

FCG Swedish Development AB

Organising parliamentarians against armed violence

Evaluation of Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PFSALW) 2014–2018



Organising parliamentarians against armed violence

Final Report July 2019

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIPA	ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly
ATT	Arms Trade Treaty
IANSA	International Network on Small Arms
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
CLAVE	Latin America Coalition for the Prevention of Armed Violence
MAG	Mines Advisory Group
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MP	Member of Parliament
MSEK	Million Swedish Krona
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
Parlatino	Latin American and Caribbean Parliament
PFSALW	Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons
PF	Parliamentary Forum
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEESAC	The South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Authority
SIPRI	Stockholm Institute for Peace Research
ToC	Theory of Change
UN	United Nations
UNDIR	United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
UNODA	United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
UNPoA	UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons
UNSCAR	UN Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation

Preface

This report presents the evaluation of Sida's multiyear (2014–2018) project support to the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PFSALW). The evaluation has been commissioned by Sida and undertaken by FCG Swedish Development AB and Nordic Consulting Group Sweden AB. Jocke Nyberg, team leader, and Agneta Gunnarsson conducted the evaluation during the period February–June 2019. Paul Balogun provided quality assurance.

Executive Summary

PURPOSE, OBJECT AND SCOPE

The object of this evaluation is the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PFSALW), a member-based organisation of 257 parliamentarians in 89 countries in Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Middle East. PFSALW has a Secretariat in Stockholm, Sweden. The evaluation scope is the work by PFSALW during the period 2014–2018. Sida was the main funder - as it has been since the foundation of PFSALW in 2002. The evaluation concerns PFSALW's relevance, effectiveness and impact, three OECD/DAC criteria, which are standard in Sida-commissioned evaluations. It also concerns the relationship between members and the Secretariat.

APPROACHES, METHODS AND LIMITATIONS

The evaluation approach is deductive, testing to what degree activities and produced materials, such as policy statements, handbooks and newsletters have been in line with PFSALW's intervention logic, and its result framework, leading to the fulfilment of the five specific objectives.

The evaluators conducted interviews on Skype or WhatsApp with 17 parliamentarian members (ten 11 men and six women). In addition, eleven other stakeholders (six men and five women) were consulted, most of them identified as allies to PFSALW (CSOs, research institutes, think-tanks, inter–governmental organisations and national authorities). The evaluators also studied a large quantity of documents.

The main limitation was that it was difficult to reach the members in order to arrange interviews. Despite vast efforts from the evaluation team, this meant that fewer interviews, 16 out of planned 25, with parliamentarians than planned were conducted and that valuable time was wasted. However, the relative coherence of the answers indicates that the obtained information is relevant and accurate.

FINDINGS

The evaluation report is structured around the 18 evaluations questions decided upon in the ToR and during the inception phase. Below each one there is a summary of the findings followed by what the finding is based on with quotes from interviews and analysis of studied documents.

Relevance

PFSALW's work methods for capacity building and policy-shaping are considered to be relevant. The majority of interviewees acknowledge PFSALW's positive contribution to acquiring knowledge, information-sharing experiences and contacts at national, regional and international levels. The relevance of the work has increased with the adoption and ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), an international agreement to improve the control of firearms trade, and the SDG 16.4. Also, PFSALW's publications are considered as useful by members.

Effectiveness

The results matrix, which has remained more or less unchanged during the evaluated period, 2014-2018, presents indicators and long-term targets (outputs). These activities and outputs are not clearly linked to the specific objectives (outcomes). This means that there is no comprehensive results chain and all results that PFSALW presents are at activity or output level.

A limited contribution analysis where five cases are described (Annex 2) confirms interesting activities by parliamentarians, but no aggregated results at outcome or impact level are produced in relation to these cases.

During the period 2014-2018 PFSALW has had the following five specific objectives:

- 1. Improving, refining and harmonising the policy framework for SALW control at national level and regionally harmonise laws on SALW.
- 2. Further develop parliamentarians' capacities to address SALW issues.
- 3. Contribute to the building of an international consensus on SALW and armed violence through parliamentary exchange and intervention.
- 4. Increase public awareness of SALW violence, its impacts, and parliamentary action.
- 5. Consolidate the financial and operational sustainability.

Despite the lack of results chain, the evaluators have attempted to assess results in relation to the five strategic objectives. Tentatively, this assessment indicates that PFSALW has achieved specific objective number 2, and partly objective number 4. The specific objectives number 1 and 3 have not been reached, mainly because of a combination of too ambitious goals and limited scope and frequency of the activities PFSALW has organised and reported to Sida during five years of project implementation.

There is a need to increase contacts between members and the Secretariat and collect more qualitative and quantitative information about activities in the countries where members are active. Advantages and disadvantages with present membership criteria should also be analysed.

On the specific objective number 5, to consolidate the financial and operational sustainability, PFSALW has made improvements. The issue is highlighted in Board

meetings and project proposals have been sent to numerous possible donors. However, most of the efforts have not yet resulted in new funding. Financially PFSALW remains heavily dependent on Sida and the Folke Bernadotte Academy, two Swedish Government authorities. Because of this, the objective cannot be said to have been achieved. Serious efforts to diversify funding continue, however.

Impact

Based on document review and interviews, no impact—level results — intended or unintended — have been identified. In general, it is difficult for international networks of PFSALW's kind to produce impact—level results. There are many other actors involved and the sphere of control and influence of PFSALW is limited, partly due to the relatively infrequent contacts with members.

CONCLUSIONS

The main strength found in the evaluation is that PFSALW contributes to building the capacity of parliamentarians in a large number of countries and in a field that is important for peace and development. Especially as an initial eye-opener the PFSLW seminars and workshops appear to be important.

PFSALW is recognised by its active members as a useful organisation.

There is no evidence that the intervention model is making a significant contribution at outcome level. Presented results are mainly outputs. To have a clear link to outcomes, activities are too scattered and not strategically selected.

The evaluators found no results considered as impact.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The evaluation contains four recommendations to Sida and seven to PFSALW:

Sida should condition eventual future financial support to PFSALW and request changes to the intervention logic with focus on producing outcome level results. Sida should also request rigorous monitoring and follow-up of the results framework and an assessment of lessons learned. A decision about further support should – if positive - be accompanied by sufficient resources.

PFSALW is recommended to connect activities and outputs with expected results at outcome level. This also demands a review of its capacity-building events, to ensure learning, exchange of experiences and analysis. Several members emphasise that PFSALW should give more priority to parliamentarians' oversight functions, specifically the implementation of international instruments like the ATT. With these and other changes PFSALW would comply with the need to show if, and how, it provides added value to international, regional and national work to improve the control of small arms and light weapons.

1 Purpose, objective and background

1.1 EVALUATION PURPOSE

Sida has been the main donor for most of the time since the organisation was founded, with current funding support being extended until March 2020. The most recent external assessment was completed in 2011. Therefore, Sida considered the time to be right for an evaluation of the relevance, effectiveness and impact of the work of PFSALW. The purpose of the evaluation is to provide input into Sida's appraisal of possible continued long-term support to PFSALW. The ToR for the evaluation is found in Annex 6.

1.2 OBJECT AND SCOPE

The evaluation object is PFSALW's work, primarily during the years 2014 to 2018.

1.3 EVALUATION CRITERIA AND QUESTIONS

The objectives of the present evaluation are to assess PFSALW's work over the last five years, with a focus on relevance, effectiveness and impact. According to the Terms of Reference, the evaluation should:

- Serve as an input to the decision on whether the project shall receive continued funding and, if so, the scope of future support, and
- Formulate recommendations on how to improve and adjust implementation (also see section 2.1 regarding background and purpose).

During the inception phase, based on an initial review of documents, the evaluation team elaborated a preliminary outline for the evaluation with evaluation questions, data collection methods and possible data analysis strategies. Discussion with Sida and PFSALW Secretariat identified additional issues for consideration in the evaluation, which meant that a number of new questions were added to the ones in the ToR; some under the evaluation criteria relevance and effectiveness and some under a new criterion - the relationship between the secretariat and members. The evaluation criteria and questions are found in table 1.

Global Reporting, 2011, Stakeholder Assessment and Strategic Analysis of the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

Evaluation Criterion		Evaluation questions	Where addressed in report
Relevance	1.	To which extent has the project conformed to the needs and priorities of the members of PFSALW?	4.1
	2.	How relevant are the work methods that PFSALW uses (capa building and policy-shaping) for dealing with SALW-related violence?	acity 4.1
	3.	Have work methods been adjusted to new developments, suc as the adoption of ATT, the SDGs and the use of social media How?	
	4.	How relevant are the issues promoted by PFSALW in a globa and national SALW context?	l 4.1
	5.	Which issues do other stakeholders consider to be the most important ones?	4.1
	6.	Relevance in relation to the Swedish strategy for sustainable peace.	4.1
Effectiveness	7.	To which extent has the project contributed to intended outcomes? If so, why? If not, why not?	4.2
	8.	To which extent have PFSALW's tools (i.e. Thematic seminar Policy statements, Parliamentary Action Plans etc.) been effective in achieving the outcomes? If so, why? If not, why not	
	9.	To what extent has lessons learned from what works well and less well been used to improve and adjust project implementation.	4.2
	10.	How important is the capacity-building of parliamentarians for effectiveness of the work?	
	11.	How important is legislation for dealing with SALW-related violence?	4.2
	12.	Has PFSALW managed to strengthen its policy-shaping role? How?	4.2
Relationship	13.	What is the mandate of the Secretariat vis-à-vis the members	? 4.3
Secretariat – members	14.	How active are the members and the Secretariat respectively	? 4.3
members	15.	Does the work of the Secretariat create conditions for member to take action? How?	ers 4.3
	16.	When it comes to level of activity of the network, are there differences between regions?	4.3
	17.	What relationships/contacts are there between parliamentaria without involving the Secretariat?	ns 4.3
	18.	Are there examples of members influencing parliamentary colleagues to support their proposals	4.3
Impact	19.	What is the overall impact of the project in terms of direct or indirect, negative and positive results?	4.4

1.4 BACKGROUND

PFSALW was established in 2002. It is the only international platform for members of parliaments specifically related to the issue of reduction and prevention of small arms and Light Weapons-related violence. The overall objective of PFSALW is to contribute to the achievement of more peaceful and developed societies through

parliamentary action against armed violence to increase human security. This statement was also PFSALW's Theory of Change until 2019.²

The PFSALW Board is the steering organ. It consists of five men and four women, representing the regions in which PFSALW operates. The Secretariat is placed in Stockholm, Sweden. It is the executive organ and has the responsibility for operational implementation of the Board's decisions. The Secretariat has 3.5 staff, including the Secretary General.

PFSALW aims to support parliamentarians in their work to reduce and prevent armed violence as well as to contribute to the advancement of the global disarmament agenda and provide a space for parliamentarians to meet and join forces with other stakeholders and actors. The PFSALW network includes 257 parliamentarians, across party political lines, from 89 countries. About 33 per cent of the members are from Latin America and 40 per cent from Africa. The remaining 25 per cent are divided between Asia, the Middle East and Europe.

During the evaluation period, PFSALW has increasingly focused on three international instruments for arms control and reduction, namely SDG 16.4³, the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (UNPoA). States have committed to implement the UNPoA, which was adopted in 2001. The programme of action aims to promote coordinated international efforts to restrain the illicit trade of SALW.

Contrary to UNPoA, the ATT, adopted in 2014 and signed by 135 states, is legally binding. The ATT provides a global framework for arms transfer controls. These controls require exporting countries to ensure that arms are not used to fuel conflict or facilitate terrorism and criminal organisations.

Since 2016, with support from UNSCAR, PFSALW has been implementing a project, Connecting the dots, which is about identifying synergies between the three international frameworks and promoting the implementation of them. In this project, regional parliamentary action plans (PAPs) have been developed in order to facilitate parliamentarians' activities to promote SDG 16.4, the ATT and the UNPoA.

² Extracted from PFSALW Strategic Plan 2016-2018.

³ SDG 16:4 is a target under SDG 16: "By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime". Source: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/peace-justice

1 PURPOSE, OBJECTIVE AND BACKGROUND

Since its foundation in 2002, Sweden has supported PFSALW, mainly through funding from Sida, but also through support from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Folke Bernadotte Academy. Since 2014, Sida has provided annual funding of about 2.5 MSEK while annual expenditure of PFSALW has been 2.5 to 3 MSEK. Hence, Sida has provided the bulk of the funding; core support in 2014 and 2015 while the present support is project support, provided under the Sustainable Peace Strategy 2017-2022. PFSALW has applied for increased support during the organisation's upcoming strategy period, 2019-2022. Initially, Sida has responded by extending the present support to March 2020.

2 Approaches and methods

2.1 OVERALL APPROACHES

The evaluation has a deductive approach; it is focused on testing whether PFSALW's Theory of Change, the intervention logic and results set out in the results framework, are supported by empirical evidence. In the absence of strong and credible theory of change, the evaluators decided to define PFSALW's specific objectives as expected outcome level results and linked these to activities and targets in the results matrixes attached to each specific objective. This definition was considered to be in line what the evaluators were expected to assess in relation to one of the key evaluation questions in the ToR: "To which extent has the project contributed to intended outcomes? If so, why? If not, why not?"

Empirical evidence primarily came from two sources; a review of relevant documents and interviews with selected parliamentarians and other stakeholders, such as UN agencies, regional parliaments, civil society organisations, research institutes and think-tanks.

The evaluators adhered to Sida's recommended utilisation-focused approach, through an ongoing dialogue with Sida and PFSALW's Secretariat during the inception phase as well as during implementation of the evaluation on a variety of issues, including sample selection, interview questions and presence at PFSALW events.

As stated in the tender and inception report, the evaluators also applied a limited contribution analysis in a number of "cases" to examine whether PFSALW members use support from the network in the way anticipated and whether this then leads to any results.

The approach to the contribution analysis, the challenges that were encountered and five cases are presented in Annex 2.

⁴ Quote from Terms of Reference for the Evaluation of Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PFSALW) 2014-2018, p. 3.

2.2 SAMPLE SELECTION FOR INTERVIEWS

With assistance from the Secretariat a selection of parliamentarians to interview was made, based on the following criteria:

- approximate level of activity (active member, semi-active and not active/previously active),
- region (number of interviewees in relation to membership; about one third from Latin America and Africa respectively, 20 per cent Europe and ten per cent from the Middle east, North Africa and Asia, and
- sex (as approximately 30 per cent of the members are female the ambition was that about a third of the interviewees should be women).

Altogether 25 parliamentarians were selected from a larger list of about 80 members, provided by PFSALW. Of the 25 selected members, 16 were labelled active by the Secretariat, five semi - active and five not currently active.

The Secretariat sent an introduction letter to the selected parliamentarians. This letter was in English, French and Spanish, assuring that there should be no language barriers to answering.

The evaluation team sent e-mails, requesting interviews, in late March or early April. A few answers were received. Reminders were sent out a week later. A few more responses were received. The Secretariat then sent e-mails to those who had not answered, requesting them to cooperate with the evaluation team. The evaluation team sent a final message to those who had still not answered, urging them to confirm that they had received the message but did not want to participate. With this, two more answers were received; one from a parliamentarian who was busy campaigning for his wife and son, who are also politicians, and did not have time for an interview until one month later, and one who was in hospital and had recently had a surgery (and later answered a few questions in writing). Communication on WhatsApp was also initiated with some parliamentarians.

All in all, these efforts resulted in 17 parliamentarians being interviewed on Skype or WhatsApp. Five of these interviewees were women. Another nine parliamentarians did not respond. Five of them are categorised as active, one is a Board member. The most under-represented region is Asia from where only one answer came at a very late stage in the evaluation process.

Active members are overly represented among the interviewees. The main reason for this was that the evaluation team tried to identify potential "cases" for a contribution analysis among the interviewees. Parliamentarians who were involved in such concrete activities mainly belonged to the active group. A larger representation of semi-active or non-active members would probably have resulted in even fewer responses and/or less informative answers.

Based on information from the PFSALW annual report for 2017 and discussions with the Secretariat, ten cases were selected. In selecting these cases, efforts were made to find cases from all regions and ensure that about a third had been initiated by female parliamentarians. In practice, this meant that some parliamentarians were chosen for interviews both as active members and as involved in some activity that could constitute a case.

Numerous e-mails and text messages finally resulted in interviews with six parliamentarians who primarily had been selected for being linked to cases in one way or another. One turned out not to be relevant as the initiative from the parliamentarian had ceased due to political differences. The five remaining cases are presented in Annex 2.

In addition, before the above described efforts to get in touch with the members were initiated, the team leader visited Guatemala for other purposes. He then tried to arrange interviews with the five Guatemalan parliamentarians who, according to the Secretariat, are members or with relevant ties with PFSALW. One of them answered that she was ill. Another one responded that she was not member of PFSALW. The remaining three parliamentarians did not respond despite numerous e-mails and telephone calls.

PFSALW upholds a large network. Several allies and other stakeholders are relevant for this evaluation. Due to time constraints, only a limited number of them could be interviewed. This selection was based on relevance, geographic coverage and a wish to cover different types of stakeholders, such as donors, UN agencies, governments, civil society, research institutes and regional parliaments. Altogether, eleven of these stakeholders were interviewed. Two of the chosen interviewees refrained from answering; one could not find any information about cooperation with PFSALW and assumed it had taken place long ago. Another stakeholder had cut down the cooperation with parliamentarians as their influence was considered limited about issues relating to SALW.

A list of those interviewed is found in Annex 4 and the semi-structured interview guide used is presented in Annex 5.

2.3 DOCUMENT REVIEW

The evaluators studied and analysed the following categories of documents:

- Applications, annual and final reports to Sida and other donors, results matrices etc.
- Policy statements, reports from seminars in the Swedish parliament and regional and global seminars, bi-annual reports from the Secretariat to the General Assembly,
- Protocols from Board meetings
- PFSALW newsletters and debate articles written by the Secretariat or members + media coverage on PFSALW activities and issues (news articles etc.) social media presence (Facebook and twitter etc.)
- Information from external sources (academia, donor agencies, NGOs and so on) found on the internet or through interviews.

The list of documents reviewed is found in Annex 3.

2.4 PROCESS OF ANALYSIS AND DEVELOPING CONCLUSIONS

The evaluators used the interview questions that were established during the inception phase. Interviews were semi-structured and took approximately 40 minutes. Interview notes and other key findings were summarised in Word or, in a few cases, Excel files. A few data were sent to PFSALW's secretariat for verification.

Evidence from the desk review, interviews and observations were extracted in accordance with the 19 evaluation questions. Qualitative content text analysis was then used to extract relevant findings.⁵

2.5 ETHICS AND PARTICIPATION

Interviewees were informed at the start of the consultation about their right to provide information to the evaluators on the basis of anonymity. An exception to this was the cases for the contribution analysis where anonymity was not possible as the cases were closely attached to specific members.

Some PFSALW members requested access to the final evaluation report. The evaluators replied that this should not be a problem; supposedly the report will, in due time, be published in Sida's publication database.

2.6 LIMITATIONS

This is an evaluation of PFSALW 2014-2018, a period during which the Secretariat has not only cooperated with some of the – in 2018 – 257 members but has also maintained relationships with a large number of other stakeholders. Some of these relationships have been on a long-term basis, others more ad hoc, such as coorganisers of a specific seminar or other joint activity. During the limited time available for the evaluation, it was not feasible to follow up on all initiatives during the evaluation period or interview all partners, allies and other stakeholders.

Limitations during the evaluation work primarily concerned difficulties to reach the members via e—mail and by telephone in order to arrange interviews on WhatsApp or Skype. Of 25 selected parliamentarians it was finally possible to interview 17.

⁵ Bryman, Social Reserach Methods, 5th edition, 2016 (Oxford), Oxford University Press

Three of the 17 interviewed did not even consider themselves as members. They said they never participated in activities or read information from the PFSALW.

The implications of this are not possible to assess with certainty. One conclusion that can be drawn, however, is that the members are not a homogeneous group; there are parliamentarians who are very active, those who are active sometimes and those who are hardly aware that they are members. This is true regarding all regions and for both female and male members.

As active members in the sample (six of them even Board members), are overrepresented, it is likely that a larger sample with more passive members being interviewed would have resulted in a gloomier picture when it comes to level of activity.

On a positive side it is noteworthy that also indifferent members consider a parliamentary forum on SALW to be a good idea. Some are also interested to learn more about the PF's activities. This means that there should be a potential for recruiting more members as well as enhancing their level of activity. This would, however, require a proactive attitude from the Secretariat, regional hubs or some other motivating force.

Another implication of the difficulties in getting access to the parliamentarians was that the evaluation team spent valuable time that could have come to more productive use on drafting new reminders, sending e-mails and text messages and so on.

In addition, conducting interviews on Skype or WhatsApp about complicated issues is not an ideal situation. The sound quality is sometimes far from good and calls are frequently interrupted.

A limitation was also that it was not possible to conduct the contribution analysis as planned. This was partly due to limited information obtained from the interviewees about contributions from the PFSALW. Their lack of engagement and interaction with the Secretariat was one reason for this, but also difficulties to remember, lack of documentation and poor Skype or WhatsApp quality affected the evaluation work.

The implications on findings, conclusions and recommendations primarily have to do with the need for improved monitoring and evaluation. Another conclusion is that improved contacts between Secretariat and members would probably be beneficial for the level of activity. Thirdly, a more active membership recruitment would probably benefit PFSALW.

The interviews with parliamentarians and allies and other stakeholders demonstrated another common limitation in studies of this kind, namely that the human memory is less detailed than one would hope. Hence, while those interviewed usually said they received interesting documents from the Secretariat or attended an event, they could not explain what specific documentation they had received or what they had learnt. The embryonic contribution analysis is found in Appendix 2.

3 Findings

3.1 FINDINGS ON RELEVANCE

- 3.1.1 Evaluation question 1 (EQ 1): To which extent has the project conformed to the needs and priorities of the members of PFSALW?
 - Finding: PFSALW addresses issues that are relevant for its members, according to members who have been interviewed. This relevance has increased with the adoption of the ATT and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, including target 4, aiming at reducing the flow of illegal arms.
 - Most of the members have difficulties to describe their specific needs and priorities beyond a general wish to receive information and take part in events. They appreciate the capacity-building seminars. These seem to be particularly useful as initial eye-openers about SALW-related issues.

A few members can provide relatively concrete examples of how they have used the acquired knowledge, but most of them say they do not recall any details.

Members also appreciate support from the Secretariat with background facts, speeches or talking points. Due to limited resources, however, the Secretariat encourages members to use handbooks and other publications.

When it comes to their needs for support, most of the members are rather imprecise and there are only scattered opinions. One member says that there should be more information on the PFSALW's website about relevant topics. Another one thinks that the website should have links to other organisations working with SALW issues.

Several members suggest that more cooperation with civil society organisations (CSOs) would be useful. CSOs are appreciated by members for being well informed, willing to share their knowledge and professional at conducting advocacy. Members also think that the contacts with relevant UN organisations should be increased.

Regarding the quality and usefulness of the support they receive from the Secretariat most of the members who express an opinion are satisfied. They were provided with practical advice when they needed it, documents have helped them to understand complicated issues and seminars have been interesting — although they cannot describe any concrete use. One parliamentarian remarked that some handbooks and policy statements are useful while others are outdated.

Several members, however, have had no contact with the Secretariat and have not read documents that are available on the website or sent to them via e-mail.

- 3.1.2 EQ 2: How relevant are the work methods that PFSALW uses (capacity building and policy-shaping) for dealing with SALW-related violence?
 - Finding: PFSALW's work methods are relevant, but they could be applied in a
 way that provides for more participation and bottom-up initiative. Initial policy
 shaping, such as the development of policy statements, advocacy and
 knowledge dissemination, primarily seems to take place at Secretariat level.
 The connection of regional and international contexts with national issues is
 useful.

For members, capacity-building often appears to be equivalent to attending seminars and conferences where they listen to informative speeches and have the opportunity to discuss with the Secretariat and colleagues from other countries. Most members who have been interviewed find the seminars interesting and useful while a few interviewees think that both contents and methodology could be improved. One participant states that he has received nothing that he considers to be qualified as capacity building.

Results from the Secretariat's 2018 membership survey⁶ indicate that although the majority of members are overall content with the support from the Secretariat, they would appreciate more time during seminars dedicated to exchange of experiences and best practices.

Through its network character PFSALW connects national issues to broader contexts:

"I got knowledge that I could use concretely in my work for ratification of the ATT in my country," a member from a Latin American country says.

A member from a West African country that has ratified the ATT focuses on the implementation:

"I was invited to a PF meeting that was very useful. There I found out that there are problems with the domestication of the ATT. So, I filed a question to the Minister of Interior. He appeared before Parliament and said they had started working on these problems."

- 3.1.3 EQ 3: Have work methods been adjusted to new developments, such as the adoption of ATT, the SDGs and the use of social media? How?
 - Finding: To a certain degree, work methods have been adjusted to new developments. For example, PFSALW's Theory of Change (TOC) has recently been changed to more directly relate to promotion of ratification and universalisation of relevant international frameworks, such as the ATT and the

⁶ See section 4.2, EQ 8 and 9.

SDG's. PFSALW has also started to use social media to disseminate information and campaigns.

Despite the above said, PFSALW's work methods remain focused on organising seminars and other events and developing policy statements, action plans and other documents.

Broader topics related to armed violence, such as citizen's security and participation and influence of women and youth are likely to request more attention in the future, according to members as well as allies.

3.1.4 EQ 4: How relevant are the issues promoted by PFSALW in a global and national SALW context?

 Finding: Issues promoted by PFSALW are relevant, both in national and international contexts. They are, for instance, to promote the ratification of international agreements and to lobby for national legislation and its adaptation to these agreements. However, experts at international level maintain that, after ten years of norm-setting, focus is shifting to accountability and implementation in each country.

Members of PFSALW agree:

"If I may say so, the production of statements and action plans is not enough. We need to do more to implement them. SALW is not a priority for most politicians. How can we put pressure on them?"

The most common explanation for engaging with PFSALW is that small arms and light weapons play an important role in many kinds of crime. Citizens in general rank all sorts of criminal activity – from high–level organised crime to pretty street crime – high among topics they want politicians to address.

Other topics, such as arms export and gender aspects, are highlighted by a few of the interviewed parliamentarians. Some members points out that most countries now have adequate legislation, but enforcement is often weak. Therefore, PFSALW should concentrate on issues related to implementation.

An African member notes that disarmament is not enough; what is also needed is a culture of peace. The PF should broaden its scope and also deal with norms and values that are important for establishing a lasting peace, he maintains.

3.1.5 EQ 5: Which issues do other stakeholders consider to be the most important ones?

• Finding: Representatives of civil society, intergovernmental organisations, government officials and others unanimously state that for parliamentarians, legislation and implementation of laws are the most important issues.

The classic role for parliamentarians is legislation, but they can also add value to other actors' work against proliferation of SALW.

One respondent says:

"To my experience, SALW is an issue that is often seen as something that is Government business. But I would argue that parliamentarians too have a fundamental role to play."

Another interviewee says:

"Depending on national processes, parliamentarians are still relevant in the ratification of the ATT. Raising parliamentarians' awareness at an early stage of the process has often been crucial in ensuring a smooth ratification process."

There are also stakeholders who do not agree:

"We focus more on the executive branch. Parliaments have a limited role in oversight of the security sector. I do think parliamentarians are important, but there is also a problem of continuity; after two years they are all gone."

The increased attention to international instruments, such as the ATT, the UN Programme of Action (UNPoA) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and work for their ratification and implementation, provide space for contributions, both at national and international level, in an under-prioritised area on the disarmament agenda.

3.1.6 EQ 6: Relevance in relation to the Swedish strategy for sustainable peace

 Finding: PFSALW's work is relevant in relation to the Swedish strategy for sustainable peace.⁷

The strategy focuses on many of the issues PFSALW promotes, such as international peace-related agreements and fragile countries where armed violence puts serious obstacles to peace and development. The strategy specifically mentions the need for measures against the illegal and uncontrolled proliferation of small arms, light weapons and ammunition and activities within the area of human security, including security sector reform, disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration of former combatants and mine action.

The strategy highlights the importance of political activities and close dialogue between relevant actors: "In this dialogue, activities within the framework of country-regional- and thematic strategies must be considered in order to promote complementarity", the strategy emphasises. Women's participation and

⁷ The strategy is for the period 2017–2022 and can be found here: https://www.government.se/490051/globalassets/government/block/fakta-och-genvagsblock/utrikesdepartementet/sanktioner/strategi-hallbar-fred-eng-slutlig.pdf

empowerment and a gender perspective are highlighted in the strategy, which is in line with PFSALW's priorities and actions.

3.2 FINDINGS OF EFFECTIVENESS

- 3.2.1 EQ 7: To which extent has the project contributed to the intended outcomes? If so, why? If not, why not?
 - Finding: There is little evidence that the current implementation model for the
 project is delivering any significant contributions at the outcome level. The
 main reason for this is that PFSALW reports on activities and outputs
 (indicators and long-term targets, in the PFSALW results framework), but these
 are not connected to the specific objectives (results at outcome level) or they
 are only very loosely connected.

In the annual reports to Sida, PFSALW accounts for results. In the applications, results matrixes have been developed for each of the five specific objectives with short-term (annual) indicators and long-term (two-year) targets.

Long-term targets are mostly at activity or output level, for example:

- 20 parliamentary processes /.../ requesting a legislative or oversight change.
- Number of parliamentary initiatives for ATT-signatory or ratification where Forum members have been active.
- Advances in the implementation of the UNPoA /.../ where Forum members have been active.

One by one achieved results are briefly described with one or two sentences in the annual reports. Some examples from the annual report to Sida for 2017:

<u>Myanmar:</u> Member has encouraged committee and assembly members to promote the work of legislative or oversight changes related to ATT ratification.

<u>Brazil:</u> Member introduced several proposals to update the law related to the unified system of public security.

<u>Colombia:</u> Forum Member participated in the UNPoA PrepCom, taking the floor as part of the Colombian delegation.

<u>DRC</u>: Member reported having ongoing contacts with parliamentary colleagues to proceed with efforts to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty, despite the current political context in the country and recent elections.

<u>Zimbabwe</u>: Member published an article in the Zimbabwean media, calling for the ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty to facilitate arms control in the country.

In general, and as the examples above show, there is no information about what the activities accomplish in terms of a continued processes or new developments linked

to intended outcomes. The results at output level are not aggregated to the outcome level, which means that, strictly speaking there are outputs with no clear link to behaviour change, for example on parliamentarians' contributions to reforming legislation, ratification of ATT or actions by the executive branch to comply with ATT.

Gender equality is a strategic priority for PFSALW. Presently almost 30 per cent of the members are women. Gender issues are promoted through mainstreaming as well as targeted interventions. In 2019 a new project, funded by the FBA and with focus on the MENA region, will target female and young parliamentarians.

In the results framework, quantitative targets for women's involvement are established. For example, three of the proposals from members should be introduced by female members. The annual reports also distinguish between legislative initiatives, motions, speeches and so on by women and men. There are no qualitative objectives regarding gender equality.

Despite the above said about the lack of a results chain, the consultants have tried to assess PFSALW's achievements in relation to the five specific objectives (SO). They are:

- SO1: Improving, refining and harmonising the policy framework for SALW control at national level and regionally harmonise laws on SALW.
- SO2: Further develop parliamentarians' capacities to address SALW issues.
- SO3: Contribute to the building of an international consensus on SALW and armed violence through parliamentary exchange and intervention.
- SO4: Increase public awareness of SALW violence, its impacts, and parliamentary action.
- SO5: Consolidate the financial and operational sustainability.

The main finding is that the activities implemented as part of the project have contributed to the achievement of one of the five specific objectives. This positive assessment concerns the development of parliamentarians' capacities to address SALW issues, SO2. The assessment is based on responses in interviews with members, although these parliamentarians could seldom give examples of specific benefits of the membership and the activities. To some extent it is also based on observations from allies, who have been involved in capacity building events.

SO 4, regrading contribution to increased public awareness seems to be partly achieved. The assessment is based on interviews with members and other stakeholders as well as documents produced by PFSALW, such as the thematic handbooks, seminar reports, policy statements and newsletters.

The weak aspect is that PFSALW has shown little capacity to monitor how these materials are being used. Annual reports to Sida often refer to the fact that PFSALW produces materials. A representative example is the following:

"A total of 36 documents of varying nature were produced to members on request." (quote from appendix 4, annual report to Sida 2015).

According to the consultants' assessment, the remaining three specific objectives have not been met:

- Improving, refining and harmonising the policy framework for PFSALW control (SO1)
- Contribution to the building of an international consensus on SALW and armed violence (SO3).
- Consolidation of PFSALW's financial and operational sustainability (SO5).

SO1 and SO3 are considered to be too ambitious in relation to PFSALW's intervention model in terms of the number and scope of the activities, and the way activities and outputs are monitored, reported and evaluated.

Neither the interview responses, nor PFSALW's own reports contain substantial information as to whether activities and outputs are designed to build further achievements, especially at national level, the most important arena for PFSALW's members, thereby taking steps to meet the specific objectives and, in the long run, contributing to more peaceful and developed societies.

On SO5, PFSALW's financial and operational sustainability, the evaluation is focused on the efforts to diversify sources of funding. It is recognized that PFSALW has given more priority to reduce its financial dependence on Swedish donors, like Sida and FBA. However, there are no factual results, dependence on Sida remains very high, approximately 80 % for the years 2018 and 2019.

Annex 1 contains a more detailed description of the evaluators' attempt to assess the degree of fulfilment of the five specific objectives.

- 3.2.2 EQ 8: To which extent have PFSALW's tools (i.e. thematic seminars, policy statements, Parliamentary Action Plans etc.) been effective in achieving the outcomes? If so, why? If not, why not?
 - Finding: PFSALW's limited capacity to more comprehensively document who, how and to what extent the tools are used in different settings or contexts makes the question difficult to answer. The annual survey to members, which

⁸ Source: Final report. Core support agreement with Sida. January 1st 2014 – December 31st 2015, p. 11 (table on intervention strategy).

was initiated in 2016 has very low response rate (less than 10 per cent)9. PFSALW's reports to Sida provide no statistics on distribution of policy statements or to which extent they are used. The thematic seminars are useful, according to members, but PFSALW has no systems to follow-up how members and other participants take advantage of acquired knowledge and experiences.

In the annual report to Sida 2018 PFSALW recognises that the Secretariat "relies on reports directly from members or partners. Given parliamentarians' busy schedules there is a considerable risk that actions go unreported. Hence, a new method was introduced in 2016, systematically collecting results from members via an annual survey used for the third time in 2018, supplemented mainly by reports and evaluations from specific activities and targeted outreach to members."

While surveys provide some information, PFSALW's Secretariat needs to improve monitoring of how members are acting and also what results they contribute to. An example is an interview in which a Latin American member said:

"The fact that my country ratified ATT is a direct consequence of my participation in PFSALW - and an important result. The congress ratified it in February 2016. Several meetings with PFSALW raised the importance of ratification. We were a group of parliamentarians who first made the government aware of the existence of the treaty."

3.2.3 EQ 9: To what extent has lessons learned from what works well and less well been used to improve and adjust project implementation?

Findings: Lessons learned are often discussed and reported in general terms, sometimes almost equivalent to achievements, sometimes more like policy statements, in PFSALW's project documents and in interviews. To some extent lessons learned have been used in the project implementation, for example the development of PAPs and present plans to involve youth in a new project. On other issues, such as the design, implementation and reporting on results beyond the output level, progress has been slower, and things have remained relatively unchanged during the period 2014–2018. PFSALW's intervention logic and operations continue to depend on a limited number of scattered activities with weak strategic purpose.

The evaluators have identified a few tentative lessons learned:

With its participation in the third review conference to the UNPoA (RevCon3), and other events the PF has demonstrated that parliamentarians have a role to play at international level, although the size of it is still debateable.

⁹ The PFSALW Secretariat does neither report how many members the annual surveys are sent to, nor the number of responses, only an approximate response rate in per cent.

- At the national level, parliamentarians need to pay more attention to awarenessraising, for example raise the issue of negative effects of SALW in their constituencies.
- There is a need to broaden the agenda beyond SALW to also take issues such as poverty, human rights, transparency, gender equality and children's rights into consideration when talking about arms control.
- The regional parliamentary action plans (PAPs) that were developed in the context of the project "Connecting the dots" have made it clearer to parliamentarians what they can do and generated concrete action, connecting to the three relevant international frameworks.

However, actions are described in general terms, for example in PFSALW's final report to UNSCAR on the Connecting the dots project: "The PAPs were developed by the participating parliamentarians and supported actions on the ATT, UN PoA and SDG 16. The regional seminars also resulted in three draft bills referring to the processes: one motion in Zimbabwe related to ATT ratification; one public hearing on the ATT in Brazil; one arms control agenda proposed in Chile. Nine parliamentary initiatives took place around the PAPs, exceeding the three planned." ¹⁰

- The PF should continue to promote women's engagement.
- A new priority, initially highlighted by members, is how youth can become more active in the work against SALW.
- The work to enhance PWSALW's capacity and competence to track, measure and report results should be pursued, according to the 2018 annual report.

The design and implementation of the projects has remained more or less equal over the period 2014–2018, with similar objectives and indicators. A challenge for PFSALW is therefore to plan interventions as well as monitor and report achievements in a way that makes it possible to produce and present results beyond activities and outputs.

Since 2016, an annual survey is distributed to the members with a limited number of questions about their activities, whether they are satisfied with the support from PF, if they have consulted any PF documents etc. A problem is, however, that few parliamentarians respond. In 2017 the response rate was only ten per cent, according to the annual report. In addition, the Secretariat points out that capacity building activities are evaluated.

Quote from final report to UNSCAR: "Connecting the dots: Supporting SDG 16, ATT and PoA implementation through increased parliamentary engagement and action in international processes", p. 3.

Several members express a need for more information about legislation and other processes in neighbouring countries and other parts of the world. A parliamentarian from Cameroon has set up a website for Central- and West Africa. Through the website, this PFSALW member hopes that it will be possible to exchange information and best practices with other parliamentarians in the region. The contribution analysis and the cases described in Annex 2 suggest that there are interesting ongoing activities related to SALW in several countries. As these activities are seldom documented in a comprehensive way, verification and learning remain challenges.

One exception to the limited availability of information is a PFSALW report from 2015 labelled "Boosting African Ratifications before Entry-into-Force of the Arms Trade Treaty, Interim Report"¹¹. It is written by a consultant, hired by PFSALW, and contains detailed information about what was happening in parliaments and the executive in five countries in Southern Africa (South Africa, Malawi, Swaziland, Tanzania and Zimbabwe) in relation to ratification of ATT. It also contains some information about countries' participation in UNPoA-processes. The purpose of this consultancy was to explore opportunities and priorities for PFSALW in these countries, rather than collect information about what PFSALW-members were doing. Still, it is an example of technical and detailed information about PFSALW's fact finding work that the consultants have not found elsewhere.

Regarding adjustment of project implementation, in 2018 PFSALW received support from external consultants to improve its planning, monitoring and evaluation system. This support resulted in a new results framework for the period 2019 and March 2020, when Sida's cost–extension period expires.

This results framework is a step forward in the sense that there is a more logical connection between activities, outputs, short-term outcomes (labelled "bridging outcomes") and long-term outcomes. It is pointed out that the long-term outcomes are equal to the specific objectives of the previous results matrix. The matrix contains more qualitative and quantitative targets and indicators than the previous one.

Still, there is a tendency to replicate the same weaknesses observed during the period 2014–2018. There is too much focus on activities and a belief that policy statements produce outcomes. An example from the matrix: Expected results related to the Parliamentary Action Plans (PAPs) are not mentioned in terms of how they are implemented, only "drafted, discussed and adopted after each regional seminar". Connected to this output is a bridging outcome: "Parliamentary commitment and action increases at the international level", which does not mention the work with the implementation of the PAPs at national level.

¹¹ The report has not dated but is included as appendix 12 for 2015 in the yearly report to Sida covering the years 2014-2015.

3.2.4 EQ 10: How important is the capacity-building of parliamentarians for the effectiveness of the work?

 Finding: Capacity-building is apparently important as a source of inspiration for the parliamentarians.

Several of the interviewees point out that they have found out about relevant issues at capacity-building seminars. Back in their parliaments they have alerted the Security Committee, filed a question to the relevant minister or acted in some other way. In some cases, this has resulted in ratification of the ATT or other concrete improvements, in others progress is still pending (see EQ 2 and EQ 4 for more details).

3.2.5 EQ 11: How important is legislation for dealing with SALW-related violence?

• Finding: Legislation is the basic task for parliamentarians, stakeholders, and parliamentarians themselves emphasise this. However, laws are not enough.

A broader perspective is needed, legislation has to be linked to issues such as a culture of peace, gender equality, transparency and corruption, several members agree.

"To focus only on firearms control will not solve the problems with violence, for instance in Latin America", a member says.

3.2.6 EQ 12: Has PFSALW managed to strengthen its policy-shaping role? How?

 Finding: PFSALW has strengthened its policy-shaping role in the Connecting the dots-project, where parliamentarian actions plans (PAPs) have been developed. These action plans reflect PFSALW's priorities - legislation, oversight and awareness-raising - but there is little information about their achievements so far.

Allegedly, there is progress when it comes to the implementation of the PAPs, which are more concrete than the policy statements. The final report to UNSCAR highlights results at output level, similar to the ones that are accounted for in the 2018 report to Sida.

Policy-shaping is, however, difficult to achieve when the network is as loosely connected as the PFSALW one with members spread across almost 90 countries. There are very active members who maintain frequent contacts with the Secretariat, but regarding most of the members these contacts are scarce.

The most obvious benefit from being a member is the invitations to capacity-building seminars and other meetings. Depending on budget available, some members might have their tickets to these events paid by the PFSLW, others not. The obligations are also few, for example there is no membership fee and no mandatory reporting requirements.

Considering this, as the name Forum indicates, PFSALW might be seen as a meeting place rather than an organisation.

3.3 FINDINGS ON RELATIONSHIP SECRETARIAT -**MFMBFRS**

3.3.1 EQ 13: What is the mandate of the Secretariat vis-à-vis the members?

Finding: The Secretariat is responsible for implementation of the Board's decisions. There are different suggestions regarding the involvement of the Board vis-a-vi the Secretariat, for example in preparations for meetings. The Secretariat wants the Board to engage more in efforts to reach financial sustainability.

According to the Statutes and Regulations, the Board is the steering organ of PFSALW and responsible for strategic, organisational and financial development. The Secretariat is the executive organ and has the responsibility for operational implementation of the Board's decisions.

The Board meets twice a year. The meetings are planned, prepared and coordinated by the Secretariat. One of the Board's assignments is to monitor the development of results and activities. At each Board meeting members should submit a brief report, following guidelines from the Secretariat. One Board member thinks that the Board should be more involved in preparations and other tasks:

"When we get invitations to meetings and seminars, everything is arranged in detail. I understand why, the Secretariat wants everything to be planned, but they should engage us more."

The Secretariat, in turn, points out that the Board's mandate has been strengthened in

"It has a stronger overall responsibility. This said, there is still room for improvements. Especially, the Board needs to engage in the work to establish financial sustainability."

3.3.2 EQ 14: How active are the members and the Secretariat respectively?

Finding: As the members are not one entity and the level of activity varies enormously from member to member it is not possible to compare the Secretariat and the members.

Being responsible for the implementation of all activities that are decided by the Board, the Secretariat is active in everything that involves the central level of the network.

Members' activity varies over time and from member to member. The interviews for this evaluation have clearly shown that the level of activity is very different between members.

Probably, this indicates that PFSALW should review its membership criteria and related matters in order to, for example, open a discussion as to whether a certain level of activity should be requested.

3.3.3 EQ 15: Does the work of the Secretariat create conditions for members to take action? How?

 Finding: The conditions for members to take action in their respective parliaments are established by the Secretariat in the sense that members acquire knowledge and inspiration at seminars and from written information. Often, however, members act without direct involvement from the Secretariat.

The Secretariat's preparations, involvement and assistance with practical arrangements are, of course, a precondition for members' participation in international events, such as the third review conference regarding the UNPoA or the Conference of State Parties on the ATT.

Interviews indicate that in most cases members' activities at national level are carried out without direct involvement from the Secretariat. Members highlight issues such as the implementation of the UNPoA or signing or ratification of the ATT through discussions with colleagues in relevant parliamentary committees, writing of motions, asking questions to ministers and so on. Some also write articles in newspapers or make other efforts to create awareness about SALW-related issues.

Some active members act without even informing the Secretariat:

"As a member of the Defence and Interior Committee I was invited to a PFSALW meeting at which I found out that my country has a number of bottlenecks as to the implementation of the ATT. The meeting also gave me ideas about how to go about it, so I filed a question to the Minister of Foreign Affairs."

Some parliamentarians seem a bit confused about the communication from PFSALW. One of them does not consider himself to be active in the PFSALW, but he participated in two conferences. Since then he receives e-mails from the Secretariat, which he seldom reads:

"Preventing and reducing the spread of SALW is good, but I do not know what I could do. Between the meetings nothing much happens."

3.3.4 EQ 16: When it comes to level of activity of the network, are there differences between regions?

 Finding: Africa and Latin America are the regions with the highest levels of activity.

The Secretariat neither knows if there are differences when it comes to level of activity between different regions, nor considers the issue relevant; the level of activity varies depending on what initiatives the Secretariat takes.

From the study of annual reports and other documentation, however, the evaluation team concludes that Africa and Latin America are the regions with the highest level of activity. These two regions are the ones with the largest number of members and also, together with Europe, the regions where PFSALW has the longest history.

3.3.5 EQ 17: What relationships/contacts are there between parliamentarians without involving the Secretariat?

 Finding: Members appear to rely on the Secretariat to maintain contact between them and have seldom established relationships between themselves outside the framework of PFSALW.

There are few instances of parliamentarians establishing contact with members in neighbouring countries, for example to discuss a regional initiative. An exception to this is, however, a West African parliamentarian has set up a website where members from Central and West Africa can publish suggestions, share information about SALW-related issues and so on.

Relationships seem to be maintained via the Secretariat with contacts being established and maintained primarily during events where PFSALW staff and Board members participate. These events are not very frequent and, coupled with PFSALW's limited financial resources, this influences negatively on the relationships between parliamentarians.

The overall impression is that there is limited contact between the Secretariat and the members in general, and between members themselves, where the Secretariat is not involved.

3.3.6 EQ 18: Are there examples of members influencing parliamentary colleagues to support their proposals?

• Finding: In general terms it is known that members attempt to influence parliamentary colleagues to support their proposals, but no information about the outcomes of such lobbying has been obtained.

It seems to be common that members discuss SALW-related issues with colleagues in the Defence Committee or some other parliamentary committee they belong to. It also happens that they convene a special meeting with the committee, for example to discuss how to put pressure on the government to ratify the ATT.

From time to time, these members also try to influence colleagues to support their proposals. Whether they are successful is not known, however.

3.4 FINDINGS ON IMPACT

- EQ 19: What is the overall impact of the project in terms of direct or indirect, 3.4.1 negative and positive results?
 - Finding: In document review and interviews it has not been possible to identify any impact-level results¹², neither intended, nor unintended.

Considering the fact that the results that presently exist are on output level it is hardly surprising that no impact level results have been found. With increased, coherent and long-term focus on outcomes, it is possible that impact will follow.

It is challenging, however, for network organisations with global coverage to reach impact results because the sphere of influence is limited. Figure 1 is an illustration of PFSALW's sphere of control and direct and indirect influence.

Achieving impact depends not only on what PFSALW's secretariat or PFSALW's members are doing, but also on the activities of a large number of other actors and the connection to its Theory of Change which, in the strategy 2016–2018, was formulated more like a vision than a useful tool for the organisation, in the following terms:

"The theory of change of the Parliamentary Forum is to contribute to the achievement of more peaceful and developed societies by parliamentary action against armed violence to increase human security."13

As a matter of clarification of concepts, the evaluators adhere to the following and more ambitious definition of theory of change "A Theory of Change is an ongoing process of reflection to explore change and how it happens – and what that means for the part we play in a particular context, sector and/or group of people". 14

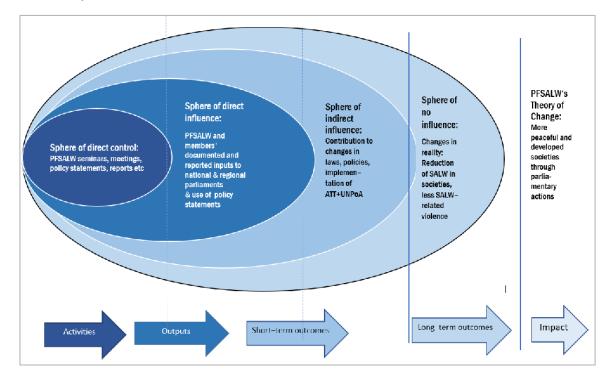
¹² Sida's and OECD/DAC's definition of impact is "Positive and negative, primary and secondary longterm effects produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended. *Note: The word is also widely used in a more comprehensive sense that includes both short-term and long-term effects. Source:

https://www.sida.se/contentassets/e90423c8aec74fecba0105ab6b63b976/15387.pdf

¹³ Quote from the PFSALW strategic plan, p. 6.

¹⁴ This definition is used by, among others the Overseas Development Instoitute (ODI) and Theories of Change. Quote from: "Time for a radical approach to learning in development", Craig Valters, ODI, 2015,

Figure 1 - PFSALW's sphere of control and influence in relation to possible results – figure elaborated by the evaluators



4 Overall Conclusions

The main strength of PFSALW is that it contributes to capacity building of parliamentarians in a large number of countries and in a field that is important, but under-prioritised globally, this evaluation concludes. Recent examples are the large regional conferences that were arranged in Latin America, Africa and Asia in order to discuss synergies between the ATT, the UNPoA and SDG 14.4, and develop Parliamentary Action Plans (PAPs).

Members appreciate these events and state that they are useful, although most of them have difficulties explaining exactly what they found helpful. A few of the members, however, describe concrete examples of how they, for example, learnt about the need for an amendment to existing law and took action upon their return home, in the relevant parliamentary committee, through tabling a motion or asking a question to the minister in charge.

Increasingly, PFSALW links its work at national level with the relevant processes and frameworks at regional and international levels.

PFSALW is recognised by its active members as a valuable organisation. Tools developed by PFSALW, such as policy statement and handbooks, are appreciated although it is difficult to establish how much they are really used.

There is no evidence that the intervention model is making any significant contribution at outcome level. Presented results are mainly outputs. Activities are isolated and not strategically selected or designed to have a clear link to outcomes. Reports to Sida mainly contain information on activities and outputs. No results at impact level have been identified.

Despite this, the evaluation has made an attempt to assess achievements in relation to PFSALW's five specific objectives (considered by the evaluators as equivalent to outcomes). This assessment indicates that only one of the specific objectives has been achieved during the period 2014–2018 (see annex 1).

The planned contribution analysis could only partly be conducted, among others due to limited evidence of contributions. However, a few cases present some interesting examples of how parliamentarians in different countries work (see annex 2).

Members' activities vary over time as well as from member to member. Initiatives at national level by members without the participation of the Secretariat and the Board take place but are rarely documented or recorded.

To summarise, PFSALW has strengths, and also numerous weaknesses. Among the latter are the infrequent relationship with the majority of the members, scattered activities with ineffective connection to results, an overestimation of the organisation's capacity to set, as well as achieve, project outcomes and insufficient understanding of the importance of systematically documenting SALW–related

4 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

events and processes in countries where PFSALW has members. These weaknesses cannot solely or even mainly be attributed to a lack of resources, rather it is about a perception of what should be prioritised. Overall, the weaknesses raise questions on PFSALW's effectiveness over time and, thereby, its capacity to increase the level of legitimacy towards members and other relevant SALW actors.

5 Recommendations

5.1 RECOMMENDATIONS TO SIDA

- 1. Sida should set conditions for continued financial support to PFSALW after the extension period, which ends in March 2020. PFSALW needs to make significant improvements related to its intervention logic and focus on producing and collecting evidence of outcome level results.
- 2. In order to present result, Sida should request PFSALW to put in place systematic monitoring mechanisms to collect and document results.
- 3. Sida should request PFSALW to prepare a formal management response and an action plan for implementing agreed recommendations in this evaluation.
- 4. If the support will continue, Sida should ensure that the granted amount is sufficient to allow for planned activities, including development of monitoring tools, adequate follow-up and opportunities for members to learn.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS TO PFSALW

Relevance

- 5. Taking into account comments and suggestions from members, PFSALW should review methodology and contents for its capacity-building seminars in order to find out if these events can become even more relevant for the needs and priorities of the members.
- 6. Research institutes, think-tanks and recognised CSOs seem to agree that, after a long period of norm-setting, it is time to give more priority to parliamentarians' oversight functions, in other words, the implementation of international instruments. PFSALW should take this into consideration in its planning of future activities.
- 7. PFSALW has a large number of allies and partners probably more than the Secretariat has capacity to handle. Some of the allies have expressed certain discontent with a lack of frequent contacts and agreements that are not followed up. PFSALW should consider conducting an overview of partners and allies and adjust the number of external contacts to its capacity.
- 8. As it is a request from many active members, the Secretariat should consider enhanced collaboration with civil society organisations that are working with SALW-related issues.

Effectiveness

- 9. PFSALW should develop a model for assessing results where activities and outputs contribute to results at outcome level. As crucial aspect for such a model to work is the collection of information about ongoing processes at national level. Multiple tools for this follow-up, such as telephone interviews with parliamentarians and other stakeholders, written reports and questionnaires, need to be developed. It is crucial that the gathered information is analysed and presented in a concrete and reader-friendly way that ensures accountability and learning as well as provides added value towards the final objective achieving more peaceful and developed societies.
- 10. The Secretariat should establish mechanisms for follow-up of objectives, analysis of deviations from plans and routines for adjustments of strategies and objectives. To find out how different tools, such as thematic seminars, PAPs and policy statements, are used by the members, PFSALW should devise simple follow-up mechanisms which at the same time ensure learning.
 - Tools and mechanisms to gather information need to be multiple: telephone interviews with parliamentarians in selected countries, requirement of written reports and stories by members and partners and the use of media reports. Statistics needs to be improved on the use of PFSALW produced materials. Such measures would increase PFSALWs legitimacy towards its members and external stakeholders based on a recognition of concrete contributions to policy and behavioural changes at national level.
- 11. It is commendable that quantitative objectives as to gender equality are included in the results matrixes. Qualitative objectives regarding women's role in the activities should also be developed.

Relationship Secretariat – members

12. PFSALW should initiate an overview of its current membership situation, including criteria for being a member, with a view to clarifying expectations, enhancing the dialogue between members and the Secretariat and making the organisation more visible and result-oriented.

Annex 1 – Assessment of achievement of the 5 specific objectives

Specific objective 1: The objective is too ambitious in relation to PFSALW's resources and the number¹⁵, character and scope of the activities. Although PFSALW-members have contributed to the improvement of SALW related laws, for example the ratification of the ATT in Cameroon and Peru, advances in the implementation of the UNPoA and legislative, oversight and awareness-rising actions, there is no evidence that PFSALW has fulfilled or

Specific objective 1			
Improving,	Objective a	chieved	
refining and	Yes	No	Partly
harmonising the policy framework for SALW control at national level and regionally harmonise laws on SALW.		X	

significantly contributed to the objective in its entire scope and scale. More strategic, focused efforts would be required to fulfil this objective at national level. The PFSALW secretariat needs to encourage and require members to collect and disseminate more detailed information about processes and concrete facts in legislative and executive branches in their home countries and how they are linked to the PFSALW's capacity building of parliamentarians.

Part of the objective is about the regional level. PFSALW has a longstanding relationship with the regional parliament in Latin America (Parlatino) and initial contacts have been established with the Pan-African Parliament and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly. These regional parliaments are only elected democratically indirectly, they have little power, are unknown, not accountable to the citizens and neither interviews, nor the documents produced by PFSALW contain any information about concrete harmonisation processes.

<u>Specific objective 2:</u> The objective has been achieved. All members who were interviewed maintain that they find PFSALW's capacity building activities useful and interesting. There are also expressions about the value of being part

Specific objective 2			
Develop further parliamentarians' capacities to address SALW issues.	Objective achieved		
	Yes	No	Partly
	X		

of a network, with opportunities to meet colleagues from other countries and regions and participate in international events. However, only a limited number of members participate in different key activities (approximately 90 in 2018), PFSALW has also produced different materials (not at least thematic handbooks for parliamentarians), which are distributed to

¹⁵ The number of activities reported by PFSALW to Sida has decreased over the years. 2014 27 activities were carried out, 2015 30, 2016 12, 2017 11 and 2018 13 activities, including board meetings, general assemblies and anniversary celebrations and events related to only Sweden.

members and non-members. Table 2 shows a numeric overview. A limitation is that there has been no monitoring of how these materials are used.

The fact that members have very little information to share about how seminars and publications have served them also raises doubts.

Table 2: distribution of PFSALW handbooks for parliamentarians

Year	Target	Outcome
2014 - 2015	130	389
2016	50	192
2017	50	480
2018	50	730

Specific objective 3: Despite a positive reference to cooperation with parliamentarians at the Third Review Conference on the UNPoA in 2018, there is no evidence that PFSALW's has contributed to the building of an international consensus on SALW and armed violence through parliamentary

Specific objective 3			
Contribute to the building of an international consensus on	Objective achieved		
	Yes	No	Partly
SALW and armed violence		X	
through parliamentary exchange			
and intervention.			

exchange and intervention. The scope and nature of PFSALW's intervention in international fora is too limited. A few PFSALW members participate in international events (mostly in so called side–events) and there are limited contacts between them and government officials (often diplomats) in the executive branch. Several interviewees, both CSOs and governmental representatives, acknowledge that parliamentarians have a role to play but not a significant one.

Specific objective 4: There is some evidence that PFSALW increases the awareness of problems that are connected with proliferation of PFSALW. It is positive that the Secretariat records and documents the number of articles in media, Facebook followers, distribution of handbooks and newsletters etc. It is not

Specific objective 4			
Increase public awareness of SALW violence, its impacts,	Objective achieved		
	Yes	No	Partly
and parliamentary action.			X

clear, though, if this information and social media campaigns, such as Words over bullets, reach the general public and those who are negative towards this kind of messages or if it is "preaching for the already converted". To assess the public awareness, it would be necessary to engage PFSALW members and allies, for example CSOs and their networks, or professional survey institutes, to monitor the development of public awareness.

Specific objective 5: The assessment is primarily based on the fact that PFSALW remains dependent on two financial sources, Sida and the Folke Bernadotte Academy. PFSALW is used to operating with small financial resources. With some financial problems and a long vacancy before the present Secretary General

Specific objective 5			
		Objective achieved	
Consolidate the financial and	Yes	No	Partly
operational sustainability.		X	

took office in 2015, the objective to consolidate financial and interrelated operational sustainability was given high priority by both staff and the Board. The financial situation has been a regular item on the Board's agenda.

In the strategic plan 2016–2018 the following three priorities are listed:

ANNEX 1 - ASSESSMENT OF ACHIEVEMENT OF THE 5 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Secure a robust financial management platform for the Forum, including an adequate process for budget planning, follow-up, reporting and institutionalized administrative and operational routines within the organisation.
- Secure financial sustainability, including steps towards donor diversification.
- Implement policies related to anti-corruption, per diems and procurement.

During 2016 and 2017 PFSALW sent project proposals for funding to donors in Canada, Germany, United Kingdom and Spain, with negative responses, however. In 2018 new efforts were made with proposals to Norway (negative) and Finland (ongoing dialogue). A new contribution from UNSCAR 2016 was an achievement but as table 3 shows, the bulk of the funding comes from Sweden, with Sida and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (who are coordinated) as key supporters.

Table 3: Overview of funding, 2008–2020 (1Q)

Period/year	Amount (MSEK)	Funder	Condition/ Support type
2008-2009	4,660	Sida	Core
2009	0,350	FBA	Project
	0,270	Spanish MFA	Core
	0,280	German MFA	Project
2010	2,820	Sida	Core
	0,250	FBA	Project
	1,019	Spanish MFA	Core
2011	2,180	Sida	Core
	0,044	Spanish MFA	Core
2012	1,945	MFA Sweden	Core
2013	2,100	MFA Sweden	Core
2014	2,405	Sida	Core
	0,350	FBA	Project
	1,400	UNSCAR**	Project
	0,003	ICBL-CMC	Project
2015	2,245	Sida	Project
	0,340	Sida	Cost extension
	0,002	ICBL-CMC	Project
	0,430	FBA	Project
2016	2,160	Sida	Project
	0,090	FBA	Project
2017	1,125	UNSCAR***	Project
	2,500	Sida	Project
2018	0,175	FBA	Project
2019–2020 (Q1: Jan–March)	4,100	Sida	Project
	2,400	Sida	Cost extension
	0,680	FBA	Project
TOTALMSEK	36,323		<u> </u>

^{*} All figures are approximate. ** Covering 18 months, 2014–2015. ** Covering 24 months, 2017-2018. Sources: Sida, FBA, PFSALW.

According to PFSALW's own conclusion in the report to Sida for the year 2017, (...) "the overall financial situation is currently assessed as stabilised", with reference to the assessment of a study on internal management and control realised by KPMG. Despite this, the Secretariat has continued to express awareness of the need for funding from more diversified sources. It has created a "Donor Pipeline" document which is a pedagogical Excel—sheet serving as monitoring tool and a reminder of the need to constantly look for opportunities and prepare proposals.

The above findings are also in line with interview responses. A PFSALW Board member considers the present information about achievements to be too limited:

"I think it is a big weakness that we do not know what is happening in the members' parliaments. We should have recurrent reports about what is going on /.../, not least in the countries from where the Board members come. But we do not. We only have brief, oral reports from Board meetings and General Assembly."

Other members agree:

"We provide members with opportunities and tools to raise parliamentarians' awareness. That is important but then it is up to them to achieve further results."

"PFSALW set up, or planned to set up, an observatory where it should be possible to follow developments regarding legislation and other topics in different countries. This is an idea worth exploring."

Table 4: PFSALW's level of financial dependence on funding from Sida (as a % of total income)

Year	Sida %
2008	100%
2009	72%
2010	69%
2011	98%
2012	100%
2013	100%
2014	70%
2015	70%
2016	96%
2017	82%
2018	76%
2019	86%

Source: Elaboration by the evaluators.

Annex 2 – Contribution analysis and five cases

CONTRIBUTION ANALYSIS

As outlined in the tender and the inception report, the consultants have attempted to apply a contribution analysis methodology. A number of interventions (the cases) of PFSALW members in countries in Latin America, Africa, Europe and Asia were selected by the consultants, with support from PFSALW staff, for further scrutiny.

Through written information, if there was any, and interviews with concerned PF members, the role of the PFSALW and the relevance of its support were assessed. Unfortunately, it was not possible to establish contact with all the PF members selected for interviews on the cases. Another challenge was that very little, if any, documentation is available. The members do not always report to the Secretariat about initiatives they take in their "home" parliaments or elsewhere. This means that little information is available. Triangulation through support documentation from other sources was possible in a few cases, but in most cases no such documentation is available. Interviews with other stakeholders was not feasible, either due to time constraints or because no such stakeholders were easily available.

Hence, in most cases, the interviews with the parliamentarians and PF members was the only available source. As often demonstrated in studies of this kind, the human memory is less detailed than one would hope. For example, PF members say that they received useful documents from the PF Secretariat, but do not remember about what. Or at a PF seminar they learnt something they could later apply, but they are not sure what the topic was.

Hence, the first part of the PFSALW ToC can be confirmed: "Through policy shaping and capacity-building members contribute...". They primarily contribute with legislation, but there are also examples of oversight and awareness raising; "...with their key roles: legislation, oversight and awareness-raising..." The final part of the ToC is not fulfilled, which also several of the PF members themselves point out; "...to reduced armed violence in their respective countries, thereby enhancing economic and social development and human security."

In the next section, five stories are assembled, based on an equal number of cases. All the cases are rather incomplete in relation to what the contribution analysis methodology requires and some of them can hardly be labelled cases at all. They have been kept as the consultants think that they still provide interesting information about the work of PF members.

DESCRIPTION OF CASES

Serbia: Dialogue about arms production

In 2017 a seminar was arranged by the PFSALW and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Dakar, Senegal. During this seminar Marko Djurisic, a PF member from the arms producing country Serbia, met with members from affected countries in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East.

This kind of dialogue between affected and producing countries was a PF target for the year, but due to reallocation for various strategic and financial reasons there were no funds available for realising the target. At the Dakar seminar, however, the opportunity to arrange a meeting despite this was seized.

"We talked about problems with weapons that are produced in our countries. We also discussed existing controls, how the ATT is implemented and what could be improved," the Serbian parliamentarian and PF member says.

The exchange of experiences was useful, according to him, but he felt that there was not much he could do:

"Serbian decision-makers in general are proud that we export weapons and do not listen when I say that what we really are exporting is instability."

As far as he knows there has been no follow-up of the meeting from the PF. A member from Trinidad and Tobago contacted him, however, and asked for more information about some aspects of the Serbian law.

In Serbia, there has been some discussion about Serbian weapons ending up in the hands of the IS. Critics point out that this indicates an urgent need for better controls, but the Government says that it lacks resources.

"Actually, it has become even easier to get a licence to export weapons. Before four ministers had to agree, now three is enough," Marko Djurisic says. "The argument for the change was that it will provide more jobs in Serbia."

The parliamentarian used his legislative and oversight roles to propose stricter legislation. The proposal was not accepted, though. In these efforts he considered materials he got from the PFSALW Secretariat very useful. These materials as well as his own notes from PF meetings he had attended helped him to be prepared for debates in the Parliament.

In Serbia, despite the Government's attitude, negative aspects of the arms export are sometimes highlighted. In April 2019 the OSCE Mission to Serbia invited parliamentarians and others to a panel discussion on the connection between arms export and violence against women.

Zimbabwe: "How do I make the Government move?"

"I would like to have a group of knowledgeable people which I could ask for advice: The Government promised ratification eight months ago, still nothing has happened. What should I do to make them move"?"

Lilian Timveos, Member of Parliament for the opposition party MDC, since six years works relentlessly for Zimbabwe's ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty. She is a member of the Parliamentary Forum since 2014. She was then assigned to participate in a meeting in Togo and decided to join the PF. She also started working for ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty.

"I tabled a motion related to ratification of the ATT. For the motion I got useful information from the PFSALW Secretariat."

In the final end this is an issue for the Executive to deal with, but Lilian Timveos thinks that if more parliamentarians were engaged things would move faster.

"If we could have a workshop for the entire Peace and Security Committee also others would learn about the importance of the ATT."

She would like to see more NGOs working with issues related to peace and security:

"I need a civic organisation that can help me to push the agenda and hold the Government to account. I have discussed the issue with colleagues in South Africa and they have advised me to set up a new NGO if I cannot find an existing one."

Lilian Timveos participated in the PFSALW General Assembly in Brussels in November 2018:

"It was really useful. Very inspiring to learn how other countries cope with arms control. The Parliamentary Forum has taught me a lot."

In order to further enhance learning, she thinks that there should be a Facebook group, website or something where practical advice and updated information can be shared between parliamentarians from different countries.

Cameroon: Broaden the focus to "culture of peace"

The Kinshasa Convention, or the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, was adopted in 2010. It has now been ratified by seven countries in the region.

"Through our advocacy and lobbying we contributed to this convention and also to the adoption of the General Law on Arms and Ammunition in Cameroon", says Vincent de Paul Emah Etoundi, who is member of parliament in Cameroon and also a member of "la Commission Nationale des Droits de l'Homme" and a number of other committees and working groups.

In 2018 Cameroon ratified the ATT. This was also an effect of lobby work, carried out by him and like-minded parliamentarians, according to Vincent de Paul Emah Etoundi:

"We arranged meetings with Government representatives, journalists and other important groups. It was not easy, but as I know many people in the Government and the Parliament it was easier than would otherwise have been the case," he says.

The PFSALW has helped a lot in this work, Vincent de Paul Emah Etoundi emphasises:

"We had a lot of support; documents and help to understand different proposals".

However, he does not think that there has been any reduction of SALW-related violence yet:

"There is a crisis in the English-speaking part of Cameroon, where there has been outbreaks of violence. The Government has demanded those who fight to surrender their arms, but this has not happened yet."

Also, there are terrorist groups, such as Boko Haram and al Qaida that operate in the region. Any day their actions might spill over to Cameroon.

Another important aspect, according to Vincent de Paul Emah Etoundi, is that it is not enough to put an end to the armed violence:

"We also have to promote a culture of peace. This is equally important. But unfortunately, the Parliamentary Forum does not support activities related to this."

He also suggested that the PF should set up a website where the Central African countries could exchange experiences:

"At the General Assembly in Belgium last year I discussed with other members from the region to set up the website where we can share up-to-date information, for example about how arms are circulating in the region. The Secretariat could not contribute so I took help from young volunteers to set up the website: http://central-west-africaparliamentaryforum.org. I will now ask members from other countries in the region to supply information."

Vincent de Paul Emah Etoundi has also started an NGO, the Yaoundé School of Citizenship and Politics, which has the aim of supporting and organising workshops and seminars that promote citizenship and a culture of peace.

"For example, we cooperate with women's organisations to set up leadership trainings."

He is a member of the PF's Board:

"We have very good discussions at the Board meetings. But I think the Parliamentary Forum should work more with awareness-raising. People have to know about the negative effects of SALW. And the PF has to broaden its focus to also work with issues related to a culture of peace.

Tanzania: Destruction of illegal weapons

Weapons bring destabilisation so what we do is to enforce marking, registration and destruction of illegal weapons", says Dr Raphael Chegeni, member of Parliament in Tanzania.

This campaign has been ongoing for about five years, with the police as the main authority for implementing the Firearms Control Act, passed in 2015. The campaign got a lot of publicity when the president, Joseph Magufuli, decided to participate and officially declared his possession of weapons.

To legally register a gun in Tanzania you need to pay a registration fee. Illegal weapons are often found or voluntarily surrendered to the Tanzanian authorities, however. These guns are set on fire to make sure that they will not come to use any more. Raphael Chegeni has overseen several such events. At the last large-scale destruction more than 6,000 weapons were destroyed, he points out.

In all weapons control efforts, awareness-raising is fundamental; adequate information has to be shared with the population. It should cover the importance of having a solid control of SALW, what this means for the reduction of violence and to encourage arms surrender initiatives.

"We collaborate with the Government and the Department of Security. In this work the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons has been very useful," Raphael Chegeni says. "Capacity building and sharing of ideas and experiences as well as the handbooks produced by the PF have helped in our work."

He mentions capacity-building that has taken place at meetings in Germany, Uruguay and other countries. He cannot remember the exact topics, but affirms that the trainings were useful.

"Through what I have learnt I have been able to give the ABCD to other members of parliament. The aim is to see that we are free from violence. Parliamentarians are instrumental in these efforts."

Raphael Chegeni is a MP since 2008. He has been the chair of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee and is now the chair of the Public Investments Committee. He is also a Board member of the Parliamentary Forum.

"The main challenge for the PF is the limited resources. We must look for increased visibility so that we can attract more funding. The secretariat will look for possibilities."

In Tanzania he is convinced that violence has decreased thanks to the campaign to reduce the circulation of illegal weapons. Simultaneously, however, there is an inflow of weapons from neighbouring, more instable countries.

Sweden: PFSALW members participated in two BMS on UNPoA

A case mentioned by PFSALW secretariat was the participation by two Swedish PFSALW members in follow—up conferences in New York on the United Nations Plan of Action in 2016 and 2017 respectively, the so—called Biennial Meeting of States, BMS). Christer Winbäck from the Liberal Party was part of Sweden's official delegation while Maria Willner Andersson from the Social Democratic Party, and at the time a PFSALW board member, took part as panellist in a side—event on the relationship between UNPoA and SDG 16:4.

Both discussed SALW–issues with delegates and representatives from civil society organisations. One observation was a need for more parliamentarians at these events:

"I found the meeting very technical and not enough political. There were discussions on the calibre on different kinds of ammunition and similar topics not really relevant for my interests".

Annex 3 – List of studied documents

PFSALW APPLICATIONS AND REPORTS TOP DONORS + STRATEGIC PLAN + ACTION PLAN

Application to Sida 2014–2016

Application to Sida 2016–2018

Annual reports, including LFA matrixes, 2014, 2015 and Outcome mapping matrix 2018 and approximately 100 appendixes

Final report to Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) Global Parliamentary Action Plan, 2018

Other policy statements (found on PFSALW website) Op-ed articles by PFSALW 2017-2018\

Plan de Acción Parlamentario, 2017

Report on UNSCAR support which is currently being compiled by the Secretariat Reports from previous seminars in the Swedish Parliament.

Strategic Plan 2016-2018

PFSALW BOARD MEETING MINUTES AND REPORTS + REPORTS TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Minutes Board Meeting PFSALW May 17, 2018

Minutes Board Meeting 2018-11-30 Brussels

Minutes Board Meeting November 23, 2017

Minutes Board Meeting April 7, 2017

Final version Board Meeting report, Geneva 19-20.2015

Final version Board Meeting report 20160908

Board Meeting report, Geneva 13.10.2014

Board Meeting report, Belgrade 29.03.2014

Board Meeting report, Montevideo 2016

Bi-Annual Report from the Secretary General, Karin Olofsson, General Assembly 2018 Brussels Declaration, adopted at General Assembly 2018

PFSALW REPORTS FROM SEMINARS

Final Report Stockholm Seminar

Final Report- Anniversary seminar

Report seminar 14 April 2016

Rapport riksdagsseminarium PFSALW 20170531

PFSALW HANDBOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

Violence against Women and SALW, Parliamentary Handbook 2010

SSR Parliamentary Handbook SSR 2010

SALW Parliamentary Handbook Africa 2007-2008

SA&C Parliamentary Handbook. Final - ENGLISH 2011

Private Security Companies, Parliamentary Handbook 2010

Conventional Ammunition Stockpiles, Parliamentary Handbook 2008

PFSALW MODEL LAW

Model Law on Firearms, Ammunition and Related Materials 2008

PFSALW POLICY STATEMENTS

Policy statements 2007-2018

PFSALW NEWSLETTERS

Newsletter September 2018 + Newsletter December 2018

Newsletter April Final + 2017.12 Newsletter ENG_final + 2017.10 Newsletter_ENG + 2017.04 Newsletter_ENG

Annex 4 – List of interviewees

Name	Position	Country/organisation	Date of interview		
MEMBERS (PRESENT AND FORMER) OF PFSALW INCLUDING BOARD MEMBERS					
1. Acop, Romeo	Parliamentarian	Philippines	21/5/2019		
2. Agalga, James	Parliamentarian	Ghana	12/4/2019		
3. Aoun, Alain,	Parliamentarian	Lebanon	10/4/2019		
4. Chegeni, Raphael	Parliamentarian	Tanzania	8/4/2019		
5. de Paul Emah Etoundi, Vincent	Parliamentarian	Cameroon	11/4/2019		
6. Djurisic, Marko	Parliamentarian	Serbia	9/4/2019		
7. Enström, Karin	Parliamentarian	Sweden	29/4/2019		
8. Hassoum Anissa,	Parliamentarian	Egypt	7/5/2019		
9. Lescano, Yohny	Parliamentarian	Peru	15/4/2019		
10. Qawasmi, Sahar,	Parliamentarian	Palestine	10/4/2019		
11. Rodriguez, Maximilio Mariano	Parliamentarian	Nicaragua	11/4/2019		
12. Timveos, Lilian	Parliamentarian	Zimbabwe	12/4/2019		
13. Schmidt, Hendrik	Parliamentarian	South Africa	12/ 1/2010		
14. Tourne, Daisy	Parlamentarian, PFSALW	Uruguay	19/4/2019		
14. Tourne, Buildy	president	Cruguay	10/4/2010		
15. Valero, Bodil	European parliament member	Sweden			
16. Willner Andersson, Maria	Former parliamentarian,	Sweden	29/4/2019		
10. Willief Andersson, Wana	PFSALW vice president	Sweden	23/4/2013		
17 Winhäck Christer		Sweden	14/5/2019		
17. Winbäck, Christer	Former parliamentarian				
·	Os, INTER-GOVERNMENTAL O				
18. Alvazzi, Anna	Head of Programme	Small Arms Survey, Geneva	4/4/2019		
19. Berman, Erik	Director	Small Arms Survey, Geneva	5/4/2019		
as Bullius Bullius	O	LINDD OFFOAO O. I.'.	45/4/0040		
20. Balon, Bojana	Senior Programme	UNDP SEESAC, Serbia	15/4/2019		
	Coordinator		40/5/0040		
21. Bromley, Mark	Director of the SIPRI Dual-Use	Sipri	12/5/2019		
	and Arms Trade Control				
	Programme.	l <u>-</u>			
22. Devoto, Pia	Director	Asociacion para Politicas	17/9/2019		
		Publicas (APP), Argentina			
23. Irsten, Gabriella	Policy and Advocacy Officer	IKFF, Swedish section of	17/4/2019		
		WILPF			
24. Nassir, Galal	Member	Pan-African Parliament	4/4/2019		
25. Ibister, Roy	Director	Safer World, United	24/4/2019		
		Kingdom			
26. Lejon, Robert	SALW Program Officer	Ministry of Foreign Affairs,	17/4/2019		
		Sweden			
27. Lindell, Ulf	Minister Councellour	Ministry of Foreign Affairs,	17/4/2029		
		Sweden			
28. Vega Leyton, Birgitta	Program Officer	Folke Bernadotte Academy,	24/4/2019		
		Sweden			
	PFSALW SECRETARIAT STA	AFF			
29. Dybeck, Teresa	Programme Manager	PFSALW Secretariat	3/4/2019		
30. Olofsson, Karin	General Secretary	PFSALW Secretariat	3/5/2019		
31. Södermark, Tove	Programme Officer	PFSALW Secretariat	3/5/2019		
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Annex 5 – Interview guides

1. INTERVIEW GUIDE – PARLIAMENTARIANS (MEMBERS OF THE PF)

Thank you for the opportunity to ask you some questions. Your answers will remain confidential.) (Name, country? MP since how long? Member of which committee?)

Relevance

Why did you become a member of PFSALW?

Do you have any particular area of interest or expertise regarding SALW?

Any initiative regarding SALW you have taken?

Has PFSALW provided any support to your endeavours? Or those of colleagues? How relevant are the issues promoted by PFSALW at national level?

How do you perceive the quality and usefulness of the responses to your needs and priorities?

How relevant are tools and work methods?

Have SALW and armed violence indicators changed in your country during the last four or five years? How?

Effectiveness

Which are the most important issues for dealing with SALW-related armed violence? How important is legislation?

Which are the most important outcomes of PFSALW's work in recent years? What has been the most important contribution of PFSALW?

Have PFSALW tools been effective? If yes, why? If no, why not?

Have the methods been adjusted to new developments, such as social media and new frameworks, such as the ATT and the SDGs??

Examples of positive and negative lessons learned? Have they been used? How?

Relationship between the Secretariat and members? Contacts, if yes on what, how often?

Impact

What do you think of the long-term results (impact) of the work of PFSALW?

2. INTERVIEW GUIDE STAFF OF THE PF

Relationship staff members: Please, describe. From where does initiative come, e g to organise MENA seminar, workshop in Somaliland?

How often do members contact the Secretariat? Most common reasons? Mandate of the Secretariat? And of the Board?

Are there contacts and collaboration between members – not going through the Secretariat? How do they work to convince other parliamentarians (and their colleagues)?

Which are the most important partners and allies?

ATT and UNPoA – and SDG 16. What can PFSALW contribute?

Impact

What do you think of the long-term results (impact) of the work of PFSALW? Examples of long-term results.

Relevance

What has PFSALW been able to do to meet its members' priorities? Concrete examples?

Do you know what they think of the quality and usefulness of the responses to their needs and priorities?

Are there needs and priorities that you have not been able to meet?

Have SALW and armed violence indicators changed in countries where PFSALW members have been active during the last four-five years? How?

Parliamentarians work with legislation, oversight and awareness-raising. Are there other important areas that are not covered?

Importance of capacity-building?

Relationship between the Secretariat and members?

Mandate of the Secretariat – and members?

How active are the members? Do they take action without consulting the Secretariat?

When it comes to level of activity, are there differences between different regions?

Why are not more parliamentarians active?

Effectiveness

Which are the most important issues for dealing with SALW-related armed violence? What happened with the intention to enhance the policy-building work? Any results?

Which are the most important outcomes of PFSALW's work in recent years? What has been the most important contribution of PFSALW?

Have PFSALW tools been effective? If yes, why? If no, why not?

Have the methods been adjusted to new developments, such as social media, the SDGs and the ATT?

How important is capacity-building of members?

Examples of positive and negative lessons learned? Have they been used? How? Thank you!

3. INTERVIEW GUIDE PARTNERS AND ALLIES

Relationship with PFSALW. Please, describe.

Concrete examples of collaboration?

Relevance

In a disarmament global context, how important are SALW? ATT and UNPoA; most urgent issues?

How important is SDG 16? Why is it important?

Parliamentarians work with legislation, oversight and awareness-raising. In your opinion, are there other important areas that should receive more attention?

Impact

What do you think of the long-term results (impact) of the work of PFSALW?

Do you know of any examples of long-term results?

Have SALW and armed violence indicators changed during the last four-five years? How?

Effectiveness

Presently, which are the most important issues for dealing with SALW-related armed violence?

Do you know of any outcomes of PFSALW's work? What has been the most important contribution of PFSALW?

Have methods been adjusted to new developments, such as social media the ATT and the SDGs? Anything you want to add?

Annex 6 – Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference for the Evaluation of Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PFSALW) 2014-2018

Date: 2018-12-11

1. Evaluation object and scope

Background

The Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PFSALW) is an international organisation for members of parliament specifically related to the issue of reduction and prevention of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) related violence. The organisation joins approximately 250 member parliamentarians across party political lines from over 80 countries. The Forum's membership is mainly divided between Africa (40per cent), Americas (34per cent) and Europe (17per cent), as well as the MENA region (4per cent) and Asia (5per cent). In terms of regions, the presence is particularly solid in South America, Western Europe and West Africa. The members are represented in the General Assembly, the highest organ of the Forum. 27per cent of PFSALW's members are women.

The Secretariat is based in Stockholm, Sweden, and is the Forum's executive organ. It is headed by the Secretary General (100per cent), appointed by the Board, and is further composed of 1 Programme Manager, 1 Programme Officer (100per cent) and 1 Finance Officer (50per cent position), as well as the support from interns.

Over the past 15 years, the Forum has contributed to advancing the agenda on SALW-related violence prevention and reduction. The Forum has hosted 32 regional seminars, 31 national seminars and 18 side events, reaching out to nearly 1000 parliamentarians and over 1200 stakeholders from civil society, government officials, international organisations, the diplomatic community and media from more than 120 countries. The Forum has also taken part in over 45 high-level conferences and seminars as panellist or observer. As part of the effort to actively strengthen the policy making role of its members by providing updated materials for guidance in the parliamentary work, the Forum has released 11 publications and 34 Policy Statements highlighting issues related to armed violence. Additionally, over 100 tailor-made materials produced to members upon request have been used in international and national gatherings to raise points and encourage parliamentary action related to the ATT, the UNPoA and armed violence reduction.

Sweden has in various ways supported PFSALW since its foundation in 2002. In 2005 the secretariat was established in Stockholm and between 2008-2011 Sida supported PFSALW with between 2.2 and 2.8 MSEK per year, during 2012 and 2013 PFSALW received funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and since 2014 Sida is providing annual funding of about 2.5 MSEK. Over the last couple of years, the annual expenditure has been

approximately 2.5-3 MSEK, indicating that Sida provides the bulk of the funding to the organisation. During 2014 and 2015 Sida provided core support, while the current support running until March 2020 is project support, the support is provided under the Sustainable Peace Strategy 2017-2022.

Other donors, in the last few years include UN Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR) and Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA).

Sida commissioned a Stakeholder Assessment and Strategic Analysis of the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons in 2011 which is the only external review commissioned by Sida during the period of support. This assessment should be used as a reference point for this evaluation.

Object and Scope

The evaluation object is the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapon's work primarily during the years 2014 to 2018 with flexibility to look two more years back in time.

The theory of change of the Parliamentary Forum is to contribute to the achievement of more peaceful and developed societies by parliamentary action against armed violence to increase human security.

The Forum's aim rests on two pillars: policy-shaping and capacity-building. The former attends to the function of common political construction between the members, whereas the latter on equipping parliamentarians with expert knowledge and resources. Policy-shaping and capacity-building are mutually reinforcing and complementary in relation to the parliamentary identity of the Forum and represents its added value.

The PFSALW has in late 2018 updated their Theory of Change but since the evaluation is looking back in time, the Theory of Change from the project document 2016-2018, based on PFSALW's Strategic Plan 2016 – 2018, is used here.

For further information, the project document for the 2016-2018 period is attached as Annex D. The Strategic Plan of PFSALW 2016 -2018 is attached as Annex 1.

The scope of the evaluation and the intervention logic or theory of change of the project shall be further elaborated by the evaluator in the inception report.

2. Evaluation rationale

Sida has been the main core donor to PFSALW for most of the last 15 years and the organisation has now submitted an application for increased support during their coming strategy period 2019-2022. The most recent external assessment was done in the 2011 Stakeholder Assessment and Strategic Analysis of the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons and therefore the time is right for an evaluation of the impact of the organisation.

3. Evaluation purpose: Intended use and intended users

The purpose or intended use of the evaluation is to be an input to Sida's appraisal of possible continued long-term support, for which Sida would like an external assessment of the relevance, effectiveness and impact of PFSALW.

The primary intended users of the evaluation are Sida's Peace and Human Security Unit and the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

The evaluation is to be designed, conducted and reported to meet the needs of the intended users and tenderers shall elaborate in the tender how this will be ensured during the evaluation process. Other stakeholders that should be kept informed about the evaluation include the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, FBA and UNSCAR.

During the inception phase, the evaluator and the users will agree on who will be responsible for keeping the various stakeholders informed about the evaluation.

4. Evaluation criteria and questions

The objectives of this evaluation are to evaluate PFSALW's work over the last 5-7 years with a focus on relevance, effectiveness and impact.

- evaluate relevance, effectiveness and impact of PFSALW as an input to the decision on whether the project shall receive continued funding and if so the scope of future support.
- evaluate the relevance, effectiveness and impact of PFSALW and formulate recommendations on how to improve and adjust implementation.

The evaluation questions are:

Relevance

• To which extent has the project conformed to the needs and priorities of the members of PFSALW?

Effectiveness

- To which extent have the project contributed to intended outcomes? If so, why? If not, why not?
- To which extent have PFSALW's tools (i.e. Thematic seminars, Policy statements, Parliamentary Action Plans etc.) been effective in achieving the outcomes? If so, why? If not, why not?
- To what extent has lessons learned from what works well and less well been used to improve and adjust project implementation?

Impact

• What is the overall impact of the project in terms of direct or indirect, negative and positive results?

Questions are expected to be developed in the tender by the tenderer and further developed during the inception phase of the evaluation.

5. Evaluation approach and methods for data collection and analysis

It is expected that the evaluator describes and justifies an appropriate evaluation approach/methodology and methods for data collection in the tender. The evaluation design, methodology and methods for data collection and analysis are expected to be fully developed

and presented in the inception report. A clear distinction is to be made between evaluation approach/methodology and methods.

Sida's approach to evaluation is utilization-focused, which means the evaluator should facilitate the entire evaluation process with careful consideration of how everything that is done will affect the use of the evaluation. It is therefore expected that the evaluators, in their tender, present i) how intended users are to participate in and contribute to the evaluation process and ii) methodology and methods for data collection that create space for reflection, discussion and learning between the intended users of the evaluation.

Evaluators should take into consideration appropriate measures for collecting data in cases where sensitive or confidential issues are addressed, and avoid presenting information that may be harmful to some stakeholder groups.

The PFSALW consists of a network of parliamentarians that have a heavy workload and hence a challenge may be to get access to them for interviews. The evaluators should develop their methods and time plan with this challenge in mind. The PFSALW will assist in suggesting relevant member parliamentarians, who have taken active part in the Forum's work.

During the evaluation period the evaluators are expected to conduct interviews during some of the regional seminars conducted by PFSALW. Apart from this and travel to Stockholm if needed no additional travel is envisioned.

The evaluators are also expected to interview other organisations active in the Small Arms and Light Weapons sector.

6. Organisation of evaluation management

This evaluation is commissioned by Sida's Peace and Human Security Unit. The intended user is primarily Sida's Peace and Human Security Unit, secondly PFSALW. As the evaluation will serve as an input to the decision on possible continued funding and scope, the primary intended user is the commissioner. The PFSALW has contributed to the ToR and will be provided with an opportunity to comment on the inception report as well as the final report, but will not be involved in the management of the evaluation. Hence the commissioner will evaluate tenders, approve the inception report and the final report of the evaluation. The start-up meeting and the debriefing/validation workshop will be held with the commissioner only.

7. Evaluation quality

All Sida's evaluations shall conform to OECD/DAC's Quality Standards for Development Evaluation16. The evaluators shall use the Sida OECD/DAC Glossary of Key Terms in

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¹⁶ DAC Quality Standards for development Evaluation, OECD, 2010.

Evaluation 17. The evaluators shall specify how quality assurance will be handled by them during the evaluation process.

8. Time schedule and deliverables

It is expected that a time and work plan is presented in the tender and further detailed in the inception report. The evaluation timeline is flexible but should preferably be carried out 1 February to 31 May 2019 period. The timing of any field visits, surveys and interviews need to be settled by the evaluator in dialogue with the main stakeholders during the inception phase.

The table below lists key deliverables for the evaluation process. Deadlines for final inception report and final report must be kept in the tender, but alternative deadlines for other deliverables may be suggested by the consultant and negotiated during the inception phase.

De	liverables	Participants	Tentative Deadlines
1.	Start-up meeting, at Sida HQ or by Skype if the evaluators are not based in Stockholm.	Sida and evaluators	1 February 2019
2.	Draft inception report		Tentative 20 February 2019
3.	Inception meeting at Sida HQ or by Skype if the evaluators are not based in Stockholm.	Sida and evaluators	Tentative 1 March 2019
4.	Comments from intended users to evaluators	Sida and PFSALW	Tentative 15 March 2019
5.	Final inception report		Tentative 30 March 2019
6.	Draft evaluation report		Tentative 15 May 2019
7.	Comments from intended users to evaluators	Sida and PFSALW	Tentative 30 May 2019
8.	Seminar, at Sida HQ or by Skype if the evaluators are not based in Stockholm.	Sida and evaluators	Tentative 30 May 2019
9.	Final evaluation report		Tentative 15 June 2019

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¹⁷ Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results Based Management, Sida in cooperation with OECD/DAC, 2014.

The inception report will form the basis for the continued evaluation process and shall be approved by Sida before the evaluation proceeds to implementation. The inception report should be written in English and cover evaluability issues and interpretations of evaluation questions, present the evaluation approach/methodology, methods for data collection and analysis as well as the full evaluation design. A clear distinction between the evaluation approach/methodology and methods for data collection shall be made. A specific time and work plan, including number of hours/working days for each team member, for the remainder of the evaluation should be presented. The time plan shall allow space for reflection and learning between the intended users of the evaluation.

The final report shall be written in English and be professionally proof read. The final report should have clear structure and follow the report format in the Sida Decentralised Evaluation Report Template for decentralised evaluations (see Annex C). The executive summary should be maximum 3 pages. The evaluation approach/methodology and methods for data collection used shall be clearly described and explained in detail and a clear distinction between the two shall be made. All limitations to the methodology and methods shall be made explicit and the consequences of these limitations discussed. Findings shall flow logically from the data, showing a clear line of evidence to support the conclusions. Conclusions should be substantiated by findings and analysis. Recommendations and lessons learned should flow logically from conclusions. Recommendations should be specific, directed to relevant stakeholders and categorised as a short-term, medium-term and long-term. The report should be no more than 30 pages excluding annexes (including Terms of Reference and Inception Report). The evaluator shall adhere to the Sida OECD/DAC Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation¹⁸.

The evaluator shall, upon approval of the final report, insert the report into the Sida Decentralised Evaluation Report for decentralised evaluations and submit it to Nordic Morning (in pdf-format) for publication and release in the Sida publication data base. The order is placed by sending the approved report to sida@nordicmorning.com, always with a copy to the Sida Programme Officer as well as Sida's Chief Evaluator's Team (evaluation@sida.se). Write "Sida decentralised evaluations" in the email subject field and include the name of the consulting company as well as the full evaluation title in the email. For invoicing purposes, the evaluator needs to include the invoice reference "ZZ610601S," type of allocation "sakanslag" and type of order "digital publicering/publikationsdatabas.

9. Evaluation Team Qualification

It is desirable that the evaluation team includes the following competencies:

- Experience of Small Arms and Light Weapons programmes
- Experience of work with parliaments and parliamentarians

¹⁸ Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results Based Management, Sida in cooperation with OECD/DAC, 2014

A CV for each team member shall be included in the call-off response. It should contain a full description of relevant qualifications and professional work experience. It is important that the competencies of the individual team members are complimentary. It is highly recommended that local consultants are included in the team if appropriate. The evaluators must be independent from the evaluation object and evaluated activities, and have no stake in the outcome of the evaluation.

10. Resources

The maximum budget amount available for the evaluation is 350,000 SEK. The contact person at Sida is Erik Pettersson, Programme Manager, Peace and Human Security Unit. The contact person should be consulted if any problems arise during the evaluation process. Relevant Sida documentation will be provided by Erik Pettersson, Programme Manager, Peace and Human Security Unit. Relevant documentation should be prepared well in advance. Relevant PFSALW documentation will be provided by Teresa Dybeck, Programme Manager, PFSALW. Contact details to intended users (cooperation partners, Swedish Embassies, other donors etc.) will be provided by Erik Pettersson, Programme Manager, Peace and Human Security Unit. The evaluator will be required to arrange the logistics including arranging travel and organisting interviews including any necessary security arrangements.

11. Annexes

Annex A: List of key documentation

- PFSALW Strategic Plan 2016 2018
- Stakeholder Assessment and Strategic Analysis of the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (2011)

Annex B: Data sheet on the evaluation object

Information on the evaluation object (i.e. project or programme)			
Title of the evaluation object	Parliamentary Forum on Small Ams and		
Title of the evaluation object	Light Weapons primarily 2014-2018		
ID no. in PLANIt	52130039		
Dox no./Archive case no.	<u>15/001374</u>		
Evaluation period	Approximately 2014-2018		
Agreed budget (if applicable)	2.5 MSEK per year		
Main sector	15240- Reintegration and SALW control		
Name and type of implementing organisation	Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and		
	Light Weapons, NGO		
Aid type	C01 Project type		
Swedish strategy	Sustainable Peace		

Information on the evaluation assignment			
Commissioning unit/Swedish Embassy	Peace and Human Security Unit		
Contact person at unit/Swedish Embassy	Erik Pettersson, erik.b.pettersson@sida.se		
Timing of evaluation (mid-term, end-of-	End-of-programme/between phases		
programme, ex-post or other)			
ID no. in PLANIt (if other than above).	13024		

Annex C: Decentralised evaluation report template

[This format is a requirement for publication under the "Sida Decentralised Evaluations" report series and can be found on Sida Inside, under Guidelines & Support/Cooperation Methods/Evaluation at Sida/Manual for planning and commissioning/Implementing process.]

Annex D: Project document



Organising parliamentarians against armed violence Evaluation of Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PFSALW) 2014–2018

The evaluation scope is the work by the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PFSALW) during the period 2014–2018. Sida has been the main funder since the foundation of PFSALW in 2002. The evaluation concerns three OECD/DAC criteria: PFSALW's relevance, effectiveness and impact. It also concerns the relationship between members and the Secretariat.

PFSALW is recognised by its active members as a useful organisation; however there is no evidence that the intervention model is making a significant contribution at outcome level. PFSALW's presented results are mainly outputs. The evaluators found no results considered as impact.

The evaluation contains four recommendations to Sida and seven to PFSALW. Sida should condition eventual future financial support to PFSALW and request changes to the intervention logic with focus on producing outcome level results. Sida should also request rigorous monitoring and follow-up of the results framework and an assessment of lessons learned.

