



GICHD

AMAT - AN INITIATIVE OF THE GICHD AND UN SAFERGUARD



UN SaferGuard
Securing ammunition, protecting lives



Fulmination 2022

Ammunition Stockpile Management; a global perspective

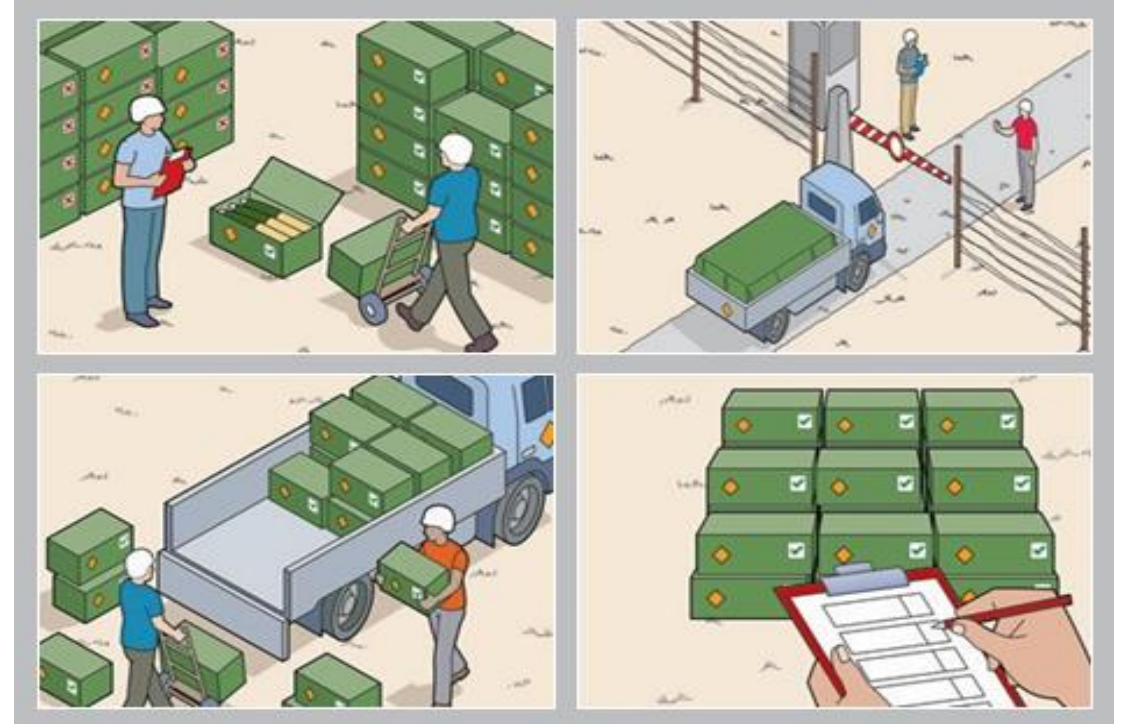
4 - 6 April 2022





Outline

- ◆ About me
- ◆ The problem
- ◆ About AMAT
- ◆ Global ammunition management



Career Profile



British Army
Ammunition
Technician



Safety Advisor,
Atomic
Weapons
Establishment



Ammunition
Management in
Libya



IEDD Trainer
in
Afghanistan



EOD in Libya



IEDD/EOD
Trainer &
Mentor in Mali



Technical Advisor
AMAT/GICHD



The problem

- SAFETY- Unplanned explosions
- SECURITY - Diversion



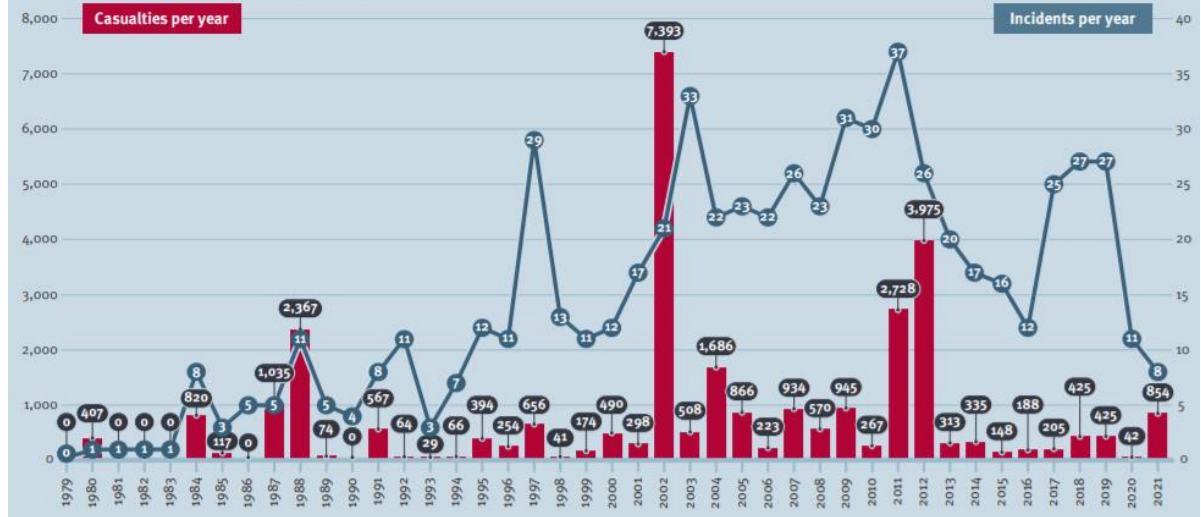


Unplanned explosions

- Loss of life and injuries
- Large scale destruction
- Population displacement
- Environmental pollution
- Loss of defence capability
- Increase mistrust toward government authorities

UEMS: Incidents and consequences

Casualties of UEMS, 1979–2021: During the period January 1979 to December 2021, more than 30,000 casualties resulting from UEMS incidents were recorded. The highest number of casualties was recorded in 2002, mainly due to the devastating UEMS incident that occurred in Lagos, Nigeria. Similarly, the incident in Abadan, Turkmenistan, in 2011 and the one in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, in 2012 contributed strongly to the spikes in 2011 and 2012.



Source; Small Arms Survey





Diversions

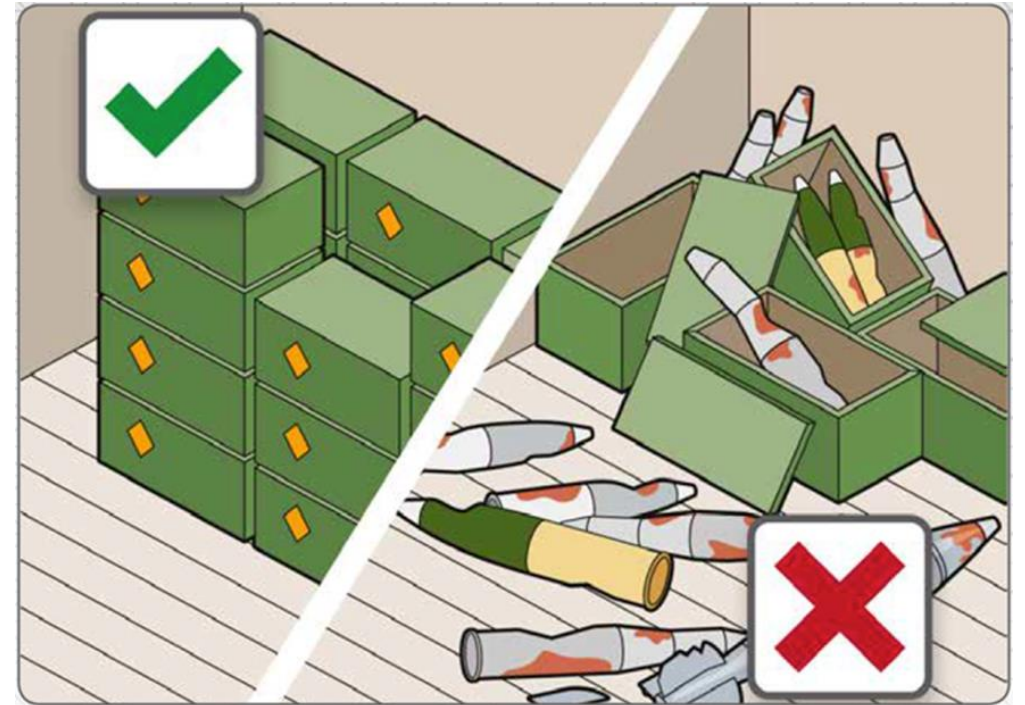
- Sparks new, or prolongs conflict
- Delegitimizes peace efforts
- Compromises DDR processes
- Enables violent crime, equips criminal organisations
- Enables terrorist activity
- Undermines legal authority





Root causes

- ◆ Insufficient knowledge about ammunition, its management, and dual risks involved.
- ◆ Inadequate resources, planning, and storage infrastructure.
- ◆ Absence of national strategies, standards and procedures for ammunition management.





The solution?

- Through Life Management
 - Surplus and obsolete ammunition disposed of
 - Effective and sustainable strategies for the storage, transportation, surveillance, inspection and disposal throughout the life of the ammunition (old and new)
 - Infrastructure, personnel and financial capacities for effective and accountable management
 - Development and application of effective national standards

Ammunition Management Advisory Team (AMAT)

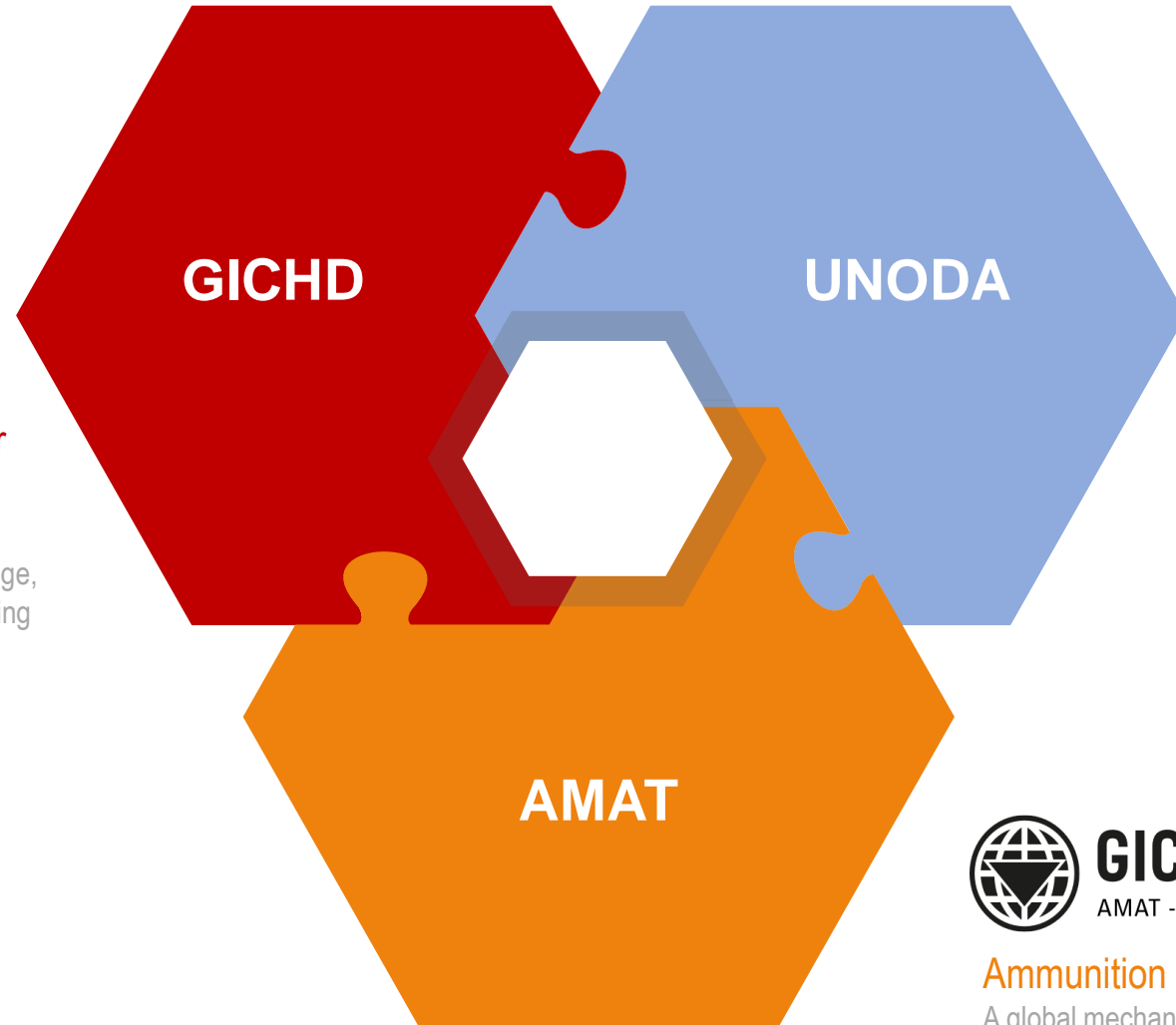


Origins of AMAT



Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining

The reduction of risk to communities from explosive ordnance by furthering knowledge, promoting norms and standards, developing capacities and facilitating dialogue and cooperation.



United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs

Dissemination of IATG through the UN SaferGuard Programme. SG's Disarmament Agenda Action 22: more effective state and regional action on excessive and poorly maintained stockpiles in all available forums.



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Ammunition Management Advisory Team

A global mechanism for practical, authoritative and sustainable technical assistance in ammunition management.



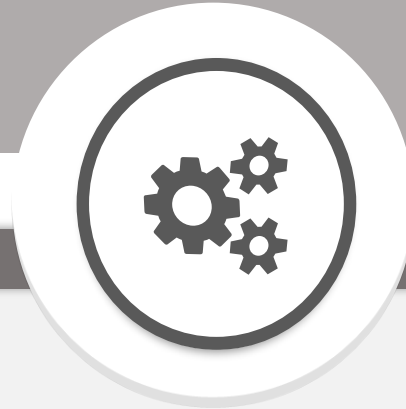
AMAT Mission – Outcome – Objective

MISSION



Strengthen the capacities of states to improve the safety and security of ammunition stockpiles, in line with the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG)

OUTCOME



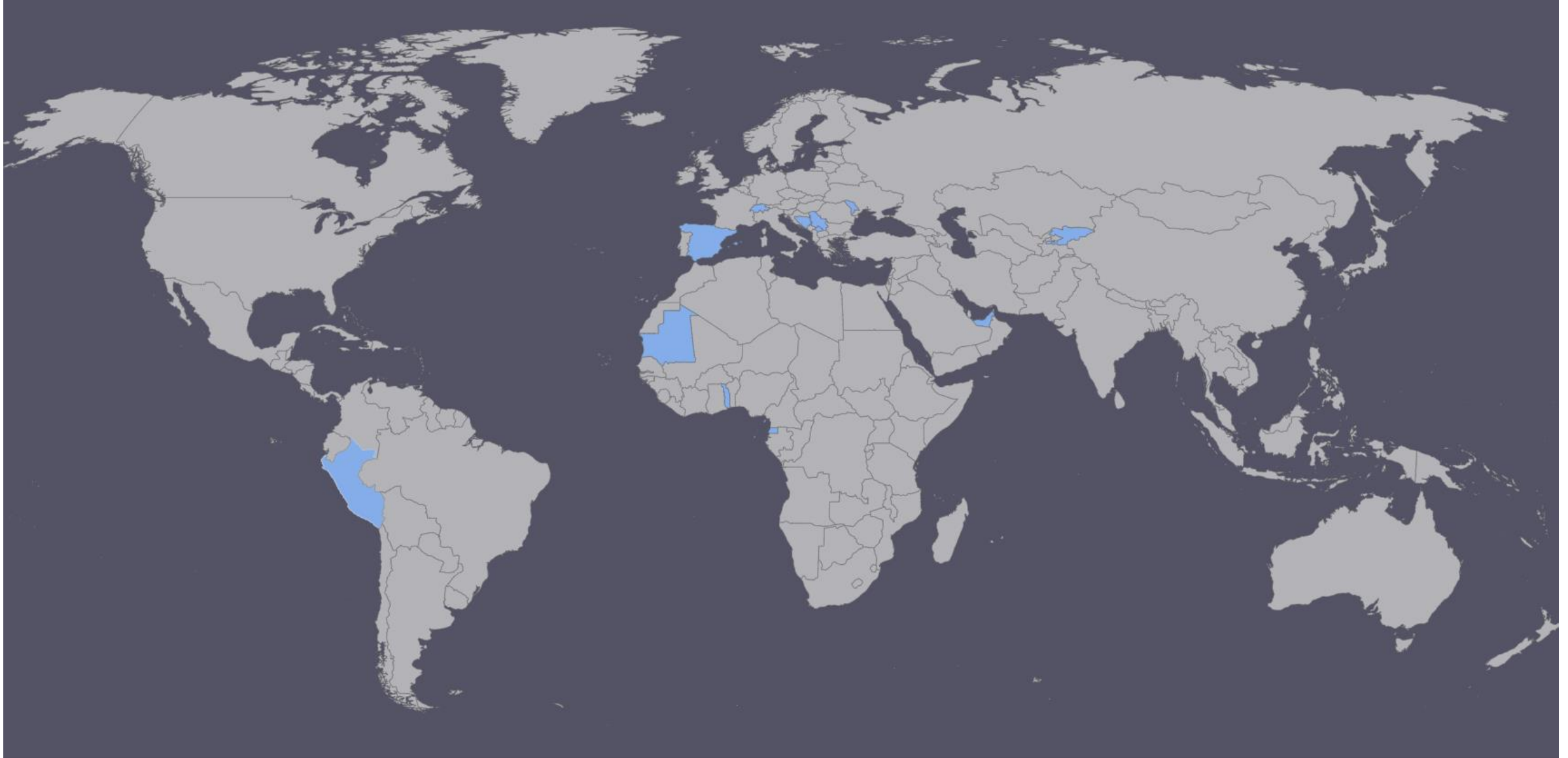
“Ammunition is managed by states according to good practice”

OBJECTIVE



Global reduction of the risks of accidental explosions and ammunition diversion, safer communities and more stable states and societies

Snapshot of activities: 11 countries in 2020-2021



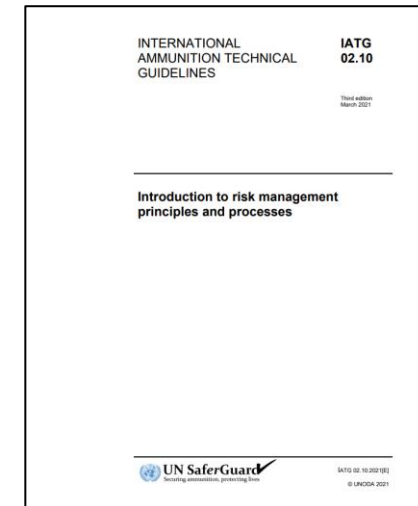


What are the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG)?

IATG are a set of guidelines that

- ✓ assist States to develop national standards for ammunition management practice and policy.
- ✓ provide a frame of reference from which National Authorities can develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) specific to situation and location.
- ✓ are based on existing military regulations

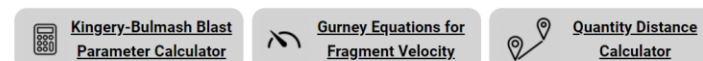
www. <https://unsafeguard.org/>



Risk Management



Technical Calculators



Calculators for Demolition



Ammunition Management Advisory Team (AMAT)

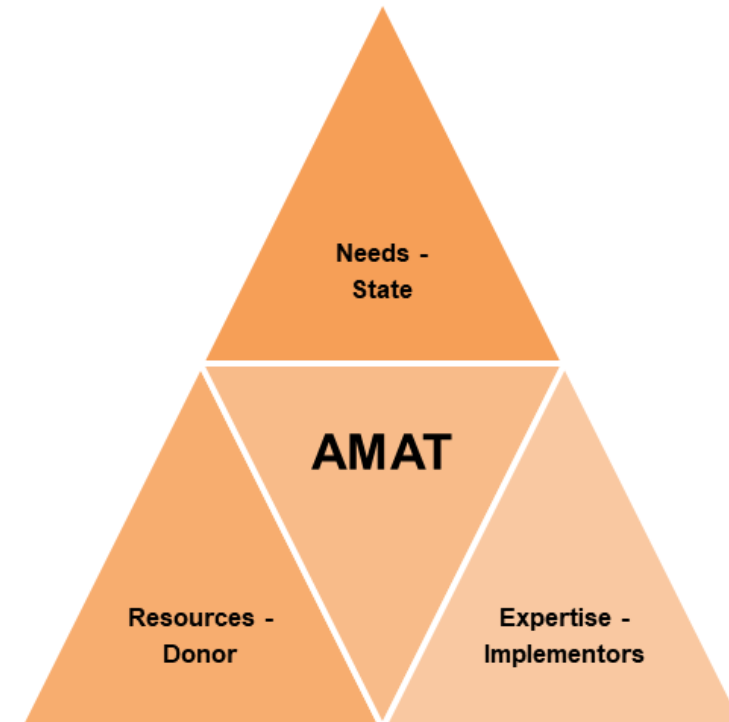
Global overview





Who is involved

- **States - looking after their own stockpiles**
- **States - States assisting other states (advice, practical, financial)**
- **United Nations**
- **International organisations**
- **Regional organisations**
- **Non-governmental organisations**
- **Commercial companies**



Peru

Request for assistance

- ◆ Conduct training
- ◆ Carry out assessments of Ammunition Storage Areas
- ◆ Review National Standards





West Africa

Various assistance requests

- ◆ Assist with extension request to Convention on Cluster Munitions
- ◆ Assessment of national Police ammunition storage
- ◆ Assessments of Weapon and Ammunition management and storage





Equatorial Guinea

- ❖ Ammunition Storage Area explosion
- ❖ 7 March 2021: Series of explosions in Bata
- ❖ 100 people dead and over 600 injured
- ❖ destroying over 243 buildings including a hospital

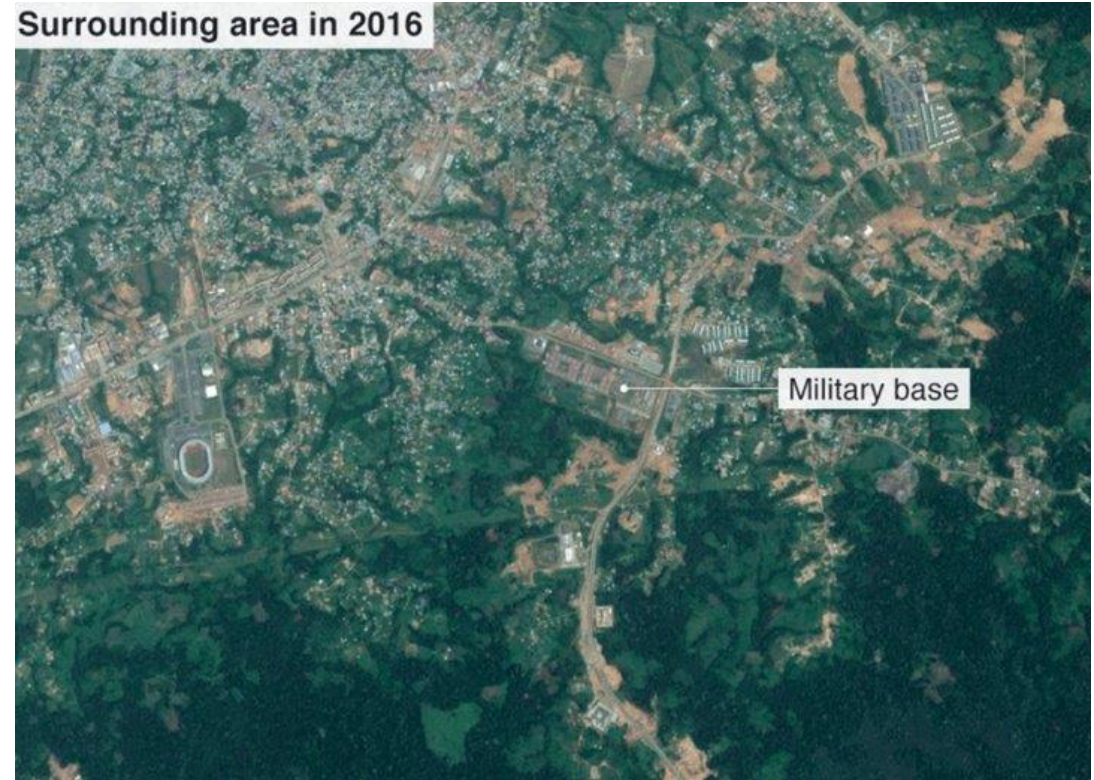


Equatorial Guinea

Surrounding area in 2004



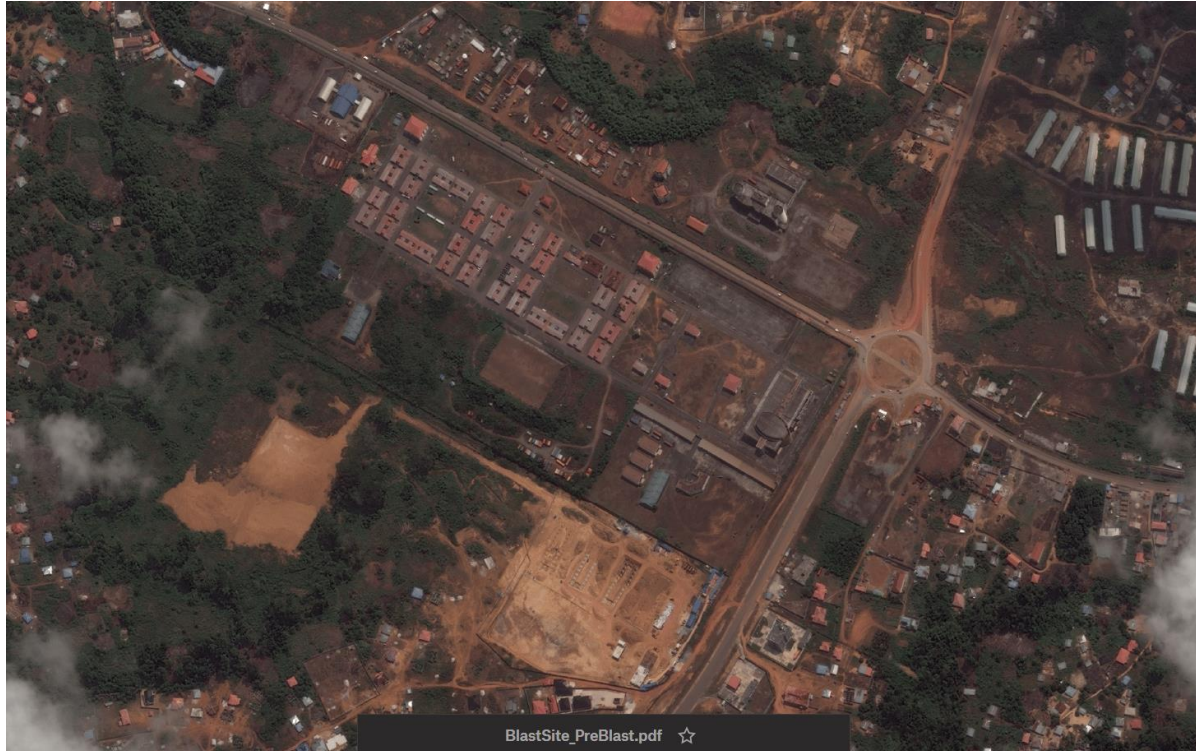
Surrounding area in 2016



◆ Encroachment of people and buildings



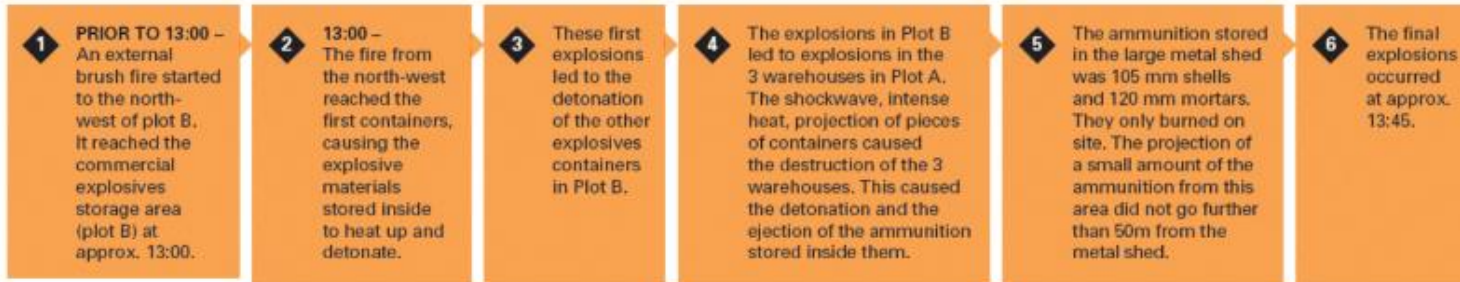
Equatorial Guinea





Equatorial Guinea

Annex C – Sequence of the Explosion Events



Nkoa Ntoma military camp – aerial view of the ammunition depot [A] and the commercial explosives storage site [B] before the explosion on 7 March 2021

Moldova

- ◆ Austria, Switzerland and USA have been working in Moldova for about 10 years.
- ◆ Training and infrastructure upgrades
- ◆ Provision of equipment
- ◆ Propellant testing laboratory

AMAT

- ◆ Evaluate ammunition storage areas
- ◆ Advise on practical application of IATG
- ◆ Record Moldova's experience and lessons learned
- ◆ Help develop 5-year National Action Plan





Kyrgyzstan

- ◆ ITF Enhancing Human Security (ITF) conducting training and disposal activities.
- ◆ Move from old Soviet ammunition marking system to UN Hazard Class system
- ◆ Carry out 100% inventory check

AMAT

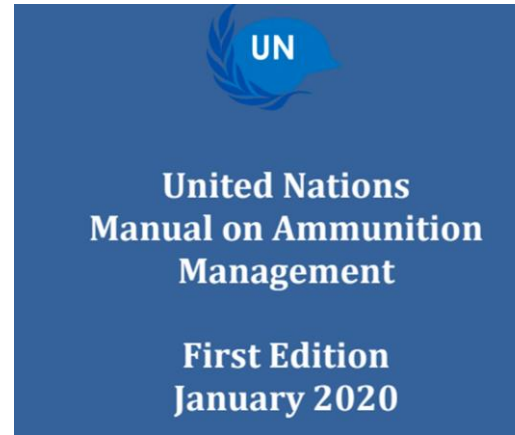
- ◆ Request to assist with training



United Nations

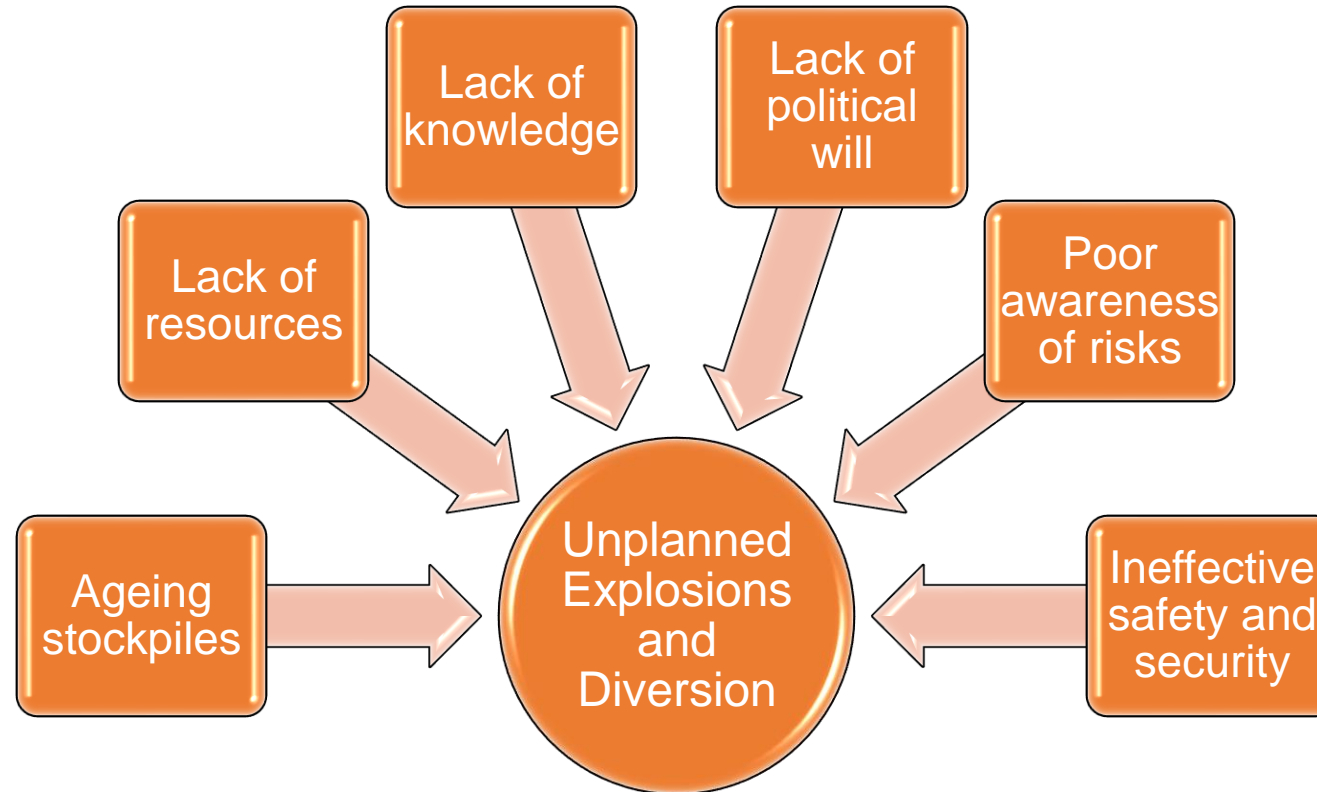
UN conducts various Weapons and Ammunition Management activities

- ◆ UN SaferGuard
- ◆ UN Missions with Troop/Police Contributing Countries
- ◆ Baseline assessments of States
- ◆ Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) programmes





To conclude



However, the international community has many resources available to States which can provide assistance to prevent or mitigate the hazards of ammunition stockpiles.



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UN SaferGuard

Securing ammunition, protecting lives

Thank you & questions

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Safety. Security. Sustainability

