

Reports on security and armed violence

Outline of the template for national and local reports

This initiative is a joint collaboration between the following institutions: Action on Armed Violence, Asociación para Políticas Públicas, Colombian Campaign Against Landmines, FOMICRES, the Secretariat of the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, Small Arms Survey and Women's Institute for Alternative Development.

ABSTRACT

This outline provides an overview of the type of information that can be used by countries when elaborating the national and local reports. It aims to offer an overview of the incidence and responses to armed violence and insecurity at national and were relevant local level.

General Comments

There are similarities between this template and other reporting systems; so much of the information requested here will have been generated already. On the other hand there are a number of key differences that make this template unique. Firstly this template promotes the integration of information sources that are typically separated, for example crime and health statistics. In addition, this report has a broader scope that includes information on violence that happens in both conflict and non-conflict settings. Finally, the inclusion in this report of additional dimensions, such as the identification of successful policies, case studies and contextual information, aims to improve the overall understanding of and response to the impact of armed violence and insecurity.

This outline is divided into two sections, Tier 1 and Tier 2. Tier 1 contains basic information that should be provided by every country. Tier 2 provides an opportunity to include additional information, trends and disaggregated data.

The final template for both Tiers is accompanied by guidelines that provide information on how to fill it out, the main sources of data as well as definitions for the various concepts included in the template.

The report should be produced in narrative form and data also included in an excel sheet that facilitates reporting. Countries should consider repeating this effort regularly in order to be able to monitor the evolution and trends in insecurity and armed violence.

For further information on this initiative, please contact Expert Group Members at expertgroup@dgroups.org

Outline of Tier 1

This section should be filled out by every country or local government undertaking this effort. It is based on basic information that captures the physical manifestations of armed violence and insecurity. It also provides a space for comments to explain and illustrate the data that is presented and a section to present successful policies, laws or programmes.

Tier 1 includes the following sections:

A. Impact of insecurity and armed violence, including armed conflict

1. Violent deaths

- 1.1. Homicides;
- 1.2. Deaths due to legal interventions¹
- 1.3. Deaths due to internal or external conflicts;
- 1.4. Suicides
- 1.5. Accidental deaths caused by firearms
- 1.6. Firearms deaths due to undetermined external causes
- 1.7. Overall number of violent deaths

2. Physical assaults

3. Robberies

4. Rape and aggravated sexual assaults

For some of this data, disaggregation by victim's age group, sex, nationality and weapons used is also suggested.

¹ The term 'legal interventions' refers to deaths in the context of law enforcement actions and operations.

B. Policies, legislation and programmes to address insecurity and armed violence

Countries should select between 1 and 3 policies, laws or programmes that have been implemented successfully in order to prevent or reduce violence, crime or conflict. A set of questions in the template help guiding countries in determining the relevant information to provide here.

When identifying these policies, laws or programmes, the following two criteria should be taken into account:

1. The importance of the policy, law or programme; and
2. The level of success.

C. Contextual information

This information is included in order to be able to analyse the information provided above in the right context.

1. Total population
2. Existence of an internal or external armed conflict
3. Information on firearms ownership and proliferation²

D. Methodology

This section concerns the information sources, the definitions used by the countries for each indicator, the counting unit, the periodicity and geographical scope of each indicator, and other type of methodological information that helps understanding the information reported above.

E. Comments

This section provides a chance to comment on the data included in the template. Comments should consider a narrative overview of the data. For pilot countries this is also the opportunity to highlight strengths and shortfalls of Tier 1.

F. Links to relevant reports

This section provides an opportunity to include the links to relevant reports that might complete the information provided above, or that are considered important for understanding the national context of security and armed violence.

² It refers to the number of firearms legally owned by civilians in the country and percentage of households or people possessing firearms over the total number of households or total population. Additional information reported already under the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons can be included in section F.

Outline of Tier 2

This section of the report is meant to be filled out by every country that is in possession of the relevant data. In some cases it includes the same variables than Tier 1 but requires additional in-depth information, based on different data sources and longer time series. It also looks at other key issues that were not captured in the first section of the report. This section includes a space for analysis of the data provided as well as a space to include specific case studies to illustrate the problem.

Tier 2 includes the following sections:

A. Impact of insecurity and armed violence, including armed conflict

- 1. Violent deaths** (*divided into several categories*)
- 2. Intentional injuries and physical assaults**
- 3. Robberies**
- 4. Rapes and sexual assaults**
- 5. Kidnappings**
- 6. Displacements**
- 7. Others** (*includes space for countries to add in additional relevant information for example on theft, burglaries, piracy, hate crimes etc. that are not captured in the sections above*)

For each category (1-7), total numbers as well as trends over time are suggested. In certain cases, disaggregation based on information on victims, perpetrators, weapons, location, circumstances/motives and geographic distribution is also recommended.

B. Perceptions and reactions to insecurity and armed violence

This section focuses on victimization surveys. Countries can include information related to public perceptions of insecurity and armed violence such as fear of victimization; number of crimes reported to the police; trust in police and/or in the justice system.

C. Policies, legislation and programmes to address insecurity and armed violence

This section is intended to provide an additional layer of detail to what was supplied in Tier 1. It can include agencies in charge, geographic outreach, timeline as well as resources allocated to them.

Further information can be provided on the budget and human resources allocated to the security sector, resources allocated specifically to social initiatives to prevent and reduce violence, external financial aid dedicated to peace and security and armed violence prevention, rates of crime convictions and information on prisons and inmates.

D. Contextual information

This section will include information on unemployment rates, human development index, drug related offences, corruption, organised crime, numbers and types of firearms captured and seized during law enforcement operations, and internal and international migrations.

E. Methodology

This section includes the same methodological questions as in Tier 1 but referred to the indicators used in Tier 2.

F. Analysis of the data and general comments

This section should provide further in-depth analysis on the data provided in Tier 2. It can look at the spatial dimensions of violence and insecurity (rural/urban violence), as well as analysing the evolution of violence and insecurity in the last twenty years.

G. Case studies

This section highlights specific issues and/or promotes effective practices that have been implemented at national level (both by the government or civil society) to address armed violence and promote security.

H. Links to relevant reports

As for Tier 1 this section offers a chance to include links to relevant reports on traffic of persons, implementation of main human rights treaties, organised crime and corruption.

I. Micro data

If raw data used to fill in the template is publicly available, it can be included here. This is invaluable information that can be used at any time by the country to identify detailed information that might not have been included in the main sections of the report.