

Arms Trade Treaty Voluntary Trust Fund

FINAL REPORT

BELIZE

National Police

Project No.: ATT.VTF.G2023.010BLZ

30 July 2024

Arms Trade Treaty Voluntary Trust Fund - Final Report

Project Number	ATT.VTF.G2023.010BLZ
Grantee name	Belize
Project title	Workshop enhancing ATT compliance in Belize
Grant Amount	USD 48,985
Final Report submission date	30 July 2024
Period covered under this report (MM/DD/YY – MM/DD/YY)	01 December 2023 – 31 st May 2024

1. Project activities and outcomes

a Describe the project outcomes.

The project successfully hosted a workshop on Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) compliance, significantly enhancing the knowledge and capacity of personnel responsible for implementing the treaty in Belize. This initiative is expected to lead to better treaty compliance and, ultimately, safer communities free from armed violence. The four-day workshop, held from February 27th to March 1st, 2024, featured sessions led by representatives from MAG, CARICOM IMPACS, the Government of Belize, and the Organization of American States (OAS). These sessions provided in-depth technical training on the ATT, including its legal relevance under international law, particularly focusing on humanitarian and human rights law and articles 1-5, 8-11, and 12. The workshop saw significant participation, with 17 attendees from the Belize Police Department, Customs and Excise, Belize Defence Force, the National Forensic Laboratory, the Directorate General for Foreign Trade, and the Ministry of Home Affairs and New Industries, as well as representatives from The Bahamas and Guyana.

The workshop's practical sessions allowed participants to apply the training and guidance from Subject Matter Expert Consultants and MAG and IMPACS Policy Experts to draft the National Control List, National Action Plan, and Transshipment Regulations, all contextualized for Belize's unique geopolitical position. Additionally, representatives from The Bahamas and Guyana developed strategies within the context of a national action plan for consideration by their respective authorities.

The National Action Plan for Belize includes detailed information on countering the illicit trafficking of arms, addressing challenges, successes, and lessons learned to date. It provides relevant data on national, regional, and international actors and outlines a vision for implementation through a proposed table of activities, ensuring a structured and strategic approach to arms control. All working groups emphasized the importance of aligning with regional CARICOM standards, including the CARICOM Model ATT Law, which proved extremely useful as CARICOM IMPACS provided a model for transshipment regulation, which the participants considered particularly relevant to the case of Belize. Moreover, the draft national control list

used the Wassenaar Arrangement as an additional baseline. Given Belize's geopolitical context, it is crucial for Belize to cooperate with other States Parties, particularly its neighbours. This cooperation was reflected in the recommendation for Belize to adopt import criteria that mirror those outlined in Articles 6 and 7 for exports, to fulfill international cooperation obligations and enhancing Belize's credibility and cooperation with other States Parties, fostering a more secure and regulated arms trade environment.

The draft documents (the National Action Plan, Control List, and Transshipment Regulations) have since been submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs and New Industries for review and approval, with this Ministry liaising with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for further directives. Additionally, the Government of Belize has confirmed that since the workshop, the Belize Police Department has completed the 2023 report for the Arms Trade Treaty committee, to be submitted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. MAG and CARICOM IMPACS will continue to work closely with national authorities in Belize to support ongoing ATT compliance efforts.

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

The national authorities in Belize were eager to receive support from MAG, CARICOM IMPACS, and the Arms Trade Treaty Specialist Consultant throughout the project's duration. The preparatory phase before the workshop included thorough desk research, interviews, and the development of a baseline assessment questionnaire. This approach ensured that the workshop content was specifically tailored to Belize's legislative and administrative framework, practices, and procedures pertinent to ATT implementation, and challenges related to the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW), as well as ATT implementation more broadly.

Despite some challenges in receiving completed questionnaires from all parties, the generally positive engagement from the outset reinforced a strong understanding of the importance of ATT adherence even before the workshop commenced. The foundational knowledge and understanding built during the early stages of the project greatly enhanced the effectiveness of the technical sessions held during the workshop. These sessions provided robust and detailed information on the relevant articles of the Arms Trade Treaty and the necessity of upholding its obligations.

As a result of this project, representatives from Belizean state agencies have developed draft documents for a national action plan, national control list, and transshipment regulations based on model documentation and promising practices. These drafts have been shared with the Ministry of Home Affairs and New Industries. The national action plan provides detailed recommendations for achievable short- to medium-term strategic activities, along with a plan for monitoring and evaluation. The tasks outlined in the action plan encompass a wide range of goals and objectives that align with the relevant articles of the Arms Trade Treaty. Additionally, the workshop prompted authorities to finalise the 2023 ATT report, which has been submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for onward submission.

During the workshop, it became apparent that Belize needs to amend its national firearms legislation to better align with the content of the provisions of the ATT, especially Articles 6, 7, 8, and 11, particularly concerning the assessment of the end-use of transferred weapons and items. Participants appreciated that the CARICOM IMPACS ATT Model Law could be utilised to address these gaps. Furthermore, the suggestion to assess the end-use of imported weapons to ensure domestic peace and security and to better fulfill international cooperation obligations was well received.

c List all States that benefitted from the project.

Belize, Guyana, The Bahamas

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.

Between the submission of the interim report and the project's conclusion, all substantial activities were completed. However, the project management team, guided by the Subject Matter Consultant, decided not to conduct a second questionnaire due to the low response rate to the first one and the substantive outputs from the workshop.

Additionally, the draft national action plan has been received by the Ministry of Home Affairs and New Industries and progress on implementation including submitting the 2023 report has occurred however full implementation is not yet in progress.

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?

It is recommended that the Government of Belize convenes a meeting with relevant stakeholders including the recently established Belize's Firearm and Ammunition Control Board, the Office of the National Focal Point to the ATT, and relevant departments from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to undertake a review and approval of the key documents developed as a result of this workshop as well as review the CARICOM Harmonized Model Legislation with the ATT. CARICOM IMPACS, MAG and other relevant stakeholders could provide support to this process including to review and validate the sections of the national control list, which were drafted drawing on the UNROCA and the Wassenaar Arrangement control lists.

Following the Transshipment Regulation coming into force, CARICOM IMPACS, could support Belize in adhering to relevant international trade frameworks and arrangements, including those by the World Customs Organisation (e.g. WCO's E-Commerce and SAFE Programme Packages), which could facilitate the implementation of the ATT.

It is further recommended that the Government of Belize establishes an informal technical working group between services including the Ministry of Defence and the Belize Defence Force with the aim of providing recommendations concerning measures of practical arms control, countering trafficking, and arms insecurity.

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
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Explain your answer:

The initial desk research and interviews with key stakeholders informed the contents of the workshop thus ensuring its relevance for the specific needs of Belize in meeting ATT compliance. The Government of Belize has shown commitment to the obligations of the ATT although additional support may be needed to support full implementation; this workshop has proven an excellent boost to the country in its efforts.

Several legislative and regulatory measures are already in place in Belize relevant to the ATT Implementation. The Firearms Act (2007), amended in 2023, which is enforced by a recently established National Firearms and Ammunition Control Board specifies the requirements for the legal possession of firearms by civilians. The Act also stipulates regulations on the manufacturing, dealing and maintenance of firearms. The existing Dangerous Goods Act and the Border Management Regulation also support the implementation of the ATT in Belize.

The knowledge and understanding gained from this project can support Belize in any future enhancements to the existing priorities and policies in place.

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:

The sharing of knowledge and information through a detailed workshop, coupled with the production of a national action plan with detailed tasks and activities has resulted in an overall effective project implementation. The project has resulted in an increased capacity at state level in Belize to understand, advocate for and implement concrete actions to reduce the flow illicit weapons at a national and regional level whilst working towards meeting the obligations of the Arms Trade Treaty.

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:

All major project results were attained on time and within budget with the exception of monitoring implementation of the national action plan. Belize is currently reviewing the draft documentation and aims to implement once approved with additional support from regional and international partners as needed.

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).

The project has impacted on several levels including enhancing the knowledge and capacity of personnel within key state agencies responsible for implementing the ATT in Belize. Additionally, the practical nature of the workshop, which included drafting the National Control List, National Action Plan, and Transshipment Regulations tailored to Belize’s unique context, will directly contribute to more successful ATT compliance. These documents will guide national efforts to regulate arms transfers and combat illicit trafficking, promoting safer communities by reducing the risk of armed violence.

The workshop also emphasized the importance of regional cooperation and conformity to CARICOM standards, including the CARICOM Model ATT Law. This regional alignment fosters a unified approach to arms control and enhances collective security within the Caribbean. The participation of representatives from The Bahamas and Guyana also facilitated the sharing of good strategies, further strengthening regional cooperation.

The immediate practical outcomes, such as the completion of the 2023 report for the ATT committee by the Belize Police Department, demonstrate the workshop's tangible benefits. The delivery of draft documents, elaborated by representatives of Belize’s state agencies attending the workshop, to the Ministry of Home Affairs and New Industries for review and approval marks a significant step towards implementing robust and nationally and regionally owned arms control measures in Belize. The ongoing support from MAG and CARICOM IMPACS ensures sustained progress and adherence to ATT obligations.

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 drafting of a detailed national action plan with tangible goals and objectives ensures the sustainability of the project. The relationship developed between the national authorities in Belize, MAG and CARICOM IMPACS has been fruitful and continues to grow. Further support from MAG and CARICOM IMPACS will contribute to supporting the achievement of the national action plan.

j 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?

The Belize Police Department has indicated intention to convene a similar process that facilitated the Government of Belize to meet its obligations to implement the United Nations Security Council’s embargoes and sanctions, including those enshrined by Resolution 1540 (2004).

Additionally, the Government has further received a legislative gap analysis vis a vis ATT obligation, with support from the OAS. Since this review, recommendations have been provided for relevant legislative changes. Finally, the 2023 annual report was submitted to the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs for onward transmission to the ATT Secretariat thus enhancing ATT compliance.

2. Final expenditure report

Please complete the Worksheet titled 'input' in the VTF Expenditure Template – Final Report (Belize) in Attachment 2.

3. Certification

For the purposes of this certification:

Grantee means National Police of Belize.

Consultant means Karl Wagner

I Bartholemew Jones 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 been completed 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 to date is USD\$6,000.
4. I have attached the tax invoice provided to the Grantee by the Consultant for the provision of services for the Grant project to date.
5. I have attached a receipt from the Consultant confirming that the amount referred to in 3 above has been paid in full by the Grantee.
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.



SignedDate

Bartholemew Jones, Deputy Commissioner of Police/Legal Advisor

Please submit this report and signed declaration to ATT Secretariat along with;

- A copy of the tax invoice issued to you by the Consultant for the provision of services
- Proof the Consultant was paid. This could be a receipt issued to you by the Consultant or a bank statement.

Name of Grant Recipient	Belize
Department or Agency	National Police
Posting Date	
Project code	622023

INSTRUCTIONS
 1) Complete all pink fields only.
 2) Print, sign, scan and email expenditure report to trustfund@thearmstradetreaty.org along with the electronic version.
 3) All original receipts should be chronologically numbered according to the reference number in this report. Copies of all receipts should be emailed with the expenditure report. Original receipts must also be sent to the ATT Secretariat.

Project No.	ATT.VTF.G2023.010BLZ
Reporting period	01.12.2023 – 31.05.2024
Local Currency Code	BZD
Grant Received USD (1st instalment)	24'492.00
Grant Received USD (2nd instalment)	21'068.70

<https://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/>
 Click above first cell for exchange rate site

General Details				Total Budget	Actual spend to date**			Balance of budget available	Balance of funds received
Budget Line	Ref. N°	Description 1	Description 2 - Receipt or Invoice No. - Date	USD	Local Amount	Rate	USD	USD	USD
Personnel costs	1	Country Director	Contribution to January, February and March 2024 salary for Regional Programme Manager (CD) - Nikita Mohammed. Payroll register (29 Feb 2024, 31 March 2024)	3'245.00		1.0000	3'050.92	194.08	42'509.78
	2	Regional Director	5 day salary during February 2024 for MAG Regional Director for Latin America & Caribbean (Adam Komorowski). Time sheet Feb 24	2'120.00		1.0000	2'238.37	-118.37	40'271.41
	3	Policy and Partnership Director	1 day salary during January 2024 for MAG Policy & Partnership Director (Josephine Dresner) 6 day salary during February 2024 for MAG International Policy Coordinator (Riccardo Labianco) Timesheet 04/03/2024	1'575.00		1.0000	1'664.33	-89.33	38'607.08
	4	Regional Finance Manager	5 day salary during March 2024 for MAG Regional Finance Manager for Latin America & Caribbean (Beata Bozek) Timesheet 03/04/2024	1'265.00		1.0000	1'209.05	55.95	37'398.03
	5	Regional Crime and Security Strategy Coordinator	SWFP11281 - IMPACS - Crime & Security Coordinator - December 2023 to May 2024	5'700.00		1.0000	5'642.26	57.74	31'755.77
	6	2 x consultants costs to facilitate 4-day workshop.	SWFP11046,10928,11150 - Development of training content and workplan, final report and summary recommendations (1 Consultant)	6'000.00		1.0000	6'000.00	-	25'755.77
Transport costs	7	8 return flights	PINV25336 - 1 x return flight for Nikita Mohammed (Country Director) from Port of Spain to Belize City in February 2024. PINV25336 - 1 x return flight for Adam Komorowski (Regional Director) from Manchester to Belize City in February 2024. PINV25488 - 1 x return flight for Callixtus Joseph (Crime & Security Coordinator) from Port of Spain to Belize City in February 2024. PINV25488 - 1 x return flight for Jasmin Louisy (Guyanese Focal Point) from Georgetown to Belize City in February 2024. PINV25439 - 1 x return flight for Riccardo Labianco (International Policy Coordinator) from New York to Belize City in February 2024. PINV25439 - 1 x return flight for Karl Wagner (Consultant) from Helsinki to Belize City in February 2024. PINV25488 - 1 x return flight for Earl Thompson (Bahamas Focal point) from Nassau to Belize City in February 2024. PINV25439 - 1 x flight cost for Josephine Dresner (Policy & Partnerships Director) from Manchester to Belize City in February 2024 (cancellation fee)	8'622.24		1.0000	5'754.65	2'867.59	20'001.12
	8	Accommodation	PINV25336 - Accommodation in Miami for Nikita Mohammed (Country Director-overnight transit) in February 2024. PINV25336 - Accommodation in Atlanta for Adam Komorowski (Regional Director-overnight transit) in February 2024. SWFP10930 - Accommodation for MAG team and invitees x 7 PINV25439 - Accommodation for Consultant in LA (overnight transit) PINV25488 - Accommodation for Guyana focal point (overnight transit) PINV 25488 - Accommodation for Callixtus Joseph (overnight transits); Belize Biltmore Plaza no.006651	7'000.00		1.0000	7'846.24	-846.24	12'154.88
	9	Local taxis, per diems (for RD and Policy and Partnership Director) and visa costs for visiting staff and for workshop in Belize	Airport transfers for for 7 x people from home addresses, arriving and departing Belize City, as detailed in row 7. Per diem for Country Director (RPM) for overnight transfer, Regional Director, Crime & Security Coordinator, Guyana and Bahamas focal points, 1 x consultant and International Policy Coordinator. Belize Biltmore Plaza no.032681, 032688 (02 March 2024); Invoice no 6206 of 02 March 2024; Request for cash (12 April 2024, 20 March 2024); Per Diem sheet for External participants; airalo (20240223-20160676); Uber (25 Feb, 03 March 2024), Local taxi (23 Feb 2024), Uber 03 March 2024	839.11		1.0000	2'163.81	-1'324.70	9'991.07
Operating costs	10	Workshop materials (printed materials, notebooks and pens for participants)	Receipt The Angelus Press of 26 Feb 2024; Logo velcro stickers of 22 Feb 2024; The Office Authority of 21 Feb 2024; Monkey printing of 29 Feb 2024	1'500.00	4'970.22	0.5000	1'402.90	97.10	8'588.17
	11	For workshop (Venue Hire)	SWFP10930 - 4 x days venue hire - Best Western - Belize City - Tuesday 27th February 2024 to Friday March 1st 2024	2'400.00	4'500.00	0.5000	2'250.00	150.00	6'338.17
	12	Audio visual equipment hire, interpretation costs, costs of lunch, tea and coffee	SWFP10930 - 4 x equipment hire, refreshments, lunch - Best Western - Belize City - Tuesday 27th February 2024 to Friday March 1st 2024	5'514.00	9'759.00	0.5000	4'879.50	634.50	1'458.67
	13	Indirect Support Costs (7%)	7% of total direct costs	3'205.00		1.0000	3'087.14	117.86	-1'628.47
	14						-		-1'628.47
	15						-		-1'628.47
	16						-		-1'628.47
	17						-		-1'628.47
				48'985.35	19'229.22		47'189.17		-1'628.47

* Description 2 - Receipt or Invoice No. - Date: include information on the date of the receipt received, as well as the receipt number. Also include additional information e.g. if the budget line item relates to an airfare, include the airline that issued the ticket, the departure city and arrival city etc.
 **Actual spend to date: insert the actual amount spent on the budget item. If the item was paid for in local currency, insert the figure in the column headed 'Local amount', and it will automatically be calculated in USD. If the item was paid for in USD, enter the figure in the column headed 'USD'.

Signature and Date:

[Handwritten Signature]
 25/11/24
 HEAD: ATT SEC.

[Handwritten Initials]

30th July 2024

RECONCILIATION
ATT.VTF.G2023.010BLZ
2023

Description	Total budget	Actual spend (Interim Report)	Actual spend (Final Report)	Actual spend (Total)	Balance of budget available	Balance of funds received
	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
Personnel costs						
Country Director	3'245.00	1'565.39	1'485.53	3'050.92	194.08	42'509.78
Regional Director	2'120.00	-	2'238.37	2'238.37	- 118.37	40'271.41
Policy and Partnership Director	1'575.00	463.58	1'200.75	1'664.33	- 89.33	38'607.08
Regional Finance Manager	1'265.00	-	1'209.05	1'209.05	55.95	37'398.03
Regional Crime and Security Strategy Coordinator	5'700.00	-	5'642.26	5'642.26	57.74	31'755.77
2 x consultants costs to facilitate 4-day workshop.	6'000.00	-	6'000.00	6'000.00	-	25'755.77
Travel costs						
8 return flights	8'622.24	1'588.18	4'166.47	5'754.65	2'867.59	20'001.12
Accommodation	7'000.00	-	7'846.24	7'846.24	- 846.24	12'154.88
Local taxis, per diems (for RD and Policy and Partnership Director) and visa costs for visiting staff and for workshop in Belize	839.11	668.44	1'495.37	2'163.81	- 1'324.70	9'991.07
Operating costs						
Workshop materials (printed materials, notebooks and pens for participants)	1'500.00	-	1'402.90	1'402.90	97.10	8'588.17
For workshop (Venue Hire)	2'400.00	-	2'250.00	2'250.00	150.00	6'338.17
Audio visual equipment hire, interpretation costs,	5'514.00	-	4'879.50	4'879.50	634.50	1'458.67
Total Direct Costs	45'780.35	4'285.59	39'816.44	44'102.03		
Total Indirect Support Costs - 7%	3'204.62	299.99	2'787.15	3'087.14		
Total	48'984.98	4'585.58	42'603.59	47'189.17		
Amount of 1st installment	24'492.00					
Amount of 2nd installment	21'069					
Amount of 3rd installment	1'628					
Balance owing to VTF						

25/11/24