



## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS IN Q2

Quarter 2 achievements were highlighted by engagement of key stakeholders on the development of an Arms and Ammunition Validation System (AAMVS) for the European Union (EU). This engagement included a pilot of the pilot of the self-assessment tool in Austria and Germany, a presentation at a French Ministry of Defence conference, an update at COARM, plus non-EU member state engagements with the Economic Community of West African States' (ECOWAS) and the Regional Center for Small Arms (RECSA). These activities contributed to the achievement of the project's goals of developing an AAMVS for the EU and also promoting its development with other regional organisations.

## MEETING WITH ECOWAS

From 23 until 26 April, the project manager and two advisors travelled to Abuja, Nigeria to hold initial meetings with the ECOWAS Arms Division as part of its outreach efforts for the promotion of the use of an AAMVS at the regional level. The meetings were useful for the team to gain a better understanding of the ECOWAS import authorisation process. ECOWAS and GICHD-AMAT will collaborate under the AAMVS project and also other ones related to the implementation of best practice in arms and ammunition management. They plan to co-organise a workshop with ECOWAS members states to hold initial discussions on how the AAMVS can be designed for the region's specific needs and create a workplan for activities in 2024.



## IRSEM ANNUAL SALW CONFERENCE

The EU AAMVS project manager was invited to participate as panellist at the French Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM) Annual conference on "Prevention and fight against trafficking in conventional arms" which took place in Paris on 15 May. During the conference, the project manager presented the AAMVS and met with French Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Interior officials to discuss their potential engagement in the AAMVS project. They expressed interest in holding a meeting with relevant French ministries and the AAMVS project team to learn more about the project and how it could fit within the arms control processes conducted by the French government.

## BRIEFING TO COARM

On 16 May, two members of the project team briefed COARM on the latest updates and status of the project. A [questionnaire](#) was circulated for feedback on the AAMVS and its tools. GICHD-AMAT will follow up to receive feedback on the questionnaire.





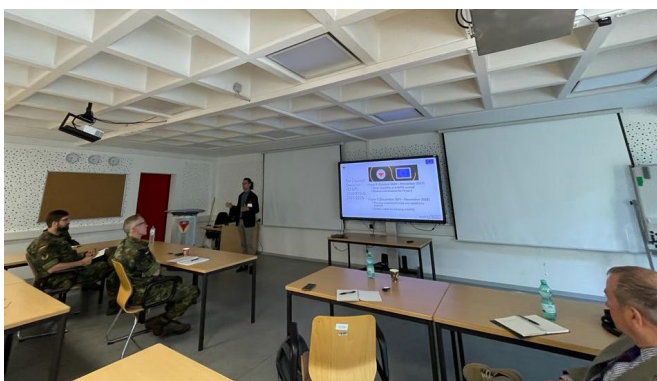
**April – June 2023**

**PILOT OF THE PILOT (AUSTRIA AND GERMANY)**



On 29-31 May, the AAMVS project manager and dedicated team travelled to Vienna and Geilenkirchen. The purpose of the visits was to present and discuss the AAMVS project, the self-assessment tool and governance options.

During the visit, the team had the privilege of engaging with esteemed representatives and experts from the Austrian Ministry of Defence International Cooperation unit and the German Armed Forces' Verification Unit. The team presented the latest updates on the project, along with the most recent version of the self-assessment tool. This invaluable opportunity allowed to set the stage for the upcoming pilot phase. The interactions proved to be immensely beneficial. The team received insightful feedback and gained a deeper understanding of the stakeholders' needs and expectations. With this critical feedback, the team is determined to enhance the AAMVS and its self-assessment tool, ensuring they align with the requirements of our stakeholders.



**2ND PROJECT TEAM MEETING**



The project team met for the second time in phase 3 on 13-14 June at the Maison de la Paix, Geneva. On 14-15 March, GICHD-AMAT held the first planning meeting for the three-year project. The primary purpose of the second meeting was to ensure all team members report on progress made in regard to the project's workplan developed in the last meeting in March 2023. The meeting was successful in updating the workplan 2023-2025 and reaching further clarity and consensus on key issues surrounding the AAMVS and its self-assessment tool. The project team will organise a briefing to its "EU Advisory Network" and will reach out to EU member states to hold bilateral meetings to discuss the AAMVS in preparation for its piloting early 2024.



**RECSA TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



In December 2022, the RECSA asked GICHD-AMAT to support them in their efforts to develop a strategy to implement the new Global Framework on Conventional Ammunition. AMAT was invited to participate and present at their annual Technical Advisory Committee meeting in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, where he presented the latest international policy initiatives relating to ammunition management including the policy developments towards the creation of a Global Framework for conventional ammunition. He also delivered the first presentation on the AAMVS to all RECSA member states. GICHD-AMAT will work closely with RECSA to assist in the development of capacities in ammunition management according to the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines. GICHD-AMAT and RECSA will develop a workplan and sign a cooperation agreement to formalise their collaboration for the period 2023-2025.