

Arms Trade Treaty Voluntary Trust Fund

FINAL REPORT

FIJI

Ministry of Defence and National Security
Project No.: ATT.VTF.G2021.005FJI

February 2023

Arms Trade Treaty Voluntary Trust Fund - Final Report

Project Number	ATT.VTF.G2021.005FJI
Grantee name	Fiji
Project title	Final steps to ATT accession and full compliance
Grant Amount	USD 92,491
Final Report submission date	February 2023
Period covered under this report (MM/DD/YY – MM/DD/YY)	01 October 2021 – 28 November 2022

1. Project activities and outcomes

a Describe the project outcomes.

During the past year the new Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) system, ArmsTracker, has had many new features developed. This includes:

1. Expansion of the ammunition register
2. Additional arms-types and functions
3. Improvements to user permission management
4. Improvements to user experience and ease of use, including additional tooltips
5. Bug fixing and enhanced stability
6. Improved reporting features and customisation
7. Location data improvements
8. New demonstration and training platform
9. Additional networking capability

This project also enabled training for RFMF Armourers and others relevant to the system and training materials to be developed for future trainings. ArmsTracker has been further customised for the RFMF to meet its specific needs and processes.

With assistance from this project, the Government of Fiji had come close to acceding to the ATT. Focus then shifted to the election in late 2022 and there has been a change of government. Briefings to parliamentary committees had included members of the new government, and so much of the progress made will remain. The new government is supportive of the ATT and we anticipate they will accede to the ATT in due course.

A review of Fiji's legislation has been undertaken, including a legislative gap analysis, baseline assessment and draft legislative amendments. This work remains relevant and accessible to the new government.

b Describe how the project has assisted your implementation of the ATT.

The greatest risk of diversion is from military armouries, as we have seen with attempted coups in Fiji in the past. This project further reduces that risk through improving the RFMF management of

arms and ammunition. The ArmsTracker system is also designed to enable ATT compliant transfers of arms and ammunition.

Enabling accession will further assist in ATT standards implementation and remove any doubt about the relevance of these standards to Fiji.

The legislative review enables legislative gaps to be filled.

c List all States that benefitted from the project.

Fiji is the primary beneficiary.

Development of additional features in ArmsTracker through this project will assist other States using ArmsTracker who will also receive those features. We are advised this includes Vanuatu and Samoa in the Pacific as well as some States in Africa.

d Were all the project activities as specified in the Project Schedule (see Annex G) completed?

Yes No

If no, explain why and describe any problems, constraints and difficulties experienced in implementing the project.

The third RFMF on-site training was not held as the required training was completed through two training days.

While the legal gap analysis, baseline assessment and proposed legislative amendments have been done, the review of the Arms and Ammunition Act with the Attorney General's department was not completed as focus in the second half of 2022 turned to the election. As there is now a new Attorney-General and many new staff following the election, a new review and briefings will be required in a new project.

While the ATT Initial Report information has been prepared in consultation with agencies, the report cannot be submitted because accession has been delayed. It will be submitted upon accession.

Project progress must be indicated against the Project Schedule (see Attachment 1). Please indicate the Status of all activities highlighted in YELLOW in the Project Schedule. Please also include comments where you think appropriate (e.g. to explain why certain activities have not been completed on time).

What recommendations would you make in this regard?

CAVR has committed to continue to support the relevant agencies and stakeholders on these matters through to completion after this project. We are confident they can be achieved in the coming months.

e How would you rate the *relevance* of the project (was the project suited to existing priorities and policies of the benefitting State(s))?

Not relevant at all	Not very relevant	Moderately relevant	Relevant	Very relevant
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Explain your answer:

Fiji is a leading peacekeeping nation and, with some attempted coups in the past involving armoury theft, it is important we do all we can to minimise the risk of arms diversion and comply with ATT standards.

We are still dealing with the impact of COVID and the disruption that has caused on our economy, so the issue of arms was not as high priority in 2022 as it was pre-COVID and expected to be again soon as we emerge from COVID.

f How would you rate the *effectiveness* of the project (to what extent has the project attained its stated objectives)?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Moderately effective	Effective	Very effective
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Explain your answer:

Significant progress has been made in relation to the stated aims of upgrading the RFMF system, ATT accession and legislative reform.

Some factors preventing full effectiveness, such as the 2022 election, were beyond the control of the project.

g How would you rate the *efficiency* of the project (to what extent were the project results attained on time and within budget)?

Not efficient at all	Not very efficient	Moderately efficient	Efficient	Very efficient
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Explain your answer:

The planned activities were mostly held on time and on budget, such as the trainings.

h Please describe the impact of the project (i.e. the positive or negative changes or effects that the project results have on the surrounding circumstances).

This project assisted in filling the three gaps identified: Military armoury record-keeping and management upgrade; accession and legislative reform.

Going forward Fiji will have strong compliance with the ATT which will help demonstrate Fijian peacekeeping leadership and assist the beneficiaries listed above.

i How would you rate the *sustainability* of the project (to what extent can the project benefits continue after the project has finished)?

Not sustainable at all	Not very sustainable	Moderately sustainable	Sustainable	Very sustainable
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Explain your answer:

The new military record-keeping and management system will continue to be upgraded and improve further. An ongoing licence for the system has been provided, with a commitment to fix any bugs in the future.

The training materials and legislative reform materials remain accessible to those who need them and continue to be of use.

j [For non-State Party only] How did the Project contribute to the progress of joining the Arms Trade Treaty?

This is addressed above. Materials have been provided explaining the benefits of the ATT to Fiji; parliamentary committees have been advised on the benefits of joining and their queries addressed; and those with doubts in key positions in the RFMF and Police with doubts about the ATT have been engaged and their concerns addressed. This has occurred through meetings and trainings. Further, a system on how to comply (ArmsTracker) has helped to show that it is possible without undue burden.

k How will the Project outcomes be further used or applied in the future? Are there plans for the activities to be continued or for the experience gained to be shared?

We will continue to:

1. roll out ArmsTracker with RFMF and respond to any issues and opportunities for improvement;
2. engage the relevant new Ministers on accession; and
3. assist the Attorney General's department with legislative reform to fully comply with the ATT.

2. Final expenditure report

[Please complete the Worksheet titled 'input' in the VTF Expenditure Template – Final Report \(Fiji\) in Attachment 2.](#)

3. Certification

Please complete a separate certification for each consultant engaged to undertake the project activities that have been implemented.

For the purposes of this certification:

Grantee means Ministry of Defence and National Security

Consultant means Centre for Armed Violence Reduction (CAVR).

I, Joji Washington, being a person duly authorised by the Grantee hereby certify that:

1. The Consultant was engaged by the Grantee on or after the date the Grant Agreement was executed to deliver services to the Project.
2. The service provided by the Consultant to the Grantee has commenced and is progressing in accordance with the Grant Agreement.
3. The amount paid by the Grantee to the Consultant for the provision of services to help implement the Grant project is as per the budget, \$81,000, made up of: \$14,400 (Invoices 1.1 and 1.2); \$8,400 (Invoice 2.1); \$32,400 (Invoices 3.1 and 3.2); \$12,800 (Invoices 4.1 and 4.2) and \$13,000 (Invoice 6.1).
4. The tax invoices provided to the Grantee by the Consultant for the provision of services for the Grant project to date are saved in the *VTF Report Share Folder*.
5. By agreement, the Consultant has received the tranche funding directly from the VTF.
6. All the information I have provided to the ATT Secretariat (including the contents of this declaration) is complete, true and correct.
7. I am aware of the Grantee's obligations under their Grant Agreement, including the need to keep the ATT Secretariat informed of any circumstances that may impact on the objectives, completion and/or outcomes of the agreed project.
8. I am aware that the Grant Agreement empowers the ATT Secretariat to terminate the Grant Agreement and to request repayment of funds paid to the Grantee where the Grantee is in breach of the Grant Agreement.

Signed.....

Date 23 February 2023

Security Advisor, Ministry of Defence and National Security

Submitted with this report and accessible by the VTF Secretariat in the VTF Report Share Folder is a copy of the relevant tax invoices by the Consultant for the provision of services. The Consultant was paid directly by the VTF Secretariat.

RECONCILIATION
FJI - ATT.VTF.G2021.005FJI
2021

ANNEX

Description	Total budget	Actual spend (Interim Report)	Actual spend (Final Report)	Actual spend (Total)	Balance of budget available	Balance of funds received	% of over- or under-spend
	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	
Personnel costs							
Objective 1) CAVR staff - accession progress through Cabinet and Parliament	14400	7200	7200	14400	0	71616	100%
Objective 2) CAVR staff - Arms and Ammunition Act review	8400	0	8400	8400	0	63216	100%
Objective 3) CAVR staff - regarding ArmsTracker and military systems upgrade, including consultations, training, support and development assistance to the ArmsTracker IT Developer	32400	16200	16200	32400	0	30816	100%
ArmsTracker IT Developers to code improvements to further customise ArmsTracker for RFMF. This includes tooltips as well as many other improvements. \$400 per day, 8 days per month for 4 months (total 32 days)	12800	10400	2400	12800	0	18016	100%
Travel costs							
Local transport costs for trainings and meetings	1500	0	0	0	1500	18016	0%
Equipment costs							
Computer software licence for RFMF to keep ArmsTracker records - enabling ATT compliance	13000	0	13000	13000	0	5016	100%
Operating costs							
Stakeholder meetings for RFMF / Review. Includes provision of COVID protection, eg hand sanitizers, disinfection wipes, masks etc for Review meetings and trainings.	2200	0	618	618	1582	4398	28%
For RFMF trainings. This refers to a 'meal' package per person per day and is made up of lunch and coffee breaks.	1500	0	1500	1500	0	2898	100%
Printing of materials	240	0	0	0	240	2898	0%
Total Direct Costs	86440	33800	49318	83118	3322		96%
Total Indirect Support Costs - 7%	6051	2366	3452	5818	233		96%
Total	92491	36166	52770	88936	3555		96%
Amount of 1st installment	46245						
Amount of 2nd installment	39771						
Amount of 3rd installment	2920						
Balance owing to VTF							