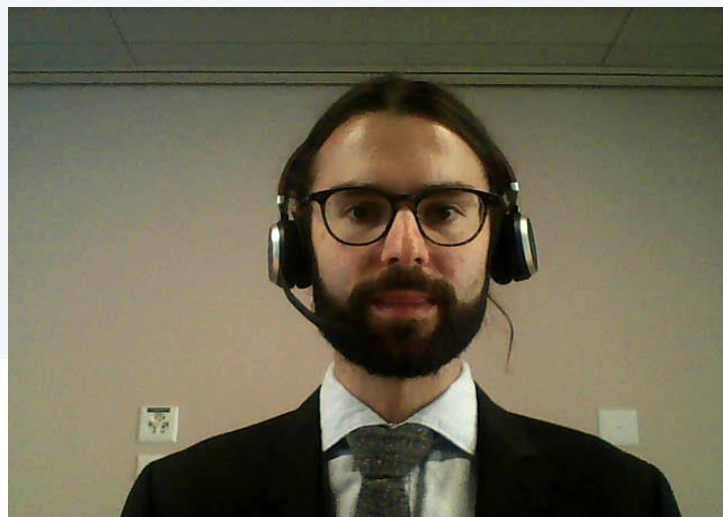
- Biennial national reporting requirement
- Originally, no template attached to UNPoA
 - UNODA developed template by 2011
- Aim of reports: Measuring implementation, building confidence & transparency, information exchange, **identify assistance needs**
- Option to request international assistance on 18 issue areas
 - Yes/no tick-box
 - Option to provide details
 - Option to flag a developed project proposal

Section 2: Manufacture

Sources	Question	Yes	No
	International assistance		
PoA III.6	2.5. Does your country wish to request assistance in developing laws, regulations and/or administrative procedures regarding SALW manufacture? [if no, go to 3.1]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2.5.1. If yes, what kind of assistance do you require?		
	On the Development of National Action Plan on SAWL and on WAM and PSSM trainings		
	2.5.2. Has your country developed a project proposal for assistance in this regard? [possible to upload relevant files in Section 10]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Programme of Action on SALW

Capacity building



Countries that request international assistance

Albania	Manuf
Argentina	Trans
Bangladesh	
Benin	

Assistance-seeking country:
Albania

Assistance need:
Laws, regulations, procedures on manufacturing

Source: National report submitted in 2022

Description of needs:
"Legal and Technical assistance"

No project proposal has been developed yet.

Children Awareness Crime

Close

- UNODA collects reports on a dedicated website (<https://smallarms.un-arm.org/>)
- Overview over assistance requests and option to see details
- No coordination mechanism to match needs and assistance
- Option to submit ad-hoc requests

Programme of Action on SALW

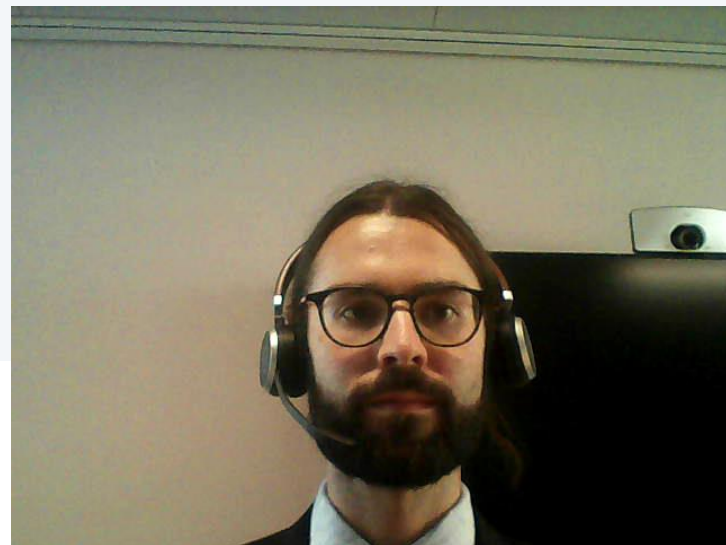
What worked



- National SALW Commissions as government focal points for requesting assistance
 - Avoiding each government authority seeking assistance independently
- The process gives States a mechanism to flag assistance needs.
- Reporting template developed by UNODA to facilitate consistent data-formats that can be automatically processed by digital tools (website)

Programme of Action on SALW

Challenges



Main challenge: Coordination and facilitation of international assistance

- Lack of a clear mandate or clear provisions in the PoA and ITI on facilitating and coordinating assistance
 - In consequence, the PoA lacks a central coordination mechanism, preventing effective matching of assistance needs and resources
- With no overview of assistance provided, efforts are duplicated and do not synergize
- Assistance requests through UNPoA National Reports often lack the necessary details

Key Take Aways

- Central coordination on the national and international level
- Explicit reference to assistance mechanism matching needs/resources, trust funds, etc. in the founding document to help avoid a lengthy trial and error approach
- Detailed information on assistance requested and offered
- Targeted and continuous learning with a focus on sustainability (e.g. train the trainers)
- Active facilitation and coordination, including of potential partnerships



Thank you