

The Small Arms Firearms Education and Research Network (SAFER-Net)

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Organization's mandate/goals:

SAFERNET, is a network of University based researchers around the world which collects and disseminates research relevant to :

- The impact of small arms/firearms on health and safety on an international basis.
- National profiles including approaches to small arms/firearms regulation and efforts to prevent misuse and proliferation.
- Links to sources of information in academic, scientific and governmental publications.
- SAFERNET is one of the nodes in the Small Arms Survey and has prepared a series of reports in support of the 2001 and 2002 editions on issues such as accessibility, economic effects, gender and domestic legislation.

Areas of expertise relevant to 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms:

Consultation, Cooperation and Information Exchange Research

The site contains information on the various aspects of, and provides different perspectives on firearms death and injury. Topics covered include:

- Firearms injury as a public health issue.
- The economic effects of small arms proliferation and misuse.
- The use of firearms against vulnerable groups (e.g. women, children) during conflict, in crime and in domestic settings.
- The connection between licit and illicit small arms markets.

The site also provides current information available concerning small arms/firearms and their effects in individual countries. These national profiles include data concerning:

- The rate of firearm ownership.
- Death, injury and crime rates resulting from the misuse of firearms.
- The licit and illicit sources and types of firearms that are misused.
- Domestic legislation.
- Public opinions and attitudes.

Establishing Information Systems

SAFERNET has compiled documented cases of illicit trafficking in an effort to identify patterns.

Health

SAFERNET was a participant in the development of national injury prevention curriculum and is currently adapting it to the international context.

Research and Evaluation

SAFERNET has published a series of papers which examine the empirical evidence related to initiatives aimed at small arms.

Technical Advice

SAFERNET has provided expert advice on a variety of technical aspects of legislation and implementation. As part of a CIDA contract, SAFERNET has provided technical support to the South African Police Service on legislation, systems, and communications.

Advocacy

SAFERNET has conducted theoretical and empirical research regarding advocacy approaches and techniques.