

SALW Guide

Global distribution and visual
identification















Cape Verde

Country report

<https://salw-guide.bicc.de>

Weapons Distribution

The following list shows the weapons which can be found in *Cape Verde* and whether there is data on who holds these weapons:

AK-47 / AKM		RPG 2	
AK-74		RPG 7	
DShk		RPK	
MG 3 / MG 42		SA vz 23 / 25	
PK		SA vz 24 / 26	
RPD		Simonov SKS	

Explanation of symbols



Country of origin



Licensed production



Production without a licence



Government: Sources indicate that this type of weapon is held by Governmental agencies.



Non-Government: Sources indicate that this type of weapon is held by non-Governmental armed groups.



Unspecified: Sources indicate that this type of weapon is found in the country, but do not specify whether it is held by Governmental agencies or non-Governmental armed groups.

It is entirely possible to have a combination of tags beside each country. For example, if country X is tagged with a G and a U, it means that at least one source of data identifies Governmental agencies as holders of weapon type Y, and at least one other source confirms the presence of the weapon in country X without specifying who holds it.

Note: This application is a living, non-comprehensive database, relying to a great extent on active contributions (provision and/or validation of data and information) by either SALW experts from the military and international renowned think tanks or by national and regional focal points of small arms control entities.

AK-47 / AKM

The AK 47 is best described as a hybrid of previous rifle technology innovations: the trigger, double locking lugs and unlocking raceway of the M1 Garand/M1 carbine, the safety mechanism of the John Browning designed Remington Model 8 rifle, and the gas system and layout of the Sturmgewehr 44. There are many variations. The weapons are used by all former Warsaw Pact countries, and they are in service with numerous armed forces, both regular and irregular. They can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



Category	<i>Assault Rifles</i>
Operating system	Gas operated, rotating bolt with 2 lugs
Cartridge	7.62 x 39mm
Length	870 mm
Feeding	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **AK-47 / AKM**:

7.62 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	38.7 mm
Overall length	56 mm



AK-74

The AK 74 is an adaptation of the 7.62mm AKM assault rifle and features several important design improvements. These modifications were primarily the result of converting the rifle to the intermediate-caliber 5.45x39mm cartridge, in fact, some early models are reported to have been converted AKMs, with the barrel re-sleeved to 5.45x39mm. The result is a more accurate and reliable rifle than the AKM. The AK-74 and AKM share an approximate 50% parts commonality (interchangeable are most often pins,



springs and screws). There are many variations. The weapons are used by all former Warsaw Pact countries, and they are in service with numerous armed forces, both regular and irregular. They can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.

Category	<i>Assault Rifles</i>
Operating system	Gas operated, rotating bolt with 2 lugs
Cartridge	5.45 x 39mm
Length	943 mm
Feeding	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **AK-74**:

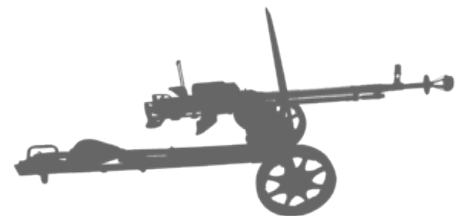
5.45 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	5.6 mm
Case length	39.82 mm
Overall length	57 mm



DShk

The DShk was exported to many countries, and it can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



Category	<i>Heavy Machine Guns</i>
Operating system	Gas operated, belt fed, air cooled, selective fire
Cartridge	12.7 x 108 mm
Length	1625 mm
Feeding	Belt

The following ammunition can be used by the **DShk**:

12.7 x 108 mm

Bullet diameter	12.98 mm
Case length	108 mm
Overall length	147.5 mm



MG 3 / MG 42

The MG is a short-recoil operated, air cooled, belt fed weapon which fires from an open bolt. The barrel is quick-removable, and can be replaced in less than six seconds by a properly trained crew. The action of the weapon is



operated by the recoil of the locked barrel, assisted by a muzzle booster which uses pressure from the muzzle blast to increase the recoil impulse. This is a simple and solid system. Variants: MG 1: Rheinmetall variant of the MG 42, most notably rechambered to fire 7.62×51mm NATO. MG 1A1 (MG 42/58): As MG 1, but with sights properly calibrated for the new round. Sights refitted to existing MG 1s. MG 1A2 (MG 42/59): MG 1A1 variant; product improved with longer ejection port, heavy bolt and friction ring buffer. MG 1A3: MG 1A2 variant; product improvement of all major components. MG 1A4: MG 1 variant; for fixed mount armor use. MG 1A5: MG 1A3 variant; MG1A3s converted to MG1A4 standard. MG 2: Designation for all wartime MG 42s rechambered to 7.62×51mm NATO. MG 3: MG 1A3 variant; product improved with AA rear sight. MG 3E: MG 3 variant; reduced weight model (roughly 1.3 kg lighter), entered into late 1970s NATO small arms trials. MG 3A1: MG 3 variant; for fixed mount armor use.

Category	<i>Light Machine Guns</i>
Operating system	recoil-operated, roller locked
Cartridge	
Feeding	belt fed

The following ammunition can be used by the **MG 3 / MG 42**:

PK

The PK was made under license by many companies in many countries. It was exported to many countries and can be found all over



the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.

Category	<i>Light Machine Guns</i>
Operating system	Gas operated, air cooled, belt fed weapon with a quick-detachable barrel
Cartridge	7.62 x 54mm R
Length	1173 mm
Feeding	(Boxed) belt

The following ammunition can be used by the **PK**:

7.62 x 54mm R

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	53.72 mm
Overall length	77.16 mm



RPD

The RPD (Ruchnoy Pulemet Degtyarova - Degtyarov Light MG) was one of the first weapons designed to fire a new, intermediate cartridge 7.62x39mm. During its service life, the weapon was modernized several times.

The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



Category	<i>Light Machine Guns</i>
Operating system	Gas operated, full auto only
Cartridge	7.62 x 39mm
Length	1037 mm
Feeding	Boxed belt

The following ammunition can be used by the **RPD**:

7.62 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	38.7 mm
Overall length	56 mm



RPG 2

The RPG 2 design is based on the German Panzerfaust anti-tank weapon developed during World War II. It was made under license by many companies in many countries (e.g. the B-40 in Vietnam), it was exported to many countries, and it can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



Category	<i>Portable Anti-tank Guns</i>
Operating system	Recoilless launch / non rocket booster
Cartridge	
Length	650 mm
Feeding	front-loaded

The following ammunition can be used by the **RPG 2**:

RPG 7

The RPG 7 was made under license by many companies in many countries, it was exported to many countries, and it can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



Category	<i>Portable Anti-tank Guns</i>
Operating system	Recoilless launch + rocket booster
Cartridge	

Length	650 mm
Feeding	front-loaded, manual reload

The following ammunition can be used by the **RPG 7**:

RPK

The RPK was made under license by many companies in many countries. It was exported to many countries, and it can be found all over the world because the gun is used in many conflicts. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



Category	<i>Light Machine Guns</i>
Operating system	Gas operated, magazine fed, air cooled, selective fire
Cartridge	7.62 x 39mm
Length	1040 mm
Feeding	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **RPK**:

7.62 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	38.7 mm
Overall length	56 mm



SA vz 23 / 25

After the Sa 25 was declared obsolete in 1968, many of the 9 mm weapons have been sold around the world. The surplus weapons were exported to other communist countries including North Vietnam. A modified copy of the 9x19 model was produced in Rhodesia (today's Zimbabwe) in the early



1970s as the LDP. Manufacture was later transferred to South Africa where it was briefly marketed as the Sanna 77 in semi-automatic fire only, for sale and use by white farmers as protection during the country's difficulties.

Category	<i>Submachine Guns</i>
Operating system	Blowback-operated, fired from open bolt
Cartridge	9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)
Length	445 mm
Feeding	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **SA vz 23 / 25**:

9mm Parabellum (9 x 19mm)

Bullet diameter	9 mm
Case length	19.15 mm
Overall length	29.69 mm



SA vz 24 / 26

After the Sa 25 was declared obsolete in 1968, many of the 9 mm weapons have been sold around the world. The surplus weapons were exported to other communist countries including North Vietnam. A modified copy of the 9x19 model was produced in Rhodesia (today's Zimbabwe) in the early 1970s as the LDP. Manufacture was later transferred to South Africa where it was briefly marketed as the Sanna 77 in semi-automatic fire only, for sale and use by white farmers as protection during the country's difficulties.



Category	<i>Submachine Guns</i>
Operating system	Blowback-operated, fired from open bolt
Cartridge	7.62 x 25mm Tokarev
Length	445 mm
Feeding	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **SA vz 24 / 26**:

7.62 x 25mm Tokarev

Bullet diameter	7.8 mm
Case length	25 mm
Overall length	34 mm



Simonov SKS

The SKS is a self-loading weapon. It utilizes a short-stroke gas piston with its own return spring and a tilting bolt locking, where a bolt tips down to lock onto the floor of the receiver. The charging handle is attached to the right side of the bolt carrier and moves when the gun is fired. The safety switch is located inside the trigger guard. The early model 50 weapons are shorter and are usually found without a bayonet. In general, the SKS is an excellent all-around weapon that offers a slightly longer range and better accuracy than the Kalashnikov AK-47, but, for military use, it lacks the magazine capacity and selective-fire capabilities. The weapon was in service with several armed forces, both regular and irregular, and it can be found in many countries in Asia and Africa.



Category	<i>Rifles & Carbines</i>
Operating system	Gas operated, tilting bolt
Cartridge	7.62 x 39mm
Length	1020 mm
Feeding	Box magazine

The following ammunition can be used by the **Simonov SKS**:

7.62 x 39mm

Bullet diameter	7.92 mm
Case length	38.7 mm
Overall length	56 mm



Tagging of Sources

We believe that our Guide should be as transparent as possible without endangering the confidentiality of our sources. Rather than name the exact source for each unit of data, we have created tags so that users can at least know whether the data comes from a primary or secondary source, and by which medium it can or has been found. All incoming data is validated and then tagged by the project team at BICC before it enters our database.

Sources are tagged according to the following criteria:

1. Primary Sources:

These are presentations of facts. They are proof of an SALW event (e.g. a transfer, sighting, misuse, etc.) because the source was created at the time of the event itself. Primary sources are usually original documents such as transfer authorizations, firearms legislation, or academic journals presenting results of a study on SALW holdings in a particular country, for example. However, they can also be information offered by a person with direct knowledge of an SALW event or who has documented an SALW event at the time that it happened.

2. Secondary Sources:

These are interpretations or evaluation of facts. Secondary sources contain commentary and analysis of SALW events that are documented in primary sources.

Sources are also tagged according to the dominant medium of delivery:

A. Written - the source is based on written words.

B. Oral - the source is based on spoken words.

C. Visual - the source is based on seen events or optical images.

These criteria make our tags two-dimensional. While the process of classifying sources is a primarily subjective one, the project team at BICC has developed the following table to serve as an example of possible sources within each category.

Table: Examples of sources on SALW distribution

	Primary	Secondary
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Written	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact books • Weapons Transfer authorizations • End-user certificates • Transcripts of interviews, legal proceedings, speeches/ presentations, meetings, conferences or symposia • Newspaper articles • Written correspondence (e.g. letters, emails, text messages, etc.) • Blogs • Peer-reviewed journal articles • Treaties, constitution, laws • Records of organizations (e.g. annual reports) • Surveys, questionnaires <p>Etc...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wikipedia • Literature reviews • Training or safety manuals on gun control, ammunition, physical stockpile security management) • Minutes of meetings, conferences, symposia • Indexes (e.g. Global Militarization Index) • Newspaper articles <p>Etc.</p>
Oral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews with experts, including radio or telephone • Legal proceedings • Speeches or interventions by experts or national representatives in government or international meetings <p>Etc ...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speeches, panel presentations, etc. on data provided by experts <p>Etc...</p>
Visual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artifacts (e.g. the weapons themselves, ammunition) • Photographs of weapons, ammunition, etc. • Videos (e.g. YouTube, those recorded by mobile phone) • Television documentaries, news reports <p>Etc ...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint presentations on results found by experts <p>Etc...</p>

Table: Example tags

Source (sample)	Type of source	Medium of delivery
IHS Jane's Weapons Infantry (2015-2016)	primary	written
Panel discussion of weapons use of non-state armed groups	secondary	oral
Documentary on paramilitaries in Colombia	primary	visual

About the Guide

The Interactive Guide on **Small Arms and Light Weapons** is an open access tool, designed to build knowledge on how to identify different types, makes and models of commonly used SALW in organized violence; to collect data on the global and country-specific spread of these SALW; and to describe some of their visual and technical specifications.

The guide is not an exhaustive list of all SALW that are used around the world.

Global SALW control relies on, among other things, data and knowledge of the weapons themselves. Our aim is that the Guide will be used to support national reporting duties on SALW holdings; facilitate and ameliorate the collection of data on SALW; and increase general knowledge of global distribution of SALW.

The interactive Guide was developed by **BICC** in close cooperation with the **Bundeswehr Verification Center** (BwVC), and with the generous support of the *Federal Foreign Office, Germany*.

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