



AR/099

21 June 2007

## SEESAC ACTIVITY REPORT – AR/099

### REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA SALW (WEAPONS) DESTRUCTION

SEESAC FUNCTIONAL AREA	FA 6 - SALW (Weapons) Destruction Programmes
SEESAC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY	OA 4 - Project Support OA 5 - Resource Mobilisation

#### BACKGROUND

During 2007 the Government of the Republic of Moldova requested UNDP Moldova and SEESAC assistance and support to develop and implement a project for the destruction of confiscated, surplus and recovered small arms and light weapons (SALW). SEESAC, through liaison and co-operation with the Moldovan Ministry of Interior (MoI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Economic Integration and UNDP Moldova, provided technical assistance and funding for the development and implementation of this project.

#### SALW (WEAPONS) DESTRUCTION



The physical destruction of 2,197 weapons took place on 09 June 2007 at the Chisinau industrial facility of S.A. "Aralit". The Moldovan MoI dismantled the SALW, established internal quality assurance systems and controlled all processes in accordance with the relevant national standards and SEE RMDS/G.

The weapons were transported from MoI facilities to S.A. "Aralit" where they were converted into approximately 2.4 tonnes of scrap metal. Due to relatively low economies of scale the cost per weapon destroyed was **US\$ 4.23 per weapon**.

The destruction was funded by the Government of Germany through their donation to the UNDP Thematic Trust Fund for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. The Moldovan MoI provided transport and security for the destruction project. The destruction was monitored and verified by the UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, Mr. Ignacio Artaza.

The project has resulted in drawing valuable public attention to the efforts of the Moldovan MoI to implement successful SALW control measures. The destruction of SALW received extensive coverage in the national media and the project contributed towards maintaining the political momentum for the ongoing SALW amnesty initiative. As a confidence and security building measure it has provided tangible evidence to the civil population that recovered weapons will be destroyed and permanently taken out of circulation.



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