



Co-operating to Disarm

**A REPORT OF ANALYSIS
ON ARMED CRIMES IN EAST AFRICA COMMUNITY COUNTRIES
(BURUNDI, KENYA, RWANDA, TANZANIA AND UGANDA)**





Co-operating to Disarm

VISION

“A safe and secure sub – region in a peaceful continent free from arms proliferation”

MISSION

To coordinate action against Small Arms and Light Weapons proliferation in the Great Lakes region and Horn of Africa

CORE VALUES

Flexibility
Gender Sensitivity
Integrity
Professionalism
Partnership
Team Work
Transparency

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Acronyms

AMISOM	African Union Mission in Somalia
ASALs	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
ATM	Automated Teller Machine
AVC	Armed Violence Centre
CID	Criminal Investigation Department
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CPF	Common Programme Framework
CIDPS	County Integrated Development Plans
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	East African Community
EDE	Ending Drought Emergency
FDLR	Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
ICT	Information and Communications technology
KMP	Kampala Metropolitan Police
LDUs	Local Defense Units
LRA	Lord's Resistance Army
NFP	National Focal Points
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OSAC	Overseas Security Advisory Council
RECSA	Regional Centre on Small Arms
RPC	Regional Police Commander
RSO	Regional Security Office
SAS	Small Arms Survey
SRIC	Security Research and Information Centre
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SMG	Sub Machine Gun
USA	United States of America
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programmes
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drug and Crime

Introduction

Regional Centre on Small Arms in Great Lakes Region, Horn of Africa and Bordering States (RECSA) is an intergovernmental organization established in June 2005 to coordinate action against Small Arms and Light Weapons proliferation. RECSA was set up to coordinate the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration on the problem of proliferation of illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa and the Nairobi Protocol for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States. The Nairobi Declaration was signed on 15th March, 2000 by 10 countries namely: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The protocol was signed in 2004 by twelve countries that included the above ten plus Seychelles and Somalia. These countries were later joined by Republic of Congo, Central African Republic and South Sudan. The declaration mandated the Nairobi Secretariat to coordinate efforts by National Focal Points in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa to prevent, combat and eradicate stockpiling and illicit trafficking in SALW¹.

At the national level, each country has put mechanisms in place to fight crime. Despite the measures crime and insecurity constitute one of the biggest threats to regional integration and development. According to the U.S. Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC), 2015 Crime and Security Report, the U.S. government rates Kenya as critical for crime and terrorism and Uganda as critical for crime and high for terrorism. Crime and terrorism are also cited as concerns in Tanzania. The report describes the overall security situation in Burundi as stable but cites concerns about

violent crime and targeted political violence². However the situation in Burundi deteriorated after April 2015 due to political differences regarding the third term for the incumbent President. According to Jones (December, 15th, 2015), the political violence has left more than 800 Burundians dead and more than 400,000 as refugees³. A report by USAID (2012) observed that conflict and instability trends in East Africa make the region one of the most unstable ones in the world. The report further indicates that significant portions of East Africa remained unsafe due to unending armed conflicts, violent crime, extremism, communal violence and political instability⁴.

This analysis focuses on armed crime rates in the region. Armed crime refers to commission of a felony under the laws of the state by, with, or through the use, assistance, or aid of a dangerous instrument or deadly weapon⁵, in this case a firearm.

Small arms circulation across the borders has been identified as one of the key drivers of armed conflicts in the region⁶.

¹See more in the RECSA website: <http://www.recsasec.org/index.php/en/about-us/our-history>

²OSAC Crime and Security Reports (2015). Retrieved from: <https://www.osac.gov/pages/ContentReports.aspx?cid=2> on 3rd March, 2016

³Jones, E. C. (The Washington Post, December, 15th, 2015). There are signs of renewed ethnic violence in Burundi. Retrieved from: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2015/12/15/there-are-signs-of-renewed-ethnic-violence-in-burundi/>, on 28th May, 2016.

⁴USAID, (2012). East Africa regional conflict and instability assessment final report. Retrieved from: https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKEwjhzvbxK7MAhWBcj4KHYGiCs8QFggIMAA&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.weadapt.org%2Fsystem%2Ffiles_force%2Fusaid_east_africa_conflict_assessment_march2012.pdf%3Fdownload%3D1&usg=AFQjCNFpyV54QOVw9sRII682QnpSGBi8QA&sig2=RKDqjKY4za18_JGkan7-eQ on 3rd March, 2016

⁵The adopted definition of armed crime in the report
⁶ibid

It is against this backdrop that RECSA has been implementing a number of projects in East African Community aimed at combating proliferation and use of illicit firearms. In order to measure the level of success of the various initiatives currently being implemented, the organization chose to carry out an assessment to analyse armed crime rates in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

This report is therefore an analysis of armed crimes in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The assessment was aimed at establishing crime levels with view to help facilitate future monitoring and evaluation of SALW interventions.

2. Background and Rationale

Armed conflicts continue to destroy lives and livelihoods. According to Small arms Survey (SAS, 2007)⁷, small arms and light weapons are responsible for the majority of direct conflict deaths. The proliferation of small arms and light weapons presents one of the biggest security challenges currently facing countries in East African sub-region (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda Tanzania and Uganda). The trafficking and wide availability of these weapons fuel instability, conflict and pose a threat, not only to security, but also to sustainable development. The widespread proliferation of illicit small arms is contributing to alarming levels of armed crime, in both rural and urban areas and at the same time exacerbates armed cattle rustling and other conflicts in pastoralist areas.

Armed violence disproportionately affects the poor population and is an important

⁷SAS (2007). Armed Violence in Burundi: Conflict and Post-Conflict Bujumbura. Available in: <http://www.smallarmsurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/A-Yearbook/2007/en/full/Small-Arms-Survey-2007-Chapter-06-EN.pdf>. Retrieved on 21st march, 2016.

factor in undermining development and poverty reduction efforts across the region. In EAC countries, the Regional Centre on Small Arms (RECSA) has continued to support Member States in the implementation of various interventions on Small arms control. The challenge has been to quantify the impact of these interventions. This study sought to establish a baseline on armed crime within the five EAC countries.

Studies have shown that Eastern Africa – just like other African countries - is awash with Small arms⁸. One major reason is due to continued conflicts in Burundi, Somalia, DRC Congo and South Sudan. It is also because armed nomadic groups traverse throughout the border regions with their weapons. Consequently, insecurity is on the rise with increased armed crime cases. Current security concerns in the region include the volatile situation in Burundi, cross border issues between DRC and Rwanda and cattle rustling issues between Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. In areas where wars have officially come to an end, the presence of Small arms makes physical insecurity persist through banditry, violent settlement of scores and armed crime.⁹ Cheap, portable, and readily available, small arms are the weapons of choice in gang violence, organized crime, civil wars or intra-state conflict. Their widespread availability can threaten the welfare and stability of communities, states and regions.¹⁰

The EAC countries are central to this study since they already share common approaches in arms related interventions.

⁸O’Grady, M. E, (September, 1999). Small arms and Africa. Available in: <https://www.caat.org.uk/resources/countries/africa/small-arms>. Retrieved on 23rd March, 2016.

⁹Musah, Abdel-Fatau: The political economy of small arms and conflict. Retrieved from: <http://www.dpmf.org/images/political-economy-Abdel-july-200.html>. On 23rd March, 2016.

¹⁰Ibid

Core to this analysis, was therefore to establish the link between proliferation of small arms and armed criminality and whether interventions by various stakeholders' had borne the intended impact.

3. Study Objectives

The main objective of the study was to establish the status of armed crimes rates in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

Specifically, the study sought to:

1. Quantify and analyse armed crime data in EAC countries
2. Determine the impact of small arms interventions in EAC countries
3. Propose policy options to address Small arms proliferation

4. Methodology

The research process made use of both secondary and primary means of collecting data. Secondary data collection involved reviewing existing national reports on armed crimes. Literature from other stakeholders like government agencies, the UN and the (I)NGOs including previously done reports on armed violence across the East African countries.

Conflict information posted in different organization's websites and also from individual researchers was also consulted to enrich the scope of this research. Primary data collection involved collecting armed violence statistics from the police in the East African countries.

5. Study Findings

This section provides the main findings of the study. It begins with a general overview of armed crimes in the five countries before breaking into specific analysis for each country.

5.1 General Overview of Armed Crime in the Region

The study sought to quantify armed crimes in each of the Eastern Africa countries. Figure one below gives a quantitative analysis of reported armed crime cases in the five EAC countries.

A comparative analysis of reported armed crime cases in the five countries seemed to indicate that, Rwandese were 80 times less likely to fall victims of armed crimes than their brothers and sisters in Uganda. Indeed, accumulation of armed crime incidences across the five countries for the five year period indicated that 34,512 armed crimes occurred in Uganda compared to a paltry 421 in Rwanda. Burundi came second with 26,041 followed by Kenya, 12,877 and Tanzania, 9,646. The study found that majority of these crime cases were armed robbery, cattle rustling, carjacking and terrorism. Small arms were also found to be majorly used in banditry and communal conflicts in all the Eastern Africa countries.

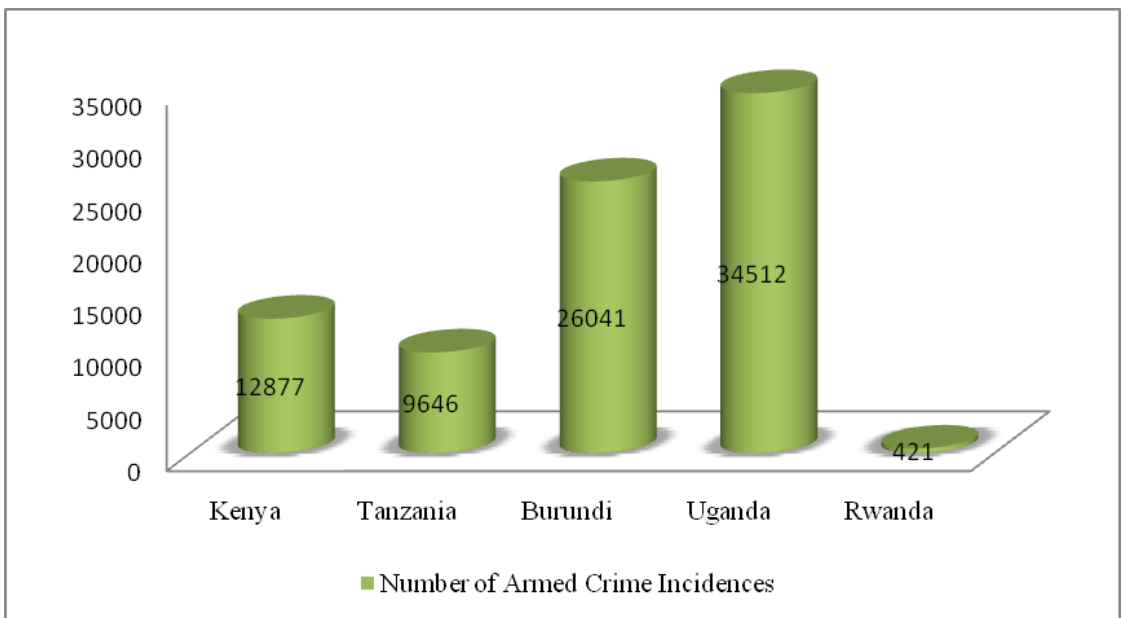
This inferred that proximity to a country in war or conflict has a direct correlation with the security stability of the neighbouring countries. UNDOC (2009) summarized this situation by intimating that violent conflicts within and at the borders of the region presented an ongoing source for the illicit trade in SALW, and as a consequence, an increasing level of violence in local communities¹¹.

¹¹UNDOC (2009). Organized crime and trafficking in Eastern Africa. Retrieved from: http://www..org/documents/easternafrika/regionalministerialmeeting/Organised_Crime_and_Trafficking_in_Eastern_Africa_Discussion_Paper.pdf

According to UNDOC, the threat of emerging new violent conflicts in Eastern Africa remains high. The UNDOC report further noted that the region is home to one of the most insecure countries in the world, Somalia, and it borders various other conflict-torn states, most notably Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In addition, Kenya experienced politically instigated conflicts in 2007/2008 with the root causes of the violence remaining unaddressed¹². Border regions between Ethiopia and Eritrea also remain volatile while the fact that the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in CAR is still active presents both internal and external sources of conflict for the region¹³. As a result of these wars and conflict, refugee camps are prevalent throughout the region and the spread of fear and violence by militias, gangs and armed pastoralists are an ever present concern.

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Figure 1: Number of Armed Crime Incidences across the region (2010 – 2014).



¹²UNDOC (2009). Organized crime and trafficking in Eastern Africa. Retrieved from: http://www.un.org/documents/easternAfrica/regionalministerialmeeting/Organised_Crime_and_Trafficking_in_Eastern_Africa_Discussion_Paper.pdf

¹³Saferworld (2012). Root causes of Kenyan political violence remain unaddressed. Retrieved from: <http://www.saferworld.org.uk/news-and-views/news-article/573-root-causes-of-kenyan-political-violence-remain-unaddressed> on 3rd March, 2016.

5.2 Crime in Kenya

Kenya is located in central-eastern Africa, and is in the eastern as well as northern and southern hemispheres. Kenya is bordered by Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda, as well as the Indian Ocean. Kenya became an independent state in 1963, after gaining its sovereignty from the United Kingdom. The population of Kenya is 43,013,341 (KNBS, 2012) and the nation has a density of 76 people per square Kilometer.

Kenya remains critically rated for both crime and terrorism (OSAC, 2015). Like most developing countries, Kenya has experienced a rise in crime (Musoi, et. al, 2012). The scope and magnitude vary with geographical variations, with urban areas being the most affected compared to rural areas. The crimes range from robbery, murders, motor vehicle related types of crime, burglaries and break-ins, abductions/ kidnappings, rape and defilements, muggings, armed livestock raids, highway banditry, and in the recent years terrorist related crime incidences¹⁴.

According to a crime Victimization Survey report done in 2010 by the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime UNDOC¹⁵, urban citizens in Kenya were more likely to become victims of car-related crimes, theft, robbery, home invasions and mugging while those in rural areas were likely to be at risk of livestock theft, sexual offenses and assaults. These findings were further corroborated by OSAC in 2014, who reported that the most common types of crime in Kenya's cities were motor vehicle related crime, robbery, theft and violent home invasions¹⁶. In virtually all instances reported, criminals used weapons during commission of crime. According to OSAC, criminals who commit these crimes only shot victims when they seemed to be uncooperative or who appeared to hesitate

before complying with their demands. The report, went further to report that victims who were completely cooperative, were only robbed of their possessions and released unharmed.¹⁷ This could mean that arms in most cases were used to either intimidate a victim into cooperation or the cost of ammunition and fear of attracting attention during criminal incidences may be restraining criminals from shooting.

This report spans a 5-year period beginning 2010 up to and including 2014, and focuses entirely on crimes where firearms were used as captured in police records.

Armed Crime in Kenya

The overall depiction for crimes involving firearms in Kenya during the reporting period is a steady increase with the only exception being in year 2013 when a drop was recorded. In real terms, there was an average increment of 24 crimes involving use of firearms at an annual rate of 0.93%. When juxtaposed with the Kenya's average annual population growth rate of 2.3%¹⁸ during the same period, the study opine that actions employed to curb the proliferation and misuse of illicit arms in the country could be bearing fruits.

¹⁴Musoi, K., Muthama, T., Waiya, N. & Kitiku, J. (2012). Nairobi region annual crime observatory report 2011/ 2012. Retrieved from: http://srickenya.org/images/reports/Nairobi_Region_Annual_Crime_Observatory_Report_2011_2012.pdf on 22nd November, 2015

¹⁵UNDOC, (2010). Victimization survey in Kenya. http://www.org/documents/dataandanalysis/dfa/Executive_Summary_KENYA_final.pdf

¹⁶United States Department of State, OSAC - Bureau of Diplomatic Security, (2014). Retrieved from: <https://www.osac.gov/pages/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=15605> on 22nd November, 2015.

¹⁷Ibid

¹⁸See more at: <http://www.indexmundi.com/kenya/population.html> on Kenya's population growth rate.

This is because, compared to population growth, the increment in armed crime was twice as low. In spite of the slow growth, the increment in armed crime could be interpreted to be symptomatic of a growing preference by criminals to use firearms in committing crime since the arms were easily available.

The police statistics show that crime cases involving use of firearms ranged from robbery, cattle rustling, carjacking, kidnapping and terrorism. In total, 12,877 such cases were reported for the period between 2010 and 2014 which, in absolute terms indicate a serious challenge to security apparatus. Initially, the problem of armed crime and violence was more pronounced in the pastoralist areas of the country which were perceived to be less policed¹⁹. In the recent past however, major urban centres have witnessed increased firearms related crimes. Similar findings by Sylvester Phil in 2015 on “the realities of Kenya crime: what to look out for”²⁰ corroborates this phenomena. According to Sylvester, violent crime cases involving use of firearms were also more common along the borders. The report suggested that violent crime cases such as armed banditry, violent cattle rustling, counter raids and tribal warfare, were more common along the Kenya-Ethiopia border while kidnapping, armed banditry and clan warfare occurred mostly along Kenya’s borders with South Sudan and Somalia.

Consequently, there has been a raft of measures directed at controlling and managing the proliferation and misuse of illicit small arms and light weapons in Kenya. One of the measures employed by law enforcement agencies to manage this menace has been a series of disarmaments operations. The Kenyan government has employed both peaceful and forceful means of disarming warring communities

in Rift Valley, Eastern and North Eastern regions. According to Njoroge (2012), disarmament has faced resistance by the pastoralist communities due to perceived government absence in pastoralist areas²¹. That perception has always fuelled rearmament of community members to protect themselves and their properties from aggressors and perceived enemies.

¹⁹See more in Muchai, A. (2005). Insecurity: A case study of Northern Kenya. In Micha Hollestelle and Simon Simonse, eds. Security when the state fails: community Response to armed violence, Vol. 5. The Hague: Pax Christi, pp. 113-29.

²⁰Sylvester, P. (2015). The realities of Kenya crime: What to look out for. Retrieved from: <http://www.worldnomads.com/travel-safety/kenya/The-realities-of-Kenya-crime> on 22nd November, 2015.

²¹Njoroge, M. (2012) Small arms and light weapons in Kenya. Retrieved from: https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKewjvmaqUia_MAhXLNSYKHfOyApwQFggdMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.aefjn.org%2Findex.php%2F364%2Farticles%2Fsmall-armsinkenya.html%3Ffile%3Dtl_files%2Faejfnfiles%2Farms%2Farms_material%2520eng%2Fsmall%2520arms%2520in%2520Kenya.doc&usq=AFQjCNFmJhual8eLl-LO3HpSpwh_iz4SEQ&sig2=fkezyrIZy9Zr38cawMx4gg on 23rd March, 2016.

Figure 2: Aggregated armed crime incidences for the period between 2010 and 2014.



Robbery Incidences

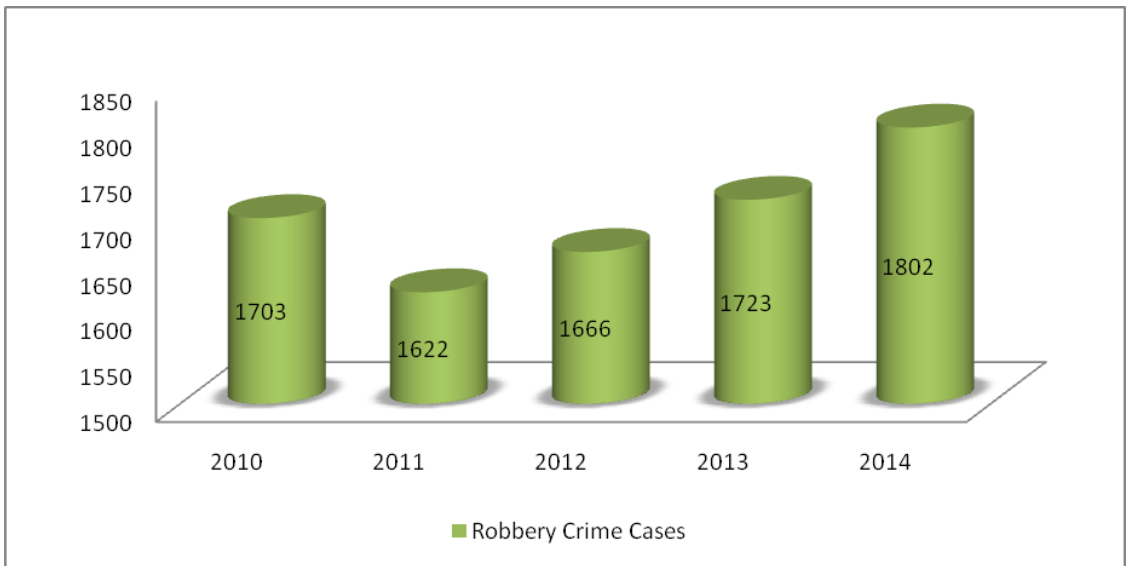
In the last five years, 2010-2014, police statistics show that one of the mostly committed crimes involving use of firearms was robbery. The records showed that robbery incidences involving use of small arms have been rising. The upward trend may have been caused by several factors, including unemployment which, studies have shown, push youth to crime as a means to subsistence²² or that interventions instituted since 2010 have either not borne significant fruits.

As shown in the chart below, 2013 and 2014 recorded the highest number of crime incidences involving use of firearms. This could be explained by the fact that during the build-up to elections and the period succeeding elections, crime in Kenya tends to increase. This assertion is further led credence by Sylvester (2015), who reported that “despite the fact that Kenya is generally peaceful and friendly, crime tends to increase during and immediately after the electioneering period”²³.

²²Musoi, K., Muthama, T., Kibor, J. & Kitiku, J. (2014). A study of crime in Urban slums in Kenya: The case of Kibra, Bondeni, Manyatta and Mishomoroni slums. Available at: www.srickenya.org/publications.

²³Sylvester, P. (2015). The realities of Kenya crime: What to look out for. Retrieved from: <http://www.worldnomads.com/travel-safety/kenya/The-realities-of-Kenya-crime> on 22nd November, 2015.

Figure 3: Robbery incidents involving use of firearms in Kenya



Carjacking

In contrast to armed robbery however, carjacking incidents were seen to be taking a slight dip, starting with 541 in 2010 and dropping marginally to 470 in 2014, the contrast being noted in 2013 when it soared to an all-time high of 588 cases. It is safe and reasonable to attribute this slight decline to a string of deliberate measures that the authorities and motor vehicle owners managed to institute in a bid to contain the menace. These include installation of car tracing and recovery gadgets, enhanced car lock systems, installation of urban security surveillance systems and infrastructure, including closed circuit television (CCTV) along major roads as well as an ambitious lighting in streets and residential estates in major urban centres.

Equally crucial is that the police distress response time improved considerably over the last few years as a result of improved vehicular mobility and telecommunications capacity at the disposal of police officers across the country.

Since 2013, the Kenyan government has leased more than 1680 motor vehicles²⁴ for police work and also increased the budgetary allocation for security organs by more than Ksh. 27B compared to 2014/2015 financial year.²⁵

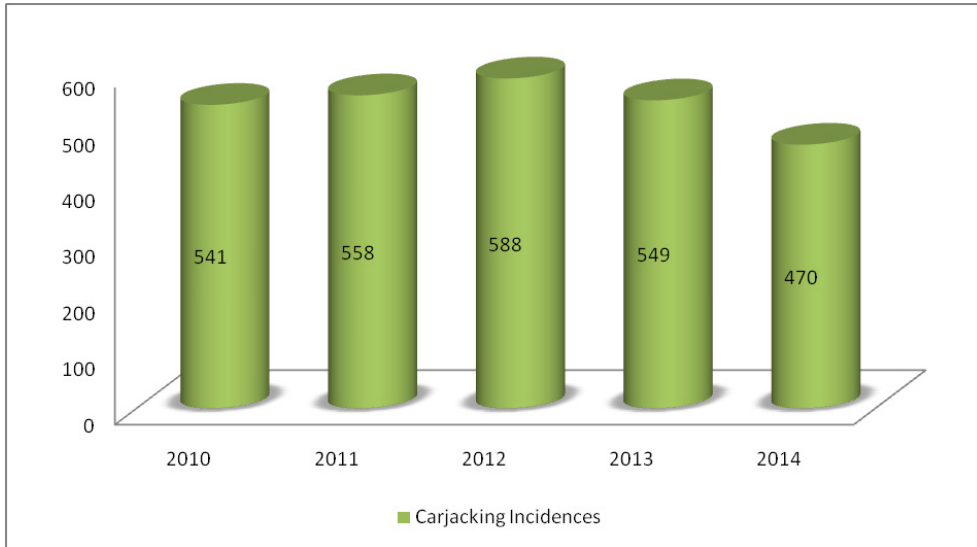
It can be noted that while this is certainly a welcome trend, the apparent statistical decline is far too slim for comfort and as such, additional efforts must be made to further reduce the menace to the barest manageable minimum. To put it into perspective, the study established a decrease of 118 carjacking incidences from the high of 588 reported cases in 2012 to 470 in 2014.²⁶

²⁴See more at: The president and deputy president flag off leased vehicles for police. Retrieved on 28th April, 2016 at: <http://www.deputypresident.go.ke/index.php/president-and-his-deputy-flag-off-leased-vehicles-for-police>.

²⁵Deloitte (2015). Kenya budget insight 2015: Diving deep. Retrieved from: http://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/ke/Documents/tax/Tax_Budget%20Insight%202015_KE.pdf on 23rd April, 2016

This finding is in resonance with a similar survey that was undertaken by Security Research and Information Centre (SRIC) focusing on the same phenomenon across four major urban centres in Kenya in 2014.²⁶

Figure 4: Carjacking incidents involving use of firearms.



Kidnapping

Kidnapping and hostage-taking are person-directed crime motivated primarily by economic gain by the perpetrator. On closer examination of the figure below, it will be noted that this type of crime has been on a declining trajectory over the reporting period, starting from 279 cases in 2010 and dipping to 250 cases in 2013. The only contrast being in 2014 where kidnapping incidences rose to 262. The departure from the already established trend could be as result of fatigue, where the mechanisms put in place were no longer influencing any sort of change in the number of reported cases.

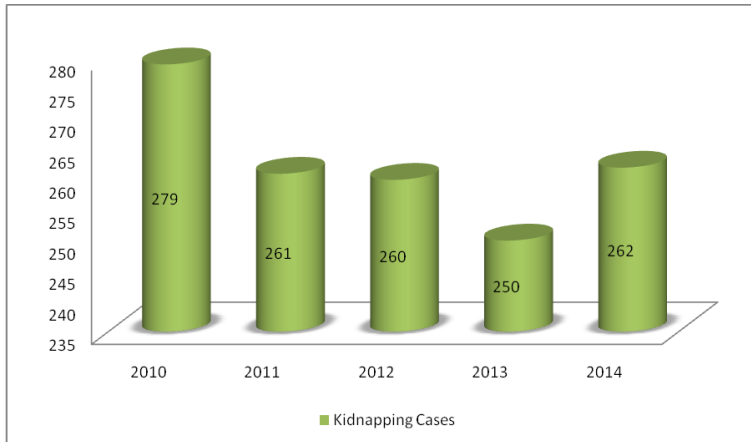
In analysing this particular crime, it is important to acknowledge the apparent correlation that exists between it and the time when Kenya enacted laws to specifically combat technology-based crime, otherwise known as cyber-crime. Around 2011, the government introduced

a policy framework and statues specifically tailored to address ICT-based crime typologies, of which kidnapping is part. It is appreciated that kidnapping mainly involves usage of anonymous/unregistered mobile phone numbers by the perpetrators to demand ransom from the victims' relatives and significant others in exchange for setting free their captives.

Given the raft of measures to curb this menace, it is projected that this type of crime will continue to be on the decline in the foreseeable future.

²⁶See more in SRIC Website. Motor vehicle crime in major towns and cities: An analysis of the trends, prevalence and impact in Kenya. Available at www.srickenya.org, retrieved on 23rd November, 2015.

Figure 5: Kidnapping incidents involving use of firearms



Communal Conflict

Communal conflict refers to violent conflict between non-state groups that are organized along a shared communal identity²⁷. Violent conflict on the other hand refers to the fact that the parties use lethal violence to gain control over some disputed and perceived indivisible resource, such as a piece of land or local political power²⁸.

Armed inter-communal conflicts remained at manageable levels between 2010, 2011 and 2012, during which period 17, 5 and 7 incidents were recorded by police respectively. The situation however dramatically increased in 2013, as represented by a sharp spike that shot eightfold to 56 cases, before dipping to an all-time zero the following year. In the absence of any analysis of possible attribution by the police, it is most probable that the sudden jump was a function of the sporadic pre-election ethnic tensions that were witnessed in the country, especially in multi-ethnic counties with opposing political affiliations and competition for local political power and/or leadership. There were also instances where some community members in highly metropolitan counties such as Isiolo, Garissa, Marsabit, Wajir, Mandera and Tana River felt left out in the county leadership and therefore resorted to conflicts but the tensions were

quelled through negotiated democracies which ensured minorities were not left out in the county jobs.

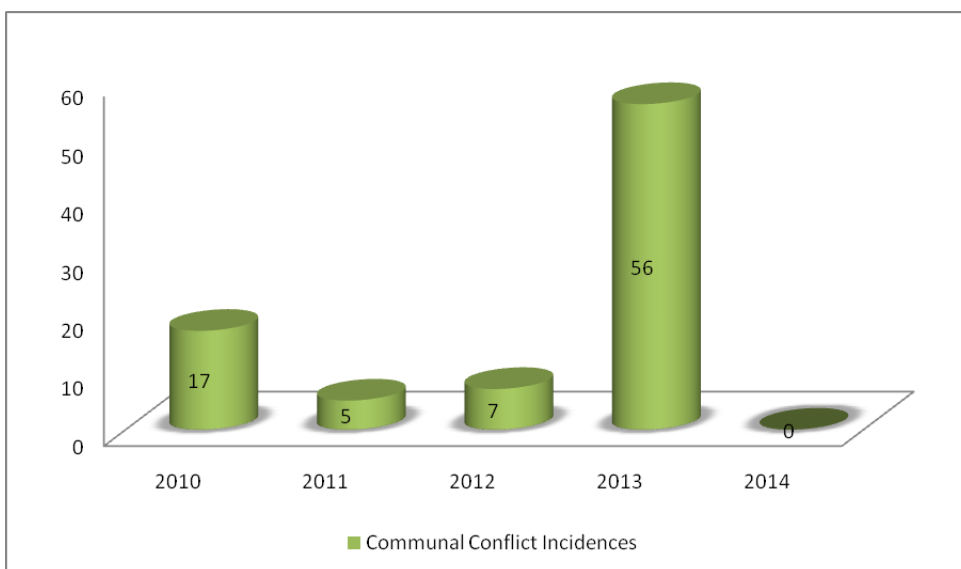
It will be recalled that those conflicts fizzled out immediately after the election, primarily due to the rapid resolution of election disputes, concession of election losers and also instances of negotiated democracies which seemed to promote inclusivity in the formation of county governments. By use of negotiated democracy, almost all communities in cosmopolitan counties were allocated either an elective post or a nomination one so as to reduce instances of winner-takes-it all which seemed to breed inter-communal or inter-clan conflicts²⁹. The sudden decline of communal conflicts in 2014 could also be as a result of devolution, where some counties which in the past harboured deep rooted perceptions of marginalization were beginning to witness development changes.

²⁷African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD, 2012). Communal conflict, civil war, and state: Complexities, connections, and the case of Sudan. Retrieved from: <http://www.isn.ethz.ch/Digital-Library/Publications/Detail/?lang=en&id=146621> on 23rd April, 2016

²⁸ibid

²⁹Reed more in Inter Press Service (IPS) News Agency (February, 25th, 2013). Power Sharing a Dangerous Concept for Kenya's Democracy. Retrieved from: <http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/02/power-sharing-a-dangerous-concept-for-kenyas-democracy/> on 23rd November, 2015

Figure 6: Communal Conflict Incidents (2010 – 2014).



Cattle Rustling Incidents

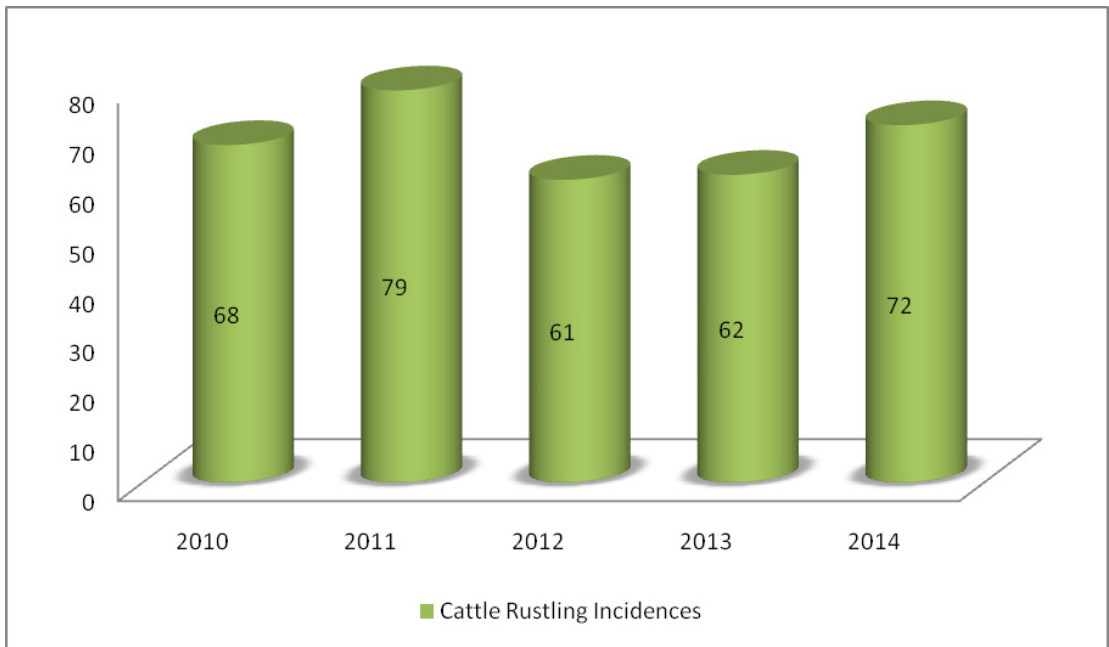
The practice of cattle-rustling remains a major cause of insecurity and conflict amongst the pastoral communities in Kenya. The vice remains a recurring security challenge in Kenya, and shows little signs of getting exterminated once and for all, going by its oscillating nature, as captured in the figure below. While there is a tenuous association between this phenomenon and electoral/ethnic violence, it is generally acknowledged that the underpinning causative effects revolve around enduring retrogressive cultural practices, intermittent clashes over dwindling resources between and among pastoralist communities as well as climate/weather-induced loss of livestock that fuels the need to “replenish”³⁰.

Despite this depressing scenario, it is anticipated that the menace will be brought to control in the near future, considering the on-going deliberate policy, legislative and programmatic strategy that government – both at national and county level - and its partners is rolling out to address. These include the new county governance structure which has brought services closer to the people and subsequent setting up and implementation of County Integrated Development Plans

(CIDPS) which includes a strategy to end some of these perennial conflicts occasioned by cattle raids, especially in Turkana, Baringo, West Pokot, Samburu and Isiolo. The government has also developed a multi-agency Ending Drought Emergency (EDE) Common Programme Framework (CPF) blueprint for ASALs which seeks to end drought emergencies by 2022. The blueprint adopts a holistic, multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approach whose defining principle is to accelerate the pace of development in ASALs.

³⁰Mkutu K and Wandera G (2013) Policing the Periphery: Opportunities and Challenges for Kenya Police Reserves.

Figure 7: Cattle rustling incidents.



Terrorism Incidents

Regarded as one of the emerging and most ominous security threats of our time, terrorism is increasingly becoming a defining feature of Kenya's security challenges. Although incidents of terrorism were initially few and far between, the phenomenon has lately become increasingly frequent, and its effects decidedly devastating. The exponential rise in terrorism cases in 2013 and 2014 are linked to the horrendous attacks in which more than 71 people were killed in separate incidences that took place in Mpeketoni and a host of other relatively less devastating incidents across Kenya's two major urban centres, namely Nairobi, Garissa, Mandera, Wajir and Mombasa³¹.

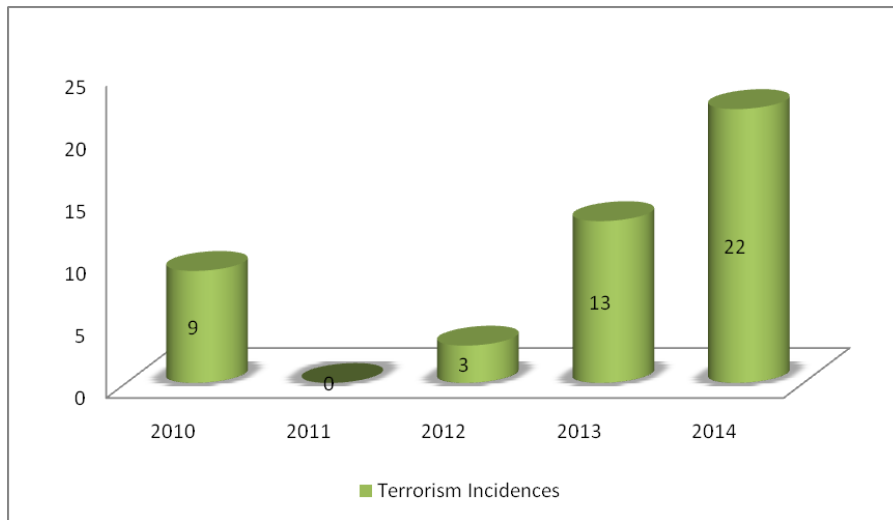
The Kenyan government has put into place a raft of measures including; the deployment of anti-terror police unit to the northern region, increasing the defence budgetary allocations to improve tooling and equipment, encouraging the Kenya's public to embrace the collective security policy locally referred to as 'Nyumba Kumi initiative' that enables them to know their neighbour and report any suspicious

neighbours and or activities, intensifying border patrols especially along Kenya-Somalia border and also on all exit points reducing the number of aliens getting in the country, asset freeze of Al Shabaab sympathizers and financiers and Hawalas closure that launder money for the jihadists decapitating their finances and also supporting Muslim clerics to come up with programs that teach constructive Islam and foil extremist ideologies among the Muslim youths in the country³².

³¹See more in the standard digital media article titled "Death toll rises to 11 in fresh attacks in Witu, Lamu County". Released on 24th June, 2014. Retrieved from: <http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2000125825/death-toll-rises-to-11-in-fresh-attacks-in-witu-lamu-county> on 23rd April, 2016

³²Strategic intelligence service, Counter terrorism and national security intelligence (May, 27th 2015). Kenya government counter-terrorism measures against Al-shabaabIslamists. Retrieved from: <http://www.intelligencebriefs.com/kenya-government-counter-terrorism-measures-against-al-shabaab-islamists/> on 23rd November, 2015.

Figure 8: Terrorism Incidents.



5.3 Armed Crime in Tanzania

The United Republic of Tanzania was formed after the sovereign states of Tanganyika and Zanzibar united on 26th April, 1964. Tanzania is among the six countries in East Africa and lies between latitudes 1° and 12° South of the Equator; and longitude 29° and 41° East of Greenwich. Tanzania has a surface area of 945,087 square kilometres and an estimated population of 49.25 million people³³. The country is bordered by Kenya and Uganda to the North, on the west Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic. Just like in other major cities and towns in Eastern Africa, Tanzania's large population centres, such as Dar-es-Salaam, Arusha and Mwanza, face challenges to do with crime.

Generally, most of crime cases are non-violent, property crime and non-violent street crime. Street crime is prevalent in urban areas targeting people carrying bags, computers, cameras, or laptop bags. Most of these snatch-and-grab crimes are committed by unarmed assailants. However, the US Embassy's in Dar-es-Salaam, Regional Security Office (RSO) also receive occasional reports about more complex crimes such as ATM scams and

and armed robberies where guards are constrained while thieves gain entry into residences. Strong population growth in urban centers, such as Dar-es-Salaam, Arusha, and Mwanza, have contributed to a spike in crime as jobs are unable to keep pace with the inflow of young migrants seeking employment³⁴.

Armed violence

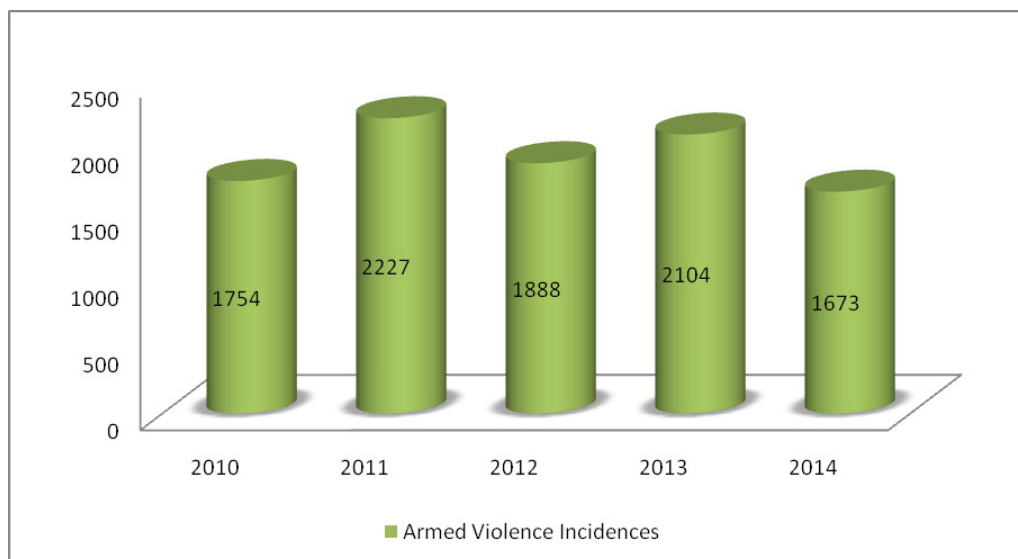
Generally crime rate in Tanzania is reportedly rising³⁵. This means that cases involving use of firearms were also increasing. An analysis of firearms related crime between the years 2010-2014 indicated a minimal increment of firearms related crime in the period 2010 and 2011 and decline in 2013/2014 period. The decline can be attributed to a number of actions; the closure of penetration routes, disarmament and even government intervention. The reduction of crimes related to firearms could also be attributed to low usage but not necessarily unavailability.

³³Tanzania population: Tanzania population clock. Retrieved from: <http://countymeters.info/en/Tanzania> on 28th April, 2016

³⁴Tanzania 2012 OSAC Crime and Safety Report

³⁵Crime rate rising in Tanzania - report. Retrieved from: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201504291552.html> on 23rd March, 2016.

Figure 9: Firearms related crimes.



Illegal Possession of Illicit Arms

The proliferation and the possession of illegal small arms pose a serious security challenge to individuals and nation of Tanzania. The minimal reduction of firearm related crime cases in Tanzania contradicts the fact that during the year 2011/2012, the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of Tanzania indicated illicit arms possession increased from 469 in 2011 to 550 in 2012³⁶. The increment was probably so minimal to have a considerable impact on crime commission using firearms or it could be a case of restocking by the already existing illegal holders.

The slight increment could also be due to the inefficiency and poor mechanisms in controlling the widespread of arms by the relevant organs in the country or even due to poverty and economic hardship that force people to find ways of owning illegal small arms for purpose of committing crime to earn some level of income. These findings concur with those found, by the UNDP (2002) that, the possession of illegal small arms and their use in crime had

increased and became a serious problem in Tanzania³⁷. However, contrary to the above, there was a slight decrease of illegal possession of small arms between 2011 and early 2012 whereby the number of illegal small arms was 550 in 2011 and 101 from January to March 2012. One among other reasons for the decrease was due to government efforts in combating illegal possession of small arms.

Reports from the police indicate that Kigoma, Kagera, Rukwa and Morogoro were mostly the regions in which firearm penetration in Tanzania was greatest. The same reports have shown that both Kigoma and Rukwa are areas of high insecurity³⁸.

³⁶Ndimbwa, T., Emanuel, M. (November, 2013). Impact of small arms on social security in Tanzania. Retrieved from: http://hrmars.com/hrmars_papers/Impact_of_Small_Arms_on_Social_Security_in_Tanzania.pdf on 23rd March, 2016.

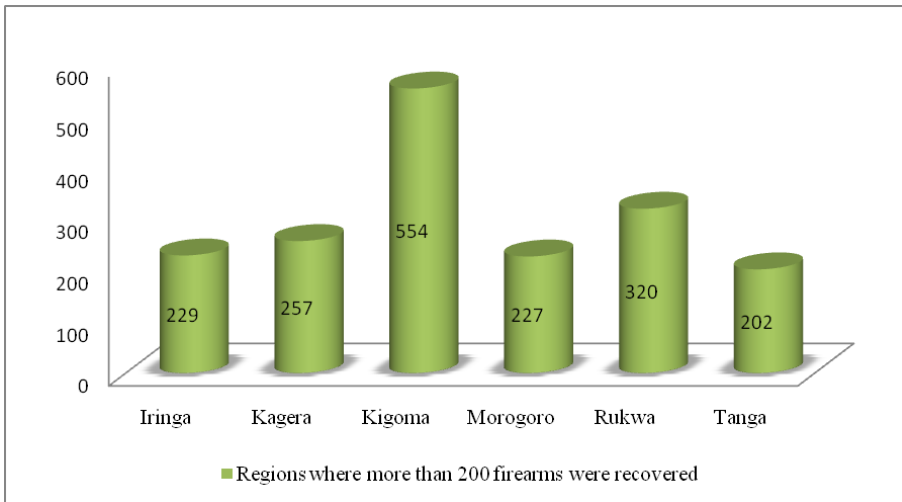
³⁷UNDP, (2002). "Development held hostage." Assessing the effects of small arms on human development. New York

³⁸Jefferson, C. &Urquat, A. The impact of small arms in Tanzania results of a country survey. Retrieved from: <https://www.issafrica.org/uploads/Mono70Full.pdf> on 23rd March, 2016

Kigoma’s geographical location, whereby it borders conflicting zones of Burundi and DRC and the destabilizing influx of refugees from these regions makes it a high level penetration route for small arms and light weapons. The explanation also suffices for Rukwa which neighbours Kigoma and therefore a high likelihood of being used as a proliferation route for small arms to other areas.

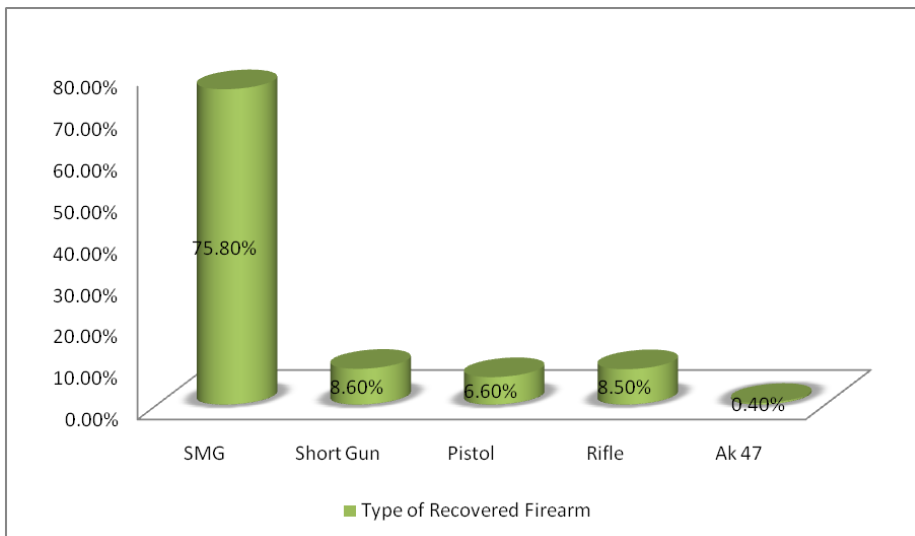
Police reports also indicated that there was increased clamour for firearms ownership by residents of Tanga and Mwanza mainly for self-protection. Also the regions host some of the richest hunting zones and thus relatively high levels of access to firearms.³⁹ As shown below, an analysis on the recovered firearms by the government of Tanzania showed Kigoma Province leading with 554 guns compared to Tanga’s 202.

Figure 10: Regions where majority of recovered firearms were found.



On further analysis, the study also revealed that most of the recovered firearms were Sub Machine Guns (SMG) with only a handful of AK-47 guns recovered. See figure below;

Figure 11: Type of firearm recovered or surrendered.



³⁹Ibid.

Efforts in Combating Illegal Small Arms in Tanzania

The government of Tanzania in-line with international firearms treaties and in close collaboration with RECSA has been taking several measures to control proliferation of SALW in the country. One of the most practiced mechanisms has been the destruction of illicit small arms. The table below shows the government effort in

destroying illicit small arms at the source as opposed to a central location like practiced in many other countries in the Eastern Africa.

In some other instances Tanzania forces employ home to home operations to recover illicit small arms especially in areas earmarked as conflict zones or proliferations routes such as the Mara region⁴⁰.

Table 1: Destruction of illicit firearms in Tanzania

Place	Date and Year	Number of Firearms Destroyed
Kigoma	21/11/2006	2,772
Dar-es-Salaam	25/05/2009	5,660
Arusha	20/03/2010	1,550
Kagera	25/05/2010	2,565
Mwanza	07/08/2010	1,217
Total		13,764

Source: Ndimbwa and Emanuel, 2013: originally from Ministry of Education (Retrieved from: http://hrmars.com/hrmars_papers/Impact_of_Small_Arms_on_Social_Security_in_Tanzania.pdf on 23rd March, 2016).

Terrorism

Over the last 5 years, Tanzania has experienced a number of terrorism attacks. For instance in 2013 and 2014, Tanzania witnessed multiple small blasts in Arusha, Mwanza, and Stone Town, Zanzibar⁴¹. In the last five years, there has been an increase in crime involving use of explosives and bombs⁴². These crimes have led to serious damage such as death, injuries and destruction of properties. According to the police reports, criminals committing such crimes seemed to target areas with large concentration of people or businesses leaving behind massive destruction of property and loss of lives.

During the period in focus, a total of 41 bombs were recovered⁴³. As shown in the chart below, the regions which led in unlawful possession of bombs were Kigoma (15), Singida (7), Arusha (5) and Lindi (4).

⁴⁰Mugini, J. (May, 2004). Tanzania: Police Seize Guns in Operation to Recover Illegal Firearms. Retrieved from: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201405090385.html> on 23rd March, 2016

⁴¹Tanzania Police Force Crime Statistics Report January - December, 2014 Page 27. Retrieved from: http://www.nbs.go.tz/nbs/takwimu/trade/CRIME_STATISTICS_REPORT_JAN%20-%20DEC_2014.pdf on 23rd March, 2016

⁴²Ibid

⁴³Ibid

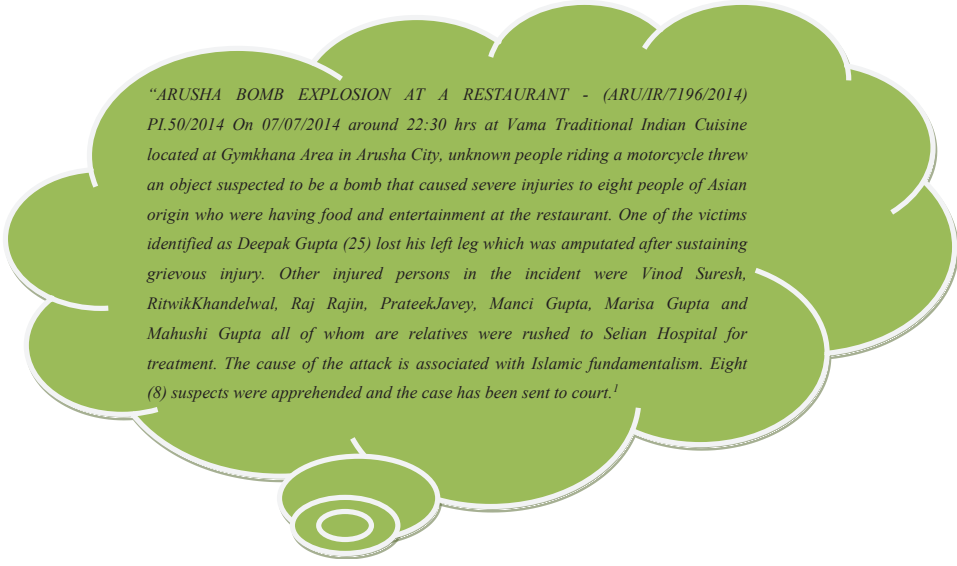
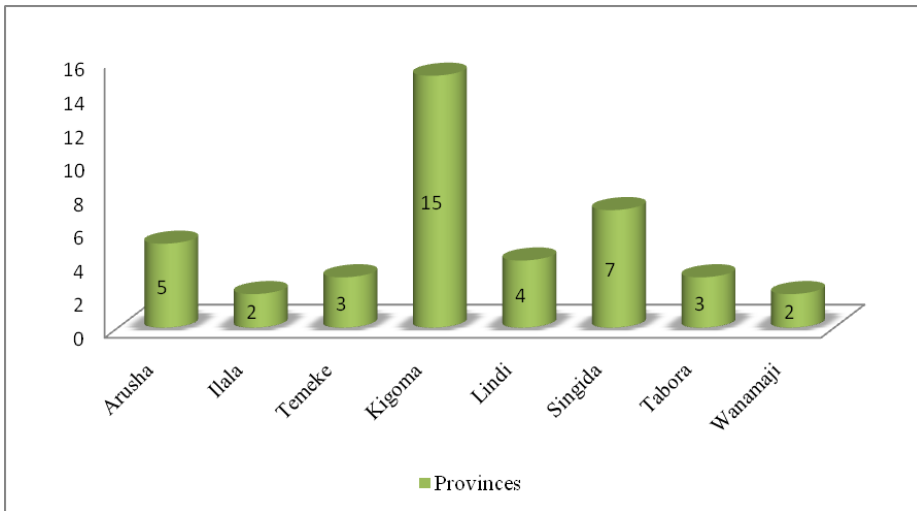


Figure 12: Recovered Bombs.



5.4: Armed Crime in Burundi

Burundi is located in Central Africa on the shores of Lake Tanganyika. The country borders, the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west, Rwanda to the north and Tanzania to the east and south and has a population of about 10.56 million inhabitants⁴⁴. The country has witnessed a number of conflicts since independence.

Crime in general

According to Rackley (2005), the rural and urban residents are confronted with high levels of insecurity and violence.

This trend remains a security concern for the country with crime, including muggings, burglaries, robberies and carjacking, often committed by groups of armed bandits or street children⁴⁵. Proliferation of small arms continues to be the greatest threat to civilian security in the country. According to the report, an estimated 80% of households in the capital, Bujumbura, and in the larger provinces possess small arms⁴⁶. Majority of the small arms in circulation are illegally held and thus contribute to high number of crime incidents in the country.

Despite many efforts wedged to fight the proliferation of SALW, especially through disarmament of the civilian population, Burundi like many other countries in post-conflict situations has witnessed a number of crimes and violation of human rights incidents, majorly perpetrated through use of firearms.

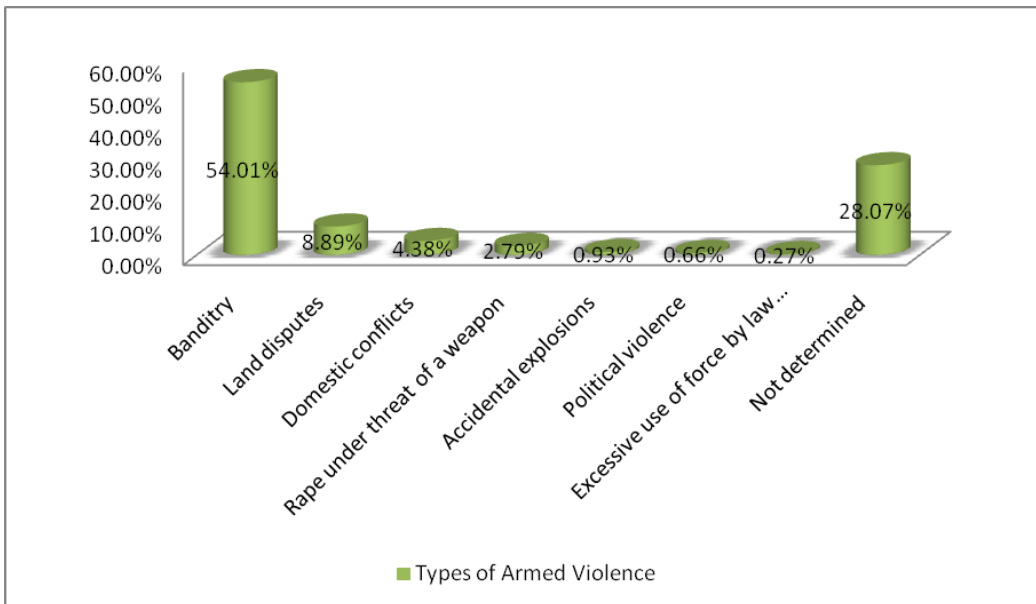
The most common types of crime in the country are thefts, highway robberies, and home invasions. The most common weapons used in committing these types of crime are AK-47s and grenades. According to OSAC (2015), incidents of armed robberies which in most cases resulted to serious injuries and fatalities were reported on an almost daily basis. Most robbery incidents seemed to occur at night and outside the town centres. OSAC (2015) reported that there was an increase in the number of robberies taking place in

the Kinindo neighborhood and also a wave of robbery attacks at popular supermarkets and restaurants⁴⁷.

Generally, crime incidences recorded over the 5 years period did not show much deviation from the mean. The lowest crime incidences were reported in 2010 with the highest being recorded in 2012.

According to statistics from Burundi Armed Violence Observatory (BrAVO), murder (including assassinations) and robbery incidences were the most common types of crime in the country accounting for 30.43% and 21.38% of all the reported crime cases. Areas known for high proliferation of small arms such as Bubanza, Bujumbura Mairie, Bujumbura and Cibitoke recorded the highest cases of murder, banditry and armed robbery incidences.

Figure 13: Types of armed violence incidences in Burundi from 2010 - 2014



The chart above shows that armed violence incidences in the country include banditry, 54.01%, followed by land disputes, 8.89%, domestic conflicts, 4.38%, rape under threat of a weapon, 2.79%, accidental explosions, 0.93%, political violence,

0.66% and excessive use of force from law enforcement which accounted for 0.27% of all the reported crime cases. More than a quarter of armed violence incidences causes were not easily determined as indicated by more than 28%.

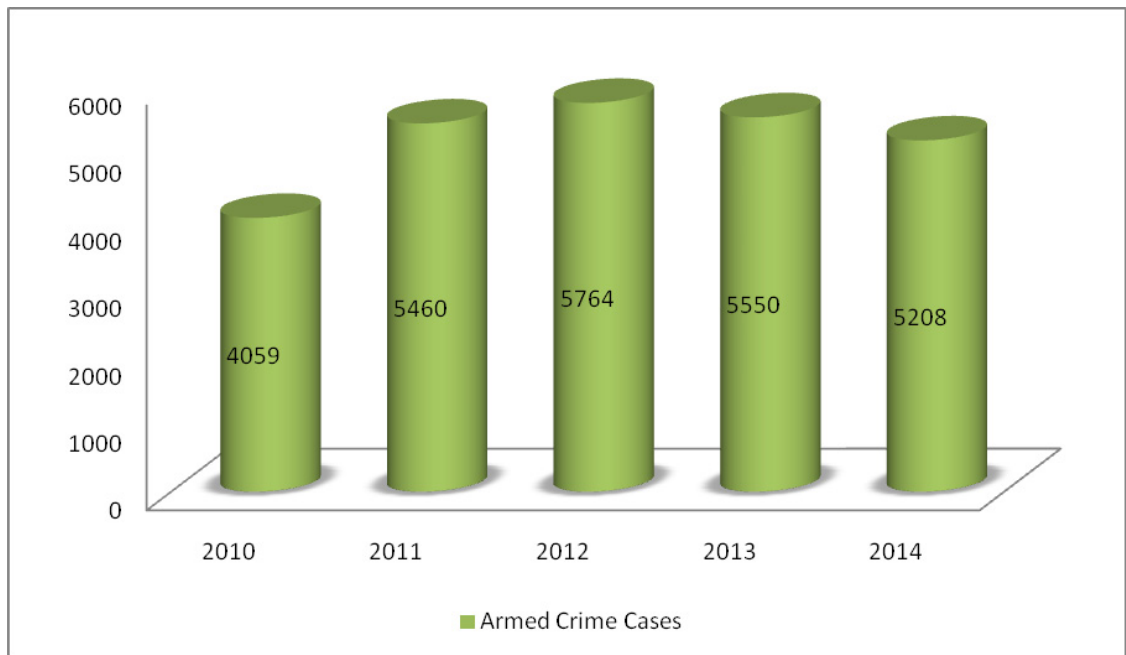
The findings were consistent with a study by SAS (2008) which found that more than 50% of armed violence incidences in Burundi were of ‘banditry’ nature, followed by armed violence relating to land disputes (5.6%), domestic disputes (4.9%), acts perpetrated by rebel groups (4.2%), and police blunders (2.6%)⁴⁸.

According to Burundi Armed Violence Observatory (BraVo), disarmament exercise conducted in October, 2009, had a significant impact on armed violence in the country with the reported armed crime incidences reducing from a high of 146 in September to 89 in November which represented a 39% decrease. Indeed, studies by the Department of the UN Office that analyses the security situation in Burundi showed that in the three months following the campaign, there was a reduction of 44% of murders and 38% of injuries compared to 2008⁴⁹. During the disarmament exercise there was a massive surrender of weapons illegally held by civilians.

Cases of human rights abuses, targeted killings, rape, and armed robberies in households and in public places seemed to increase during the electioneering period. This was observed in 2010 where the number of armed robberies was highest between May and September. The high number of crime incidences recorded in 2011 and to some extent 2012 could be explained by the instability that occurred after a very turbulent election period where cases related to political violence were observed throughout the country. Indeed, the 2010 elections were the source of conflict in some provinces. Clashes between the defence and security forces and “armed gangs” were also reported during this period.

As for 2014, the year was characterized by high number of murder incidences that mostly appeared to be perpetrated by armed groups especially along the DRC border. This could be explained by the uncertainties that surrounded the president’s tenure or the cases of land disputes around the region.

Figure 14: Armed Crime Cases in Burundi.

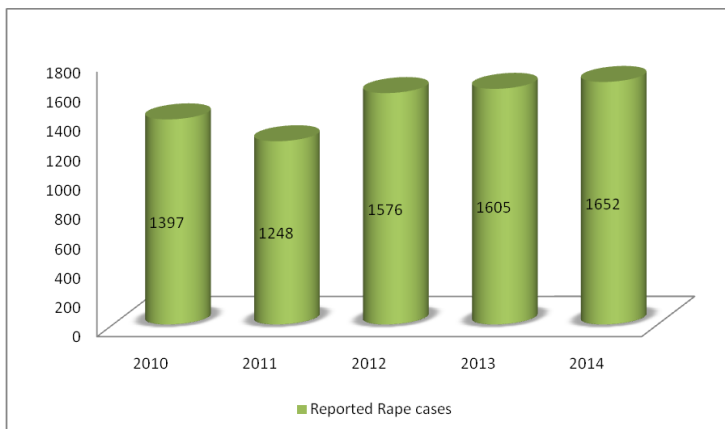


Rape Case under Threat of a Weapon

Sexual violence incidences constitute a serious crime in Burundi. Data on gender-based violence was hardly available or incomplete where available because in Burundi as in many societies, sexual violence remained a taboo subject. Men and women who have been victims are reluctant to talk because of the shame they feel, fear of not being considered as serious people and the real risk of being rejected or stigmatized by their peers or even family members. Also, the lack of evidence and fear of facing a system that is indifferent to sexual violence also constitute obstacles to the denunciation of this shameful act. For the rape cases recorded, the minors remained the most targeted. Police reports seemed to indicate that the perpetrators

were usually neighbours of the victims, relatives or in other instances rape would be used as a form of violence during armed robbery incidents. According to police, 95% of rape victims over the 5 years period were girls with the average age of 13 years. These findings corroborate with those by SAS (2009) that established that female victims were more affected by sexual violence⁵⁰. Indeed the report went on to indicate that 97% of the 1,435 rape victims treated by the Seruka Centre in 2007 were female, most of them minors. The strong social stigma suffered by rape victims in Burundi suggests that the real number of victims is much higher, particularly among adult females⁵¹. This implies that criminals continued to intimidate female victims through use of sexual violence despite government efforts to fight the menace.

Figure 15: Rape cases in Burundi.



⁴³World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision (Report) (United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division). July 2015. Retrieved 28th April, 2016.

⁴⁴International travel news (2016). Crime in Burundi. Retrieved from: <https://www.intltravelnews.com/2012/06/crime-burundi> on 26th May, 2016

⁴⁵Rackley, B. (2005). Armed violence against women in Burundi. Retrieved from: <http://odihpn.org/magazine/armed-violence-against-women-in-burundi/> on 21st March, 2016.

⁴⁶OSAC (20th, March, 2015). Burundi 2015 Crime and Safety Report. Retrieved from: <https://www.osac.gov/pages/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=17309> on 23rd March, 2016

⁴⁷OSAC (20th, March, 2015). Burundi 2015 Crime and Safety Report. Retrieved from: <https://www.osac.gov/pages/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=17309> on 23rd March, 2016

⁴⁸SAS (2009). Insecurity is also a War; An Assessment of Armed Violence in Burundi. Retrieved from: http://www.genevadeclaration.org/fileadmin/docs/Geneva-Declaration_Armed-Violence-Burundi-EN.pdf on 23rd March, 2016.

⁴⁹BINUB Press Service. 2009.

⁵⁰SAS (2009). Insecurity is also a War; An Assessment of Armed Violence in Burundi. Retrieved from: <http://www.genevadeclaration.org/fileadmin/docs/Geneva-DeclarationArmed-Violence-Burundi-EN.pdf> on 23rd March, 2016.

⁵¹Ibid

FDLR fighters have been responsible for the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda and widespread war crimes in DRC, including ethnic massacres, mass rapes, and forced recruitment of children. According to a security expert interviewed in the development of the article, Rwanda seemed more worried about the impact of the group's propaganda and its ability to destabilize the entire region as opposed to the security threat the group posed⁷³. The article further indicated that FDLR fighters were increasingly abandoning their posts and surrendering to Rwanda under the demobilization programme that has seen more than 13,000 ex-combatants desert the fugitive group over the years.

5.5. Armed Crime in Uganda

Uganda is located in eastern Africa, west of Kenya, south of South Sudan, east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and north of Rwanda and Tanzania. The country, which lies across the equator, is divided into three main areas namely, swampy lowlands, a fertile plateau with wooded hills, and a desert region. Lake Victoria forms part of the southern border⁵². Among these neighbours, South Sudan and DRC Congo continue to experience violent conflicts resulting to influx of refugees who carry guns. The high proliferation of firearms influences criminality and hence high armed crime rate in the country. Indeed, the U.S. government rates the Uganda security situation as "Critical for crime, High for terrorism, and Medium for political violence"⁵³.

A comparative analysis of armed crime figures from various police/security entities reflects a trend in which incidents of armed crime cases decreased during the years 2010 (7860), 2011 (6902) and 2012 (6115) but continued to rise in the years 2013 (6733) and 2014 (6902).

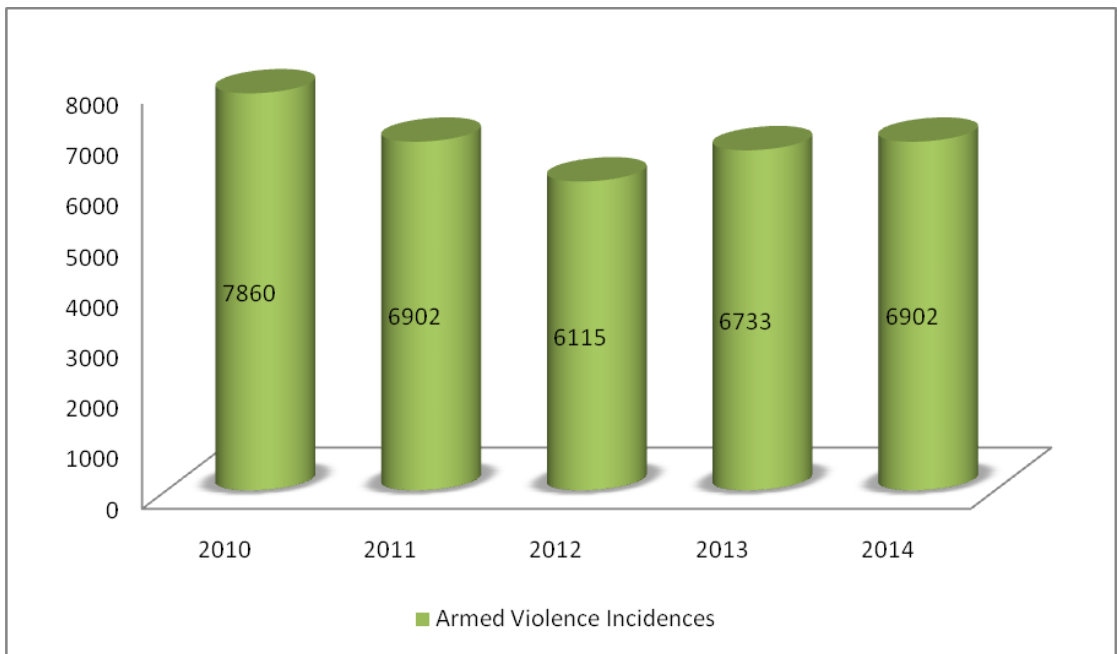
However, there is a likelihood that armed crime cases in Uganda could be more. According to OSAC (2014) cases of under reporting are many in Uganda, a vice security experts blame on inadequate police presence, response capabilities and a public perception of police investigative inabilities. Due to this deficiency, many communities simply lack means to report crime, though most experts agree that crime is generally low in provincial towns and rural areas. In addition, when crimes are reported, they are not adequately documented in a standardized reporting format.⁵⁴

⁵²Sandbox Networks, Inc., publishing as Infoplease (2016). Information about Uganda. Retrieved from: <http://www.infoplease.com/country/uganda.html?pageno=1> on 28th April, 2016.

⁵³OSAC (2014). Uganda 2014 Crime and Safety Report. Retrieved from: <https://www.osac.gov/pages/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=15283> on 23rd March, 2016.

⁵⁴Ibid

Figure 16: Crime cases involving use of firearms for the period between 2010 and 2014.



Source: Statistics from Uganda Police Force (UPF). Available in: www.upf.go/publications

Armed Crime Incidents

Generally, crime cases in Uganda are crimes of opportunity rather than planned attacks. According to police statistics, common types of crimes include, but are not limited to: thefts from vehicles, thefts of property from residences, residential break-ins, strong-armed robberies, pick-pocketing, and theft from hotel rooms.

Death by shooting

The year 2013 is critical in this analysis. This is the year when armed crimes in Uganda started increasing after showing an impressive three years of decline. During the year alone, a total of 131 cases of death by shooting were reported⁵⁵. When compared to the year 2012, where only 115 such cases were reported, it translates into 13.9% increase. According to Uganda police annual crime report released in 2013, regions which recorded the highest murder cases included Mt. Moroto,

Kampala Metropolitan Police(KMP) East, Kampala Metropolitan Police (KMP) North and Kidepo⁵⁶. According to annual crime and traffic/ road safety (2013), the increase in murder cases was attributed to land wrangles, dissatisfaction with delayed/omission of justice, family misunderstandings and business rivalry. According to the report, police administration is working on stepping up response in situations of mob action, improving intelligence and investigation capacity and also plan to continuously involve the public in community policing and sensitization⁵⁷.

⁵⁵Nakabugo, Z. (2014). The Observer (Kampala). Death by shooting on the rise in Uganda. Retrieved from: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201404090198.html> on 23rd March, 2016

⁵⁶Ibid

⁵⁷Uganda Police (2013). Annual Crime and Traffic/ Road Safety Report. Retrieved from: http://www.anppcanug.org/wp-content/uploads/Resource_Center/Annual_Reports/Police/R_P_annual_report_2013.pdf on 23rd April, 2016

Terrorism

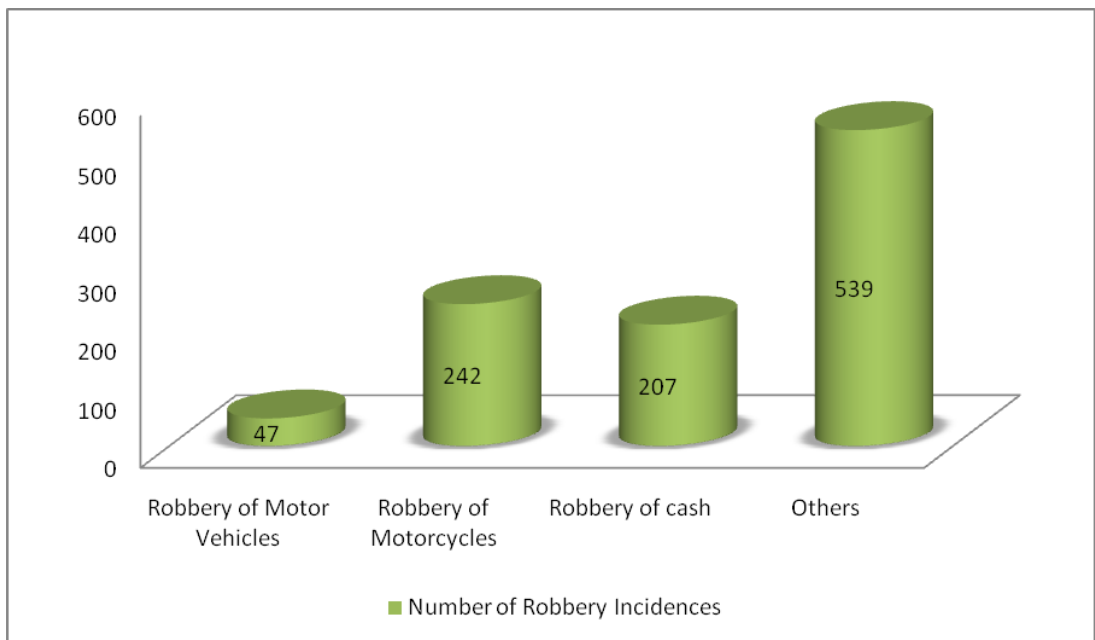
The threat of terrorism is a challenge in Uganda, just like other East Africa countries. The Al-Shabbab militant group has also staged attacks in the country in response to Ugandan's participation in AMISOM. For instance, on 11th July, 2010, suicide bombings were carried out against crowds watching a screening of 2010 FIFA World Cup Final match during the World Cup at two locations in Kampala. The attacks left 74 dead and 70 injured. The Al-Shabaab militant group claimed responsibility for the attacks as retaliation for Ugandan support for AMISOM.

During the period under review, a total of 16 terrorist attacks were reported in 2012 and 2013 alone.

Armed Robbery

In 2013 alone, cases of armed robbery were 1,035 compared to 1,053 cases in 2012. This translated into 1.7% decrease. Out of the 1,035 cases, 47 were robbery of motor vehicles, 242 cases were of motorcycles and 207 were robbery of cash while the rest were cases of simple robbery where lethal weapons were not used⁵⁸.

Figure 17: Types of robberies (Targeted items by criminals).



The graph above shows that between motor vehicles, motorcycles and cash, crime involving robbery of motor cycles was more acute in Uganda. However, there were other crimes, 539, whose targeted items were not indicated. This may refer to those cases of crimes where nothing is stolen from the victims or simply that a firearm was used to intimidate victims.

According to police annual crime report 2014, KMP East and Busoga East regions registered the highest number of Motor vehicle robbery with 30 cases each⁵⁹.

⁵⁸ibid

⁵⁹Uganda Police (2014). Annual Crime Report. Retrieved from: http://www.anppcanug.org/wp-content/uploads/Resource_Center/Annual_Reports/Police/R_P_annual_report_2014.pdf on 28th April, 2016.

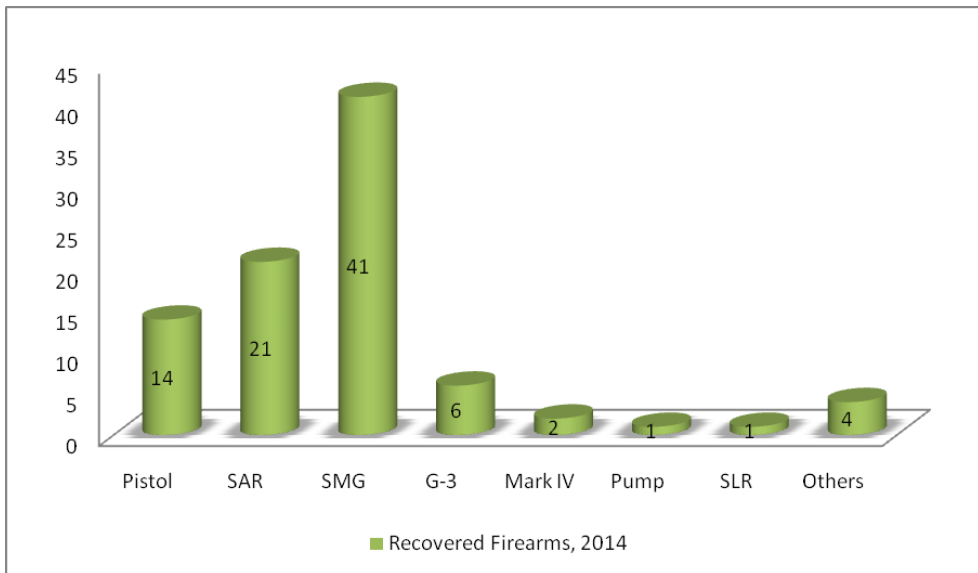
Possession of Illicit Firearms

The extent of armament by Ugandan civilian can best be captured from the amount of illicit firearms in civilian hands. According to Uganda National Focal Point on small arms - NFP (2007), there were approximately 280,000 households owning at least one firearm⁶⁰. Though difficult to ascertain the exact number of illicit arms in civilian possession, it is incumbent that all firearms lost, stolen or robbed from legal sources are illegally held by civilians. Data available from police annual crime reports show that a total of 31 guns were reported robbed/stolen in 2014 out of which 19

were robbed, 9 were stolen and 3 were lost in addition to 506 ammunitions. The report went further to show that firearms were robbed from security personnel mostly through shooting, strangulation among others.

Recovered firearms indicate that SMG is the weapon of choice by criminals in Uganda. It is also possible that SMG⁶¹ is readily available in Uganda since, out of 90 guns recovered through police operations in the year 2014, almost 50% (41) were SMG. See figure 18 below.

Figure 18: Recovered types of firearms in the year, 2014.



Sources of Illicit Firearms

Studies have shown that many of the illicit arms in circulation in Uganda emanate from arms left over from wars and rebellions. This includes small arms that were distributed, abandoned, or cached during Uganda's post-independence history of violent conflict and rebellion. For example, according to Uganda National Focal Point (UNFP, 2007), arms in the Moyo district are said to be arms that were used during the fall of successive governments in Uganda.

The RPC in the Mid-Western region reported that during the Amin era and the war to topple him, Ugandan soldiers fled from southern and western parts of the country passing through the Mid-Western region on their way to the North. In the process many SALW were deposited in the region⁶².

⁶⁰This calculation was based on the total population (24.4 million) and average household size (4.7 people) according to Uganda's 2002 Population Census. Available in Saferworld Uganda Website. Accessed on 4/6/2016.

⁶¹Ibid

Arms transferred or trafficked from neighbouring countries in the region is another major source of illegal firearms in Uganda. Law enforcement officials reports have consistently indicated a number of well-known trafficking and trading routes for small arms entering Uganda, many involving countries in the region that are affected by conflict and instability. Officials reported well-established arms markets along the Sudan-Uganda border, as well as trading routes from South Sudan to the Kenya-Uganda border area. South Sudan is reported to be a major source of weapons fuelling pastoralist conflicts on both sides of the border (particularly North Eastern and Mid-Eastern Uganda and North Western Kenya). In addition, it is reported that some small arms from Somalia and Ethiopia were being trafficked into North Eastern Uganda, via Kenya. Conflicts in the DRC also contribute to arms flow into Uganda, particularly in the North Western and Western regions⁶³.

Leakage from state-owned stocks has also been identified as one of the principal sources of illegal weapons in circulation. There are a number of areas where leakage from state-owned stocks has occurred in the past, or continues to be a concern. According to UNCF (2007), theft from state armouries or capture of state-owned arms by criminal or rebel groups has been a concern in areas of the country affected by conflict and instability⁶⁴. In addition, it was reported that some state-owned arms had entered into illicit circulation as a result of some members of the armed forces deserting or being demobilized but keeping possession of their small arms. Other avenues include, weaknesses in controls over the arming of Local Defence Units (LDUs), who are recruited from the civilian population and provide support to the army and police and that state arms may be entering into illicit circulation due to sale, lending out, or mishandling of

arms and ammunition by members of the police and army.

5.6. *Armed Crimes in Rwanda*

Rwanda is located in Central/Eastern Africa, and is bordered by the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west, Uganda to the north, Tanzania to the east, and Burundi to the south. The country lies a few degrees south of the equator and is landlocked. The capital, Kigali, is located near the centre of Rwanda.⁶⁵

According to Rwanda Crime and Safety Report, 2014, the country has a low-moderate amount of crime, which is rarely violent⁶⁶. Petty theft such as pick pocketing, purse snatching and theft of electronics, especially phones are common. Pick pocketing in crowded public places is also common, as is petty theft from cars, hotel rooms, and other public places, including churches. Violent crimes, such as carjacking, robbery, rape, and home invasion also occur but not often⁶⁷. The report therefore concludes that Rwanda is one of the safest countries in the East African region. Crimes such as armed robbery, terrorism, kidnapping, communal conflict and possession of fire arms are very minimal as compared to its neighbours in the region.

⁶²Uganda National Focal Point on Small Arms and Light Weapons (UNFP, 2007). Mapping the small arms problem in Uganda: The development of Uganda's national action plan on small arms and light weapons. Retrieved from: https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rc=t=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0ahUKEwiUrJzXwtLahXLbxQKHwzvDEMqFggdMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.saferworld.org.uk%2Fdownloads%2Fpubdocs%2FUGanda_Mapping.pdf&usg=AFQjCNHFOipxp5Yhu2kdZDu6ZkJDvnj8rQ&sig2=UoSlD19rUuxKP_SxxmJ9Lw on 23rd March, 2016

⁶³Ibid

⁶⁴Ibid

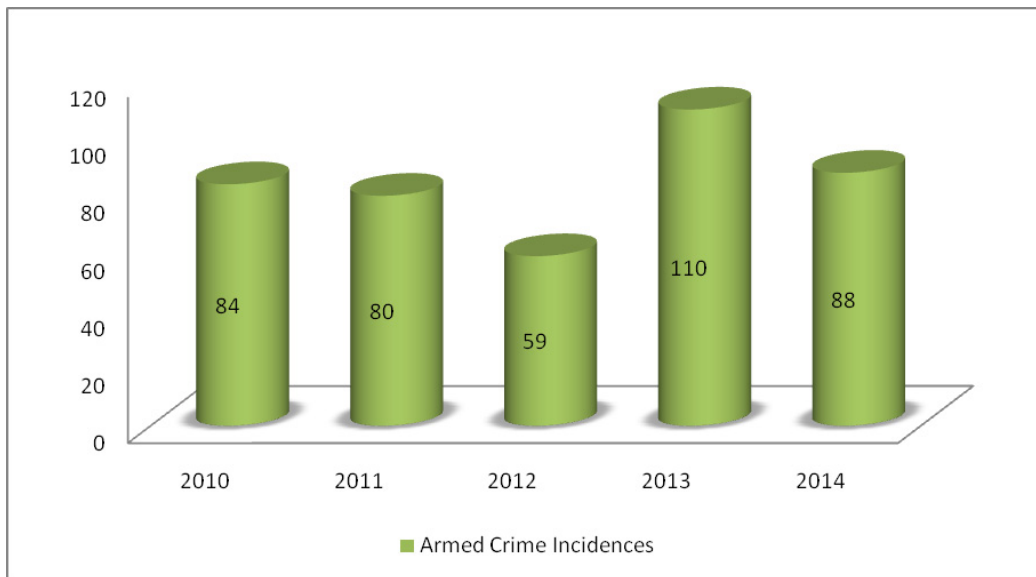
⁶⁵Central Intelligence Agency. The World Fact Book: Africa - Rwanda. Accessed on 31st March, 2016 at: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/rw.html>

Armed Crime Incidents

This report focuses only on incidences where a firearm was used to commit crime between the year 2010 and 2014. These crimes have been quantified for analysis. In this regard, the year 2013 registered the highest reported number of armed crime cases, 110, followed by 2014, with 88, cases. When the two years (2013 and 2014) are compared, it shows there was a 20% decline in armed crimes committed in the country. This is despite the fact that the population of Rwanda was growing at a 2.63%.⁶⁸ In most cases, population growth tends to stretch resources with a possibility of prompting social evils including crime. The lowest armed crime cases were reported in the year 2012. These were 59 cases compared to 2011 and 2010 where 80 and 84 cases were reported respectively.

The low rate of armed crime cases in Rwanda finds similarity with findings from a three year perception survey conducted online by Numbeo, 2015⁶⁹. The survey found that the problem of violent crime in Rwanda was as low as, 17.3%. The data used in the survey was based on perceptions of visitors on a website survey for the past 3 years. The survey found that the biggest concerns for the Rwandese were the fear of their homes being broken into and their things stolen at 26.92% and also the fear of losing their belongings from motor vehicles as indicated by 44.23%. It can easily be inferred therefore, that in most of these crime cases there was minimal use of firearms. The figure below shows number of armed violent incidences from 2010 to 2014

Figure 19: Crimes involving use of firearm.



⁶⁶Rwanda crime safety report (2014). Retrieved from: <https://www.osac.gov/pages/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=15221> on 23rd March, 2016

⁶⁷Ibid

⁶⁸Index Mundi. Rwanda Population Growth Rate. Retrieved from: http://www.indexmundi.com/rwanda/population_growth_rate.html on 23rd March, 2016

⁶⁹Numbeo (2015). Crime in Rwanda. Accessed on 23rd March, 2016 at: http://www.numbeo.com/crime/country_result.jsp?country=Rwanda

Armed Robbery

In this report, “robbery” refers to theft of property from a person to another through the use of force or threat of force. This means, muggings and theft with violence falls under this category. Based on this and during the reporting period, a total of 11,534 robbery cases were recorded by the Rwanda National Police (RNP). Out of this, 192 cases involved use of a firearm which is a paltry 1.7%. The small percentage of armed robbery is also an indicator that cases of serious crimes in Rwanda are minimal. This, according to the RNP is attributed to the public vibrancy in crime prevention through reporting offenders to

security organs. It is also attributed to the strong partnership with all categories of people, including night patrols, Community Policing Committees, the youth volunteers, the business community, opinion and local leaders. On the issue, ACP Twahirwa, the Rwanda Police Spokesman observed that “where there is partnership criminals are weakened and this is evident in many cases where residents work with the police to detect, prevent crimes and arrest suspected criminals,”.⁷⁰

Below are statistics of robbery incidences as recorded by the World Data Atlas on Rwanda.

Table 2: Robbery incidences as recorded by Rwanda National Police (RNP)

Year	Robbery Cases (General)	Armed Robbery Incidences
2010	2072	38
2011	1766	42
2012	2617	24
2013	2772	38
2014	2307	50
Total	11534	192

Terrorism

Although the research team was unable to get data on terrorism attacks in Rwanda, the available literature show that the country was not under any serious threat of terrorist attacks especially by Al-shabaab and associated terror gangs during the period of analysis. However, armed groups along Rwanda’s borders were found to be a major source of threat including terrorist transit points. Additionally, grenade attacks were found to be uncommon. However, in 2014, grenade attacks took place in Musanze and in September 2013 in Kigali at the Kicukiro market.

Communal Conflict

On communal conflict, religious and ethnic violence incidences were found to be insignificant in Rwanda. Literature revealed that the local laws prohibited the propagation of ideas based on “ethnic, regional, racial, religious, language, or other divisive characteristics”⁷¹.

⁷⁰OSAC (2014).Rwanda Crime and Safety Report. Accessed on 23rd March, 2016 at: <https://www.osac.gov/pa ges/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=15221>

⁷¹See more at: Freedom House Website, about Rwanda: <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2015/rwanda>. Retrieved on 23rd April, 2016.

However, according to an article by The East African⁷², the resurfacing of FDLR, posed a huge security threat to not only Rwanda but the Great Lakes region. FDLR fighters have been responsible for the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda and widespread war crimes in DRC, including ethnic massacres, mass rapes, and forced recruitment of children. According to a security expert interviewed in the development of the article, Rwanda seemed more worried about the impact of the group's propaganda and its ability to destabilize the entire region as opposed to the security threat the group posed⁷³. The article further indicated that FDLR fighters were increasingly abandoning their posts and surrendering to Rwanda under the demobilization programme that has seen more than 13,000 ex-combatants desert the fugitive group over the years.

Arms Control and Management in Rwanda

The Rwanda government has put a number of strategies in place to fight proliferation of firearms in the country. The country has been consistent in mopping and destroying illegally held and surplus firearms. According to the Rwanda National Action Plan on Management and Control of firearms, the country put in place successful disarmament demobilization and reintegration (DDR) process since 1995, a programme through which many rebels have been received and reintegrated back to the society. This programme has also enabled communities to coexist harmoniously. Rwanda Government has enacted law No 33/2009 of November 18th 2009 related to firearms management, a modern firearms registry has been established and a full directorate on small arms coordination created in the Ministry of internal affairs.

Conclusion

Armed violence continues to exact a terrible toll in the region. As the statistics provided showed, there are far too many firearms-related deaths and injuries, due in significant part to the ease with which criminals and other prohibited persons can acquire guns. This paper concludes that the presence of illicit firearms in the five countries covered in the study and to some extent mismanagement of the legally owned firearm to a greater extent contributes to prevalence of armed crime in the countries especially in the major urban centres. The possession of small arms and their use in crime has been increasing in majority of the countries and increasingly becoming a threat to security. It can also be concluded that proximity of a country to another in conflict to a bigger extent influences the crime situation the country experiences.

It was also clear that the main sources of small arms were associated to war or conflict era and post war situations. During conflict or war era, porous borders across the countries under study contributed to easy entry and exit (mostly for trade) and therefore leading to increased arms in circulation which ultimately seemed to translate to increment in armed crime incidences. In the post conflict or war era refugees seemed to be the main source of small arms as they moved with their weapons. Generally, the use of small arms in committing crime constrains peaceful development and poses a threat to social security because it leads to mortality and social injustice.

⁷²The EastAfrican is a weekly newspaper published in Kenya by the Nation Media Group, which also publishes Kenya's national Daily Nation.

⁷³The EastAfrican (September, 26th 2015).FDLR resurfacing poses huge threat to Great Lakes security. Retrieved from: <http://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/news/FDLR-resurfacing-poses-huge-threat-to-Great-Lakes-security/-/2558/2886814/-/ju61y2z/-/index.html> on 23rd April, 2016

This study also established that there was a close linkage between cattle rustling and possession of small arms in the East Africa region, especially among the pastoralists. In most of the reported cattle rustling incidences, small arms were heavily used.

In all the five countries covered in the study for the period 2010-2014, armed robbery, murder and rape seemed to be the most common types of crime which involved use of firearms. Cattle raids were also found to be common in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. In Kenya armed robbery was the most common, banditry was the most common in Burundi, murder was most common in Uganda, and cattle rustling were most common in Tanzania while theft was the most common in Rwanda. Based on crime statistics provided across the five countries, Uganda seemed to have recorded the highest number of crime incidences involving use of firearms, followed by Burundi and Kenya and then Tanzania. Rwanda recorded the lowest number of crime incidences.

Finally, the study concludes that, although they have been efforts aimed at combating small arms and crimes, the problem persists. The problem cannot be solved through a single approach or by a single government in the region, or even by any one segment of society. Throughout the globe, reductions in armed violence have been achieved where communities have adopted focused, comprehensive, and innovative strategies to attack their gun violence problems. There is therefore need for a multifaceted approach aimed at eliminating the scourge of gun violence from the region. One of the most common measure put in place across the countries has been disarmament (both forceful and voluntary), arms marking (spearheaded by RECSA) and in some other instances legalizing the illegally held firearm so as to boost accountability by the user.

These efforts need to be sustained and collaboration increased across the five countries especially under the banner of EAC including joint disarmament exercises in order to break the circle of illicit holders running to neighbouring countries during disarmament and also curtail the cross border trade of illegal firearms. It is also important that the East African countries integrate small arms and light weapons interventions in their national development programmes in order to ensure sustainable peace and development in the region.

Recommendations

1. Joint border patrols and surveillance: To avoid infiltration penetration of small arms along the borders, the governments need to device means of strengthening cross border cooperation and coordination to ensure adequate border control measures are put in place. Vast areas in the region are left without proper border control due to the shortage of qualified personnel and logistics. Weak border control facilitates organized crime, banditry, trafficking in peoples and drugs, armed robbery, and the proliferation of arms. These problems are exacerbated by corruption among security officials and the lack of cross-border cooperation. There is therefore need to systematize and communicate best practices for their coherent implementation across East African states. This may include joint border control and information sharing for improved patrols and surveillance.
2. Establish/ initiate joint security and development programmes: Border control and cross-border crime are both security and development concerns. Border communities often find themselves at the state's periphery, and national authorities tend to neglect security provision, health care, and educational facilities in these areas.

East African Countries therefore need to coordinate their efforts on socio-economic development in border regions to reduce communities' vulnerability to engaging in or tolerating organized crime. This approach has worked in West Africa, where, Gambia, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and Guinea-Conakry established joint security and development programmes for border zones with support from several CSOs.

3. Awareness Raising: Both the governments and civil society organizations across the five countries should enhance awareness on small arms, especially targeting community members in areas known for illicit ownership of firearms. This will ensure community members are able to report any individual deemed a threat to security.

4. Making laws on illegal ownership of firearms more punitive and harmonizing them with international and regional SALW instruments. In almost all the countries reviewed in the study, cases of re-armament seemed common, this could be interpreted to mean that either there were insufficient laws or the existing ones were not punitive enough to deter illegal ownership of firearms. Even where laws exist, they are not properly enforced.

5. Promoting Community Policing: This could be done through introduction of police-public forums aimed at improving police-public trust so as to encourage reporting by community members.

6. EAC Countries need to incorporate SALW control and management programmes in their national development agenda for sustainable peace and development.

7. Joint disarmament exercises: The governments need to work together to eradicate cross border movement of small arms, this includes organizing joint and holistic disarmament exercises to rid the region of illicit firearms. Disarmament is aimed at reducing the number of weapons

in circulation, lowering the potential for people to use them violently.

8. RECSA and other international bodies need to step their efforts to support marking of firearms. RECSA has been in the forefront in supporting marking of firearms aimed at improving tracing and accountability of the legally held firearm. The study recommends that the process is fast-tracked and more marking machines made available to all countries in the region so as to control/ manage misuse of the legally held firearms.

9. Introduction of alternate livelihoods. Pastoralism in some countries seemed to be more associated with ownership of firearms especially for protection of life and property. There is therefore need to encourage and support other sources of livelihoods in some of these areas so as to control cattle rustling and other criminal offenses associated with pastoralism.

10. Targeted efforts focused on high-risk places and groups. This may include gun detection in hotspot areas and targeting of violent gangs.

11. Street Lighting and installation of CCTV cameras within the city centres: This analysis established that armed crime incidences were more prevalent in the main city centres across the region. There is therefore need for each country to initiate programmes aimed at lighting the city centres and also installation of CCTV cameras to reduce/ deter criminal activities.

12. Regulation of licensed gun dealers to weed out the unlicensed ones. Given the critical role that licensed dealers play in combating gun trafficking, it is important that dealers not evade the requirement that they obtain a license.

13. Establishment of data armories: In order to improve information sharing and effectively control and manage illegal use of firearms across the region, especially the cross border infiltration of illicit firearms, there is need to set up data armories.

14. Establishment of gun-free zones: Gun-free zones are voluntarily designated public areas where firearms are not welcome. These zones are commonly found at schools, hospitals, churches, community centres and sports stadiums. The same could be established in areas known as hotspots for gun violence especially along the borders. These zones could be used to create public spaces in which local residents would be feel safe, and to challenge commonly held beliefs that firearms create security. This approach has worked in South Africa to reduce the number of people carrying firearms and also to increase people's feelings of safety and security⁷⁴. Lower firearm crime and violence has been reported in some locations where the approach has been successfully implemented⁷⁵.

15. Promote the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms: Land disputes were reported to be one of the triggers of armed violence especially in Burundi where it was ranked second after banditry. Many conflicts over land ownership and use may be addressed by alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and the involvement of chiefs and traditional leaders in peaceful conflict resolution and the settlement of disputes. This therefore needs to be promoted and the capacity of chiefs and traditional leaders enhanced through training.

16. Destruction of collected/confiscated firearms: The public destruction of collected/confiscated weapons sends a powerful and positive security- and confidence-building message. A number of countries within the East Africa region have been using this practice to reduce the number of firearms in circulation. This however, needs to be promoted and destruction at the source encouraged in order to promote public-government trust on matters to do with security management.

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