

# MAG Burundi Programme Update August 2009



*A PNB officer collects his weapon from the armourer through the hatch installed by MAG.*



*A MAG Technical Field Manager verifies the disposition of the explosive charges for the demolition of hand-grenades.*

## Reporting Period:

**01 August 2009 – 31 August 2009**

## Summary of outputs:

- **Destruction of 14 weapons and 253 magazines** at the Weapons Destruction Workshop;
- **Collection of 68 weapons, 245 magazines, 1,029 ammunition, 9,831 SAA** and items of explosives and pyrotechnics by the PNB mobile team;
- **Destruction of 363 ammunition** by the PNB mobile team;
- **Improvement to the physical security of 9 PNB armouries** by the physical security team;
- **Refresher training on SALW collection and destruction and first aid** for the mobile team.

Following the leave period, the MAG-Police Nationale Burundaise (PNB) mobile team funded by the Dutch Government received a refresher training and collected surplus and obsolete PNB-owned Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). The team also supported the National Commission on Civilian Disarmament and SALW (CDCPA) by collecting SALW that had been gathered by the CDCPA from the population in Bujumbura. The destruction of items collected, 182 mortars, 86 hand-grenades and 1 anti-tank rocket, took place at Mudubugu Central Destruction Site on August 27 in presence of the Burundian media. The mediatisation of these demolitions is very important to reassure the population that the SALW they are handing-over are definitively destroyed and cannot be re-used for other purposes. Three mortars in an extremely unstable state could not be transported and had to be destroyed *in situ* in Rumonge.

The Physical Security team, funded by the Swiss Government, continued working in Region South to improve security in 9 armouries in the Provinces of Bururi and Rutana. The project in Region South is expected to be completed at the end of September after which the team will move to Region North.

Following a refresher training for the team of the Weapons Destruction Workshop, 253 magazines and 14 weapons were destroyed this month. Upon request from the national authorities, MAG is also contributing to the preparations for the setting up of a national centre for the verification and marking of weapons, in accordance with the prescriptions of the Nairobi Protocol.

MAG would like to express its gratitude to the following current donors to the Burundi programme:

- Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Swiss Government

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