



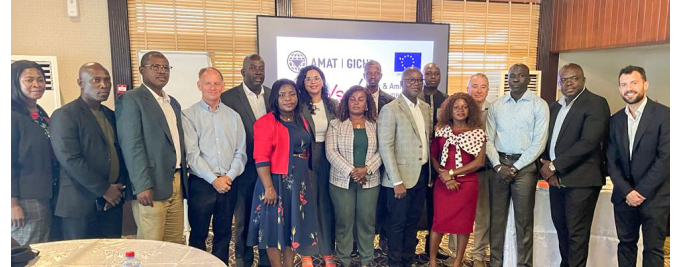
MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS IN Q4

In Q4, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining's Ammunition Management Advisory Team (GICHD-AMAT) conducted the very first pilot of the Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System (AAMVS) with non-EU states. The pilot workshop successfully tested the AAMVS self-assessment tool and gathered feedback from potential users from four member states of the Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS). In addition, GICHD-AMAT's Technical Advisor participated in the ECOWAS annual National Commission meeting in Dakar as part of GICHD-AMAT's outreach under the AAMVS and its general capacity building services. The results of the pilot workshop and outreach efforts of the first year were discussed and analysed in the End of year project team meeting leading to the development of the workplan for 2024.

AAMVS PILOT OF THE PILOT WORKSHOP IN GHANA

The first AAMVS 'Pilot of the Pilot' workshop, held in Accra, Ghana from 30th November to 1st December 2023, marked a significant step towards refining the AAMVS self-assessment tool for its scheduled launch in 2024. By engaging subject matter experts from Ghana, Liberia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and ECOWAS, the workshop aimed to gather valuable insights and feedback on how the tool functions, whether the questions are suitable and how the results are graphically presented.

During the workshop, subject matter experts provided crucial feedback for enhancing the tool's effectiveness before its launch in 2024. The workshop saw enthusiastic participation, with experts actively contributing to discussions and providing constructive input. Two surveys on the self-assessment tool yielded essential feedback, highlighting areas of success and opportunities for improvement. Participants were surveyed on the AAMVS as a whole, emphasising its utility in arms control and capacity building for armed forces and police. The positive responses underscored the system's potential impact on enhancing the safety and security of arms and ammunition stockpiles.



The workshop laid the groundwork for the AAMVS self-assessment tool's launch in 2024. GICHD-AMAT will further explore options for conducting the AAMVS with the same states, and potentially others from the region. The ECOWAS Arms Division has also expressed its willingness to promote the use of the AAMVS as part of their import exemption processes and meetings.

AAMVS END OF YEAR PROJECT TEAM MEETING

On 5-6 December, the project team held its final meeting for the first year of the project in Geneva. The aim of the meeting was to take stock of all findings and results from previous activities and especially the pilot workshop in Ghana. The team assessed the achievements as per its workplan for 2023 and reviewed its plans for 2024. In addition to improvements to the AAMVS self-assessment tool, the team will step up its outreach efforts with exporting countries after the successful pilot with importers. The team will plan to hold a similar workshop with subject matter experts from exporting states from the European Union in 2024.

OUTREACH AT ECOWAS ANNUAL NATCOM MEETING

GICHD-AMAT's Technical Advisor presented the AAMVS at the Annual National Commissions Meeting which took place in Dakar, Senegal on 13-15 December, in addition to continuing outreach with ECOWAS and member states. There is strong willingness from ECOWAS and member states' National Commissions on Small Arms to collaborate with GICHD-AMAT and utilise the AAMVS, including as part of the import exemption processes and meetings under the ECOWAS umbrella.

