

Exercise: Using the ISACS–AT to Support Physical Security and Stockpile Management

ISACS Operational Module 05.20: Stockpile Management: Weapons

SCENARIO—Context

You are on deployment in a foreign country, with a mandate to support the Federal Government of X in improving their weapons management practices.

You work in a team of national military officers and international capacity-building staff. The team comprises 10 national military officers and two international civilian officials. During this mission, the team (international staffs together with the national military officers) is based in the United Nations compound just outside a large village.

Security remains fragile in this area. There are militant groups that operate some 70 miles away but, to date, they have not made any incursions closer than 50 miles to the village. The militant groups are known to carry various types of arms, including assault rifles and light weapons, including rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs). The general socioeconomic conditions in the nearby areas are poor and there is a lack of security forces presence. There are numerous cases of militant groups conducting attacks on villages in the region for resources. The local village population is understandably scared though and they see the joint team as a source of protection, although they are uncertain that this team would actually physically protect them from rebel attack.

There is a police complex that is located within the large village. There is a weapons store within this police complex and it is to be inspected next week by the international force's senior Technical Officer. As a programme officer deployed in this mission to assist in the assessment of the capacity of weapons management, you are tasked with preparing a preliminary assessment on the physical security and stockpile management practices of the store.

You decide that you need to do some work regarding the security of the weapons to prepare for this inspection. You haven't found time to do this previously, but you now have 45 minutes free in your busy schedule to consider the problem.

Police station complex

The police station complex is in a reasonable state of repair and has been undamaged by previous fighting in the area. There are two gates into the site, and the Police Officer in Charge (OiC) has informed you that each gate is manned by two police officers 24 hours a day. There are, however, tips from local civilians that they have seen staff falling asleep during their night shifts. The total of four police officers form the complete site security patrol. The OiC has informed you that these officers received training when they started working at the site and thus are well prepared to perform their duties.

The fence around the site has no signs on it indicating a restricted area. There is an external light above both of the gates of the complex, however only one of them seems to be working at this time. On a regular day, high numbers of villagers commute close to this police site.

The site only hosts police officers. There are however three local civilian cleaners and one caretaker who work at the site every day. These individuals have worked at this police station for a relatively long time and were taken on as civilian staff for convenience. No security checks were done on these members of staff although they have presented no problems in the past—they seem honest and hardworking, and there have been no incidents of theft or loss of weapons. It has been reported, however, that some amount of fuel (for heating) went missing a few months ago. It is understood that the civilian cleaners and caretaker do not require authorization to enter the police station complex and the details of each visit are not recorded.

This police station complex has a weapons store that hosts a relatively large number of weapons. This is the weapons store on which you are interested in conducting assessments.

Weapons store

The weapons store is a free-standing building at the north-west corner of the complex.

The other buildings at the site, including police residences and HQ, are located along the south and east edges. There is a perimeter fence all the way around which is a single layer of wire mesh, about 1.6 m high. The bottom of the fence sometimes gets burrowed under by wild animals. The image of the fence is seen below (image 1).

Image 1



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The weapons store is a concrete-walled structure with a concrete roof. It has a concrete floor and has good concrete foundations. There is a large window on two walls. This window has lightweight “mesh” type wire over it, which is secured to the wooden window frame by nails.

The door is a standard wooden door, of the type normally found on residential houses. There are no reinforcements on the door.

Keys to the weapons store are kept in the HQ in a locked drawer with all the other keys. The clerk officer has to be asked to be given the keys, and if he knows you, he will let you have the keys. It is unclear whether keys that are handed out to known individuals are recorded well. When you return the keys, he puts them back in the drawer. All of the other keys to the compound are in the same drawer.

There is no electrical security equipment at this site (eg no CCTV, no perimeter intruder alarms, etc).

There is an electric light above the door, however the bulb is smashed. This is the only lighting in that corner of the camp. You note that there is a backup generator, but it has been reported to be not working for quite some time.

Inside the store, the team's weapons are stored. The store does not utilize weapons storage racks. A sample image of how the weapons are stored is found below (image 2). It is not clear if any of the weapons in the store have been confiscated from armed groups by the police. The store comprises the following weapons (table 1):

Image 2



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Table 1

Number of weapons	Make	Model	Calibre (mm)	Type
57	AK	47	7.62	Rifle
42	Glock	17	9	Handgun
20	HK	23E	5.56	Machine gun
10	RPG	7	40	Grenade launcher

TASKS

1. Using the ISACS–AT, conduct an assessment on the site’s physical security, with particular focus on staff vetting, access control (specifically keys and entry into weapons storage area), physical security infrastructure (specifically doors, gates and windows), and perimeter security fencing (specifically general provisions, Class 1 security fencing, and perimeter illumination) from clause 9, PSSM, Depot Storage.¹
2. Based on the results you find and analysis you conduct, determine whether the risks at this site are at ALARP. If they are determined not to be in line with ALARP, you are to prepare a short recommendation note on measures that can be undertaken to enhance the security context at this site, in order provide support to the incoming international force Technical Officer. *Please make sure the recommendations are in line with the ISACS.*

As you recall, you have limited time and resources at this site. Given the situational constraints, pay particular attention on priority needs and measures to be implemented. Make sure to consider for each measure the following:

- a) Cost (low, medium, high);
- b) Time frame (immediate, medium term, long term); and
- c) Actor (local, international).

Your first focus should be on measures that can be implemented immediately, at low cost, and by a local actor first, followed by measures to be undertaken in the medium to long term that require higher-cost considerations.

3. In addition, you are to prepare a first draft of a Security Plan using ISACS 05.20, Annex A, as a template.
Complete what information you can, and state what information you still require to complete this task.
4. You are to present the findings of the recommendation note to the Technical Officer. You are to also send a copy of the first draft of the Security Plan to the Technical Officer by email. You have approximately 10 minutes to make the presentation.

ASSUMPTION

Work with the information provided. All available information on SALW data collected in the previous distribution survey is presented below. If certain information is missing, consider that the relevant information has not been observed, presented, or made available to you.

HELP TIP

Recall the steps to conducting an assessment:

1. Identify the information need that needs to be measured in the Module;
 - a. Identify specific clauses/subclauses that you wish to measure. If unsure, check with the facilitator to ensure that you have correctly identified the measures to be assessed.
2. Design a questionnaire to formulate a baseline assessment;
3. Collect relevant data based on the information provided; and
4. Analyse the results to inform the findings and report, with particular focus on
 - a. Priority needs (utilize the priority setting and targeted analysis functions)

Note the following additional help tips:

¹ For the purpose of this exercise, we will be utilizing the depot storage measures from Clause 9 to assess the weapons store.

- For task 1: When conducting the data collection, you may find that certain details are not provided, making it difficult for you to make a clear judgment on whether measures have been implemented or not. In these cases, observe the entire context carefully and provide your answer to the questionnaire. You can utilize the comments box to provide further detail for your choice of answer.
- For task 2: The results from the ISACS assessments provide users with findings to support their effort to analyse the risk levels at the site, based on the information provided. Draw on your personal experience and knowledge—together with the ISACS assessment results—to construct the recommendation note.

KEY NOTE

1. Implemented: Measure that you are certain has been implemented (100%)
2. In Progress: Measures that you observe have been undertaken, but not completely implemented (1%–99%). In Progress may also be used in cases when a certain aspect of the measure (as described by the indicator) is implemented.
3. Not Implemented: Measures that you are certain have not been implemented based on the information provided and/or observed.
4. Not answered: Measures that you are not able to evaluate due to lack of information provided.
5. Not applicable: Measures that are not applicable to the context you are dealing with.