

**FACTORS INFLUENCING PROLIFERATION OF ILLICIT
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS IN MAKADARA AND
EMBAKASI DIVISIONS, NAIROBI EAST DISTRICT, KENYA**

BY

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This research project report is submitted in partial fulfillment of requirement for the award of a Post Graduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management of the, University of Nairobi.

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DECLARATION

This research project report is my own original work and has not been presented for award of a degree or any other award in any other university.

Sign.....

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This research project report has been submitted for examination with my approval as university supervisor.

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Date

DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to my wife, Eunice, without whose caring support it would not have been possible to complete the study. It is also dedicated to my mother, Mrs. Nzasi Musoi, who passed on to me the love of reading and respect for education.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
DECLARATION	ii
DEDICATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
LIST OF FIGURES	ix
ABBREVIATIONS	x
ABSTRACT	xi
CHAPTER ON: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the study	1
1.1.1 The city of Nairobi	3
1.1.2 Embakasi and Makadara Divisions	3
1.2 Statement of the problem.....	4
1.3 Purpose of the Study.....	5
1.4 Objectives	6
1.6 Significance of the study	6
1.7 Delimitation.....	6
1.8 Limitation	7
1.9 Assumptions	7
1.11 Organization of the Study.....	7
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	9
2.1 Introduction	9
2.2 Proliferation of Small arms	9
2.3 Supply of Small arms	10
2.4.Demand for Small arms.....	11
2.5 Cost of illicit Small arms.....	11
2.6 Theoretical Framework.....	12
2.6.1 System Theory of Conflict	12
2.6.2 Conflict Theory	13
2.6.3 Source of SALW in Nairobi.....	13
2.6.4 Efforts to address SALW problem.....	14
2.7 Conceptual Framework.....	15
2.8 Research gap and chapter summary	16
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	17
3.1 Introduction	17
3.2 Research Design	17

3.3 Target Population	17
3.4 Sampling Procedure.....	18
3.5 Methods of Data Collection.....	18
3.6 Validity	19
3.7 Reliability	19
3.8 Data Collection Procedure.....	19
3.9 Data Analysis.....	19
3.10 Ethical Considerations	20
3.11 Operationalization of variables.....	20
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION	21
4.1 Introduction	21
4.2 Response return rate	21
4.3 Respondents Profiles	21
4.4 General Security Situation.....	22
4.3 Supply of Small arms	23
4.3.1 Availability of illicit small arms.....	24
4.3.2 Source of illicit Small arms	25
4.3.3 Accessibility of illicit small arms.....	26
4.4. Demand for Small arms	27
4.4.1 Use of the illicit Small arms	27
4.5 Cost of Small arms	27
4.5.1 Affordability of illicit Small arms	27
4.6. Methods of addressing illicit arms proliferation.....	28
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION &	
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	30
5.1 Introduction	30
5.2 Summary of the findings	30
5.2.1 Supply of Illicit Small arms	30
5.2.2 Demand for Small arms.....	30
5.2.3 Cost of Small arms	31
5.3 Discussion.....	31
5.3.1 Supply of Small arms	31
5.3.2 Demand for Small arms.....	31
5.3.3 Cost of Small arms	32
5.4 Conclusion	32
5.5 Recommendations	32
5.6 Suggestions for further studies	33
REFERENCES.....	34

APPENDICES	37
APPENDIX 1: LETTER OF INTRODUCTION TO RESPONDENTS	37
APPENDIX 2: QUESTIONNAIRE	38
APPENDIX 3: KEY INFORMANTS' INTERVIEW GUIDE	41

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table	
Table 3.1: Locations in Embakasi and Makadara division	16
Table 3.2: Operational definition of Variables	18
Table 4.1: Age Group of respondents	22
Table 4.2: Gender Distribution	22
Table 4.3: Security situation	23
Table 4.4: Fear of Armed attack	24
Table 4.5: Grenade Attacks	24
Table 4.6: Level of satisfaction	24
Table 4.7: Reasons for acquiring arms	25
Table 4.8: Sources of arms	25
Table 4.9: Age group involved in arms trafficking	26
Table 4.10: Availability of Arms	27
Table 4.11: Extend of armament	28
Table 4.12: Most common type of illicit arms	28
Table 4.13: Factors influencing price of Small arms	29
Table 4.14: Methods of addressing illicit Small arms proliferation	29

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1: Conceptual Framework	17

ABBREVIATIONS

EAPCCO	Eastern African Police Chiefs Committee
GaWC	Globalization and World Cities Study Group and Network
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
ICSC	UN international Civil Service Commission
KDF	Kenya Defense Forces
KPS	Kenya Police Service
ND	Nairobi Declaration
OCPD	Officer Commanding Police Division
RECSA	Regional Centre on Small Arms
SALW	Small arms and light weapons.
SAS	Small Arms Survey
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Scientists
SRIC	Security Research and Information Centre
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNPoA	United Programme of Action

ABSTRACT

Proliferation of Small arms and Light weapons into the country presents a serious threat to public safety in the country. The numerous cases of armed conflict within the pastoralist zones, armed crimes and the emerging acts of terrorism are key indicators that there are many arms in the wrong hands. The upsurge of illicit Small arms and Light weapons poses a great challenge to the government as it seeks to address increasing insecurity in the country. This study aimed at establishing the factors influencing the proliferation of Small arms and light weapons into the country in order to propose practical measures of addressing the spread and effects caused by illegal ownership. The study sought to interrogate how the supply of illicit small arms, demand and cost influence their proliferation. The study adopted a descriptive research design and targeted respondents' in Embakasi and Makadara for interviews and filling-in questionnaires to obtain primary data while in-house text books, reports, journals, newspapers and companies' websites and publications constituted sources of secondary data. A total of 22 key informants' and 57 questionnaires were administered to the target population. The generated data was then analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science, version 21, for easy analysis and drawing of conclusions. The study established that there were high supply of Small arms in both Embakasi and Makadara divisions from neighboring countries. It also established that joblessness among the youth and the need to secure personal property by business class fueled demand. The study concludes that high supply coupled with high demand caused the proliferation of illicit small arms in Embakasi and Makadara divisions. The study could not however attribute the high proliferation to low cost since, majority of the consumers of these arms, the youth, could not afford to buy them, instead they hired. The study concluded that there was a serious problem of illicit small arms proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions and recommended both the National and County governments to increase patrols on border points, enforce law on illicit immigrants and ensure corrupt officers abetting entry of illicit arms into the country are prosecuted.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

The Proliferation of Small arms and Light weapons (SALW) is a serious threat to public safety all over the world. The UN Secretary General, in a recent report to the Security Council (S/2008/258), recognized threat posed by SALW by saying:

“Small arms facilitate a vast spectrum of human rights violations, including killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, enforced disappearance, torture and forced recruitment of children by armed groups or forces. More human rights abuses are committed with them than with any other weapon”.

The report continues to add that, because of their very characteristic of being cheap, light and easy to handle, transport and conceal, their excessive accumulation and universal availability tends to aggravate conflicts by increasing the lethality and duration of violence and by increasing the sense of insecurity which leads to a greater demand for weapons (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/29).

Small arms are lethal when introduced in both conflict and no-conflict situations. Estimates generated by Small Arms Working Group (SAWG) shows that “Small arms are directly responsible for an estimated 60-90 per cent of deaths during armed conflicts and upwards of 200,000 non-conflict deaths each year. One person dies from small arms use every minute, and the rate of firearm injury is even higher”. The International Committee of the Red Cross (1999) supports this argument and notes that children are the most affected; they are killed, injured and psychologically traumatized especially during violent conflicts. The committee provides statistics to the effect that 20 million children have been displaced, 2 million killed, and one million orphaned 6 million seriously injured or disabled and 12 million have become homeless because of war during the last decade.

In Africa, member states meeting in Bamako, Mali, from 30 November to 1 December 2000, recognized the devastating effects of Small arms and developed “Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons” The declaration observed that Small arms sustains conflicts, exacerbates

violence, contributes to the displacement of innocent populations and threatens international humanitarian law, as well as fuels crime and encourages terrorism.

The numerous cases of armed conflict within the pastoralist zones, armed crimes in the urban centre's and the emerging acts of terrorism in Kenya point to availability of many illicit Small arms in the wrong hands. The upsurge of these arms is a great challenge to the government as it seeks to address increasing insecurity in the country. Since the Kenya Defence Force (KDF) went into operation in Somalia to flush out Al-shabab militia group accused of perpetuating a series of sporadic terrorists' attacks in the republic of Kenya, the country's "freedom from fear" has taken a nose dive. This is especially so in the urban centres where vulnerability to terrorist attacks has readily accelerated. In all crowded places, Kenyan's of all facets – from worshippers who attend religious sermons to revellers who go to unwind in local entertainment spots, from commuters to workers/employees in their premises whisper fears of being victims of terror attacks. Moreover, the mass media carries horrid episodes of wide-ranging armed criminal incidences ranging from plain murders, carjacking-related shootings and robbery with violence (SRIC, 2012).

According to the Kenya police statistics, 2011, crime figures reported nationally increased by 4,954 cases or 7%, as compared to the year 2010. In Nairobi, crime increased by 40% and proliferation of small arms and light weapons was given as some of the factors that mostly contributed to criminal behaviour; this has led to decrement of human security. Reports of armed crime and acts of terrorism have become too common. Hardly a night goes by without reports of carjacking and armed robberies resulting in fatalities in Nairobi. Law enforcement authorities are often outgunned by gun-toting hooligans. The most unsettling reality is that criminal activities have now pervaded practically all areas of Nairobi. Even hitherto serene and tranquil middle class neighborhoods in our urban centre are beginning to get alarmed by this deadly social vice.

Indeed, firearm injury has become a major concern in Kenya's urban centres. This is clearly shown by a study conducted at the Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) on injuries caused by Small arms. In the two-year retrospective cross-sectoral study, Odhiambo et al (2008) established that there were 717 cases of firearm injury treated at the KNH in the period January 2004 to December 2005. Four hundred twenty-one (421 or 58.7%) of these were admitted. In 2004, there were 6,300 assault cases recorded of which 6.7% had Small arms used. In 2005 reported assault cases went down by 51% to 3,079, but the use of Small arms went up to 9.7%. This is a

significant increase in one year whose trend could reach alarming levels. An earlier study at the largest private university hospital (the Aga Khan), Saidi et al (2002), recorded 107 cases of firearm casualties over a five year period 1993-1998 comprising 97 (90.7%) males and 10 (9.3%) females. 74.7% of cases were caused by thieves/robbers while 9.4% were caused by law enforcement officers. The report concludes that gunshot injuries cause profound morbidity and significant mortality in Nairobi city.

1.1.1 The city of Nairobi

Founded in early 1900 by the British colonialists during the construction of the Kenya-Uganda railway line, Nairobi has grown phenomenally from a hamlet to become the leading metropolis in the entire East and Central Africa region (Hiiraan, 2012). According to the Ministry of Planning and Vision 2030 the sprawling city is home to nearly four million people from practically all parts of the world. The dramatic growth and expansion of Nairobi has brought with it a host of inherent social, economic, governance as well as environmental challenges that range from chronic insecurity, economic deprivation (as evidenced by high levels of unemployment), burgeoning unplanned inner-city settlements (commonly referred to as slums), in which well over 70% of the City's population live (Hiiraan, 2012). Of all the above challenges, ubiquitous insecurity, which is characterised by worsening incidences of violence, robbery, carjacking, mugging, homicides as well as sexual and gender-based violence (S&GBV) remains the single most unsettling concern to its inhabitants. (police statistics, 2011). Indeed, so dire and grave is the situation that Kenya's capital city has derisively been referred to as 'Nairobbery'.

1.1.2 Embakasi and Makadara Divisions

The Embakasi and Makadara are reportedly the hotbed of SALW (SRIC, 2012). Moreover, on 25/10/2011 in Kayole at around 6.10 p.m, ATPU officers, acting on intelligence information, raided a house and recovered the following; 13 Arges 85 grenades, 2 Tokalev pistols, 2 revolvers, 1 AK 47 rifle, 1 submachine gun, 12 SMG pouch for AK 47 magazines, 1 shoulder holster, 2 loaded AK47 magazines, 2 SMG loaded magazines, 4 bundles of paper resembling currency, pamphlets carrying war literature and a total of 717 assorted ammunitions.

In Embakasi, many Somali immigrants have settled in Eastleigh estate nicknamed "Little Mogadishu" (Standard, 2007). The "Small Mogadishu" is perhaps Nairobi's most active

commercial center, slowly taking over from the central business district. According to Hiirran (2012), people travel from all over Kenya and neighboring countries like Uganda, Tanzania, south Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo to Eastleigh to do shopping, thanks to the connections of the traders; they stock goods from all over the world.

Survey by SRIC (2012) found out that Eastleigh estate started to change rapidly in the 1990s when war broke out in the neighboring Somali after the then President Siad Barre was toppled. The survey observes that Somali refugees brought and continue to bring with them Small arms leading to security lapse both in Eastleigh and its environs where they settled. It is against this background that this project focuses on Embakasi and Makadara divisions.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Nairobi is unsafe due to a variety of reasons that include the presence and misuse of illicit SALW. According to a study by Kamenju *et al* (2003), Kenyan territory has been used as a conduit for arms destined for neighboring states experiencing violent conflicts. The study notes that arms from these states; Ethiopia, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Somali, are flowing back into Kenya as a result of porous borders.

A report by Daily Nation (2012) indicated that the Law Enforcement Agents were aiding transportation of illicit SALW to Nairobi. The writer reported that, an OCPD and ten junior police officers were sacked for allowing terror suspects passage from Garissa to Nairobi. The OCPD is said to have authorized the escort of two terror suspects from Garissa to Nairobi while the other officers allowed the two suspects to pass through check points with explosives (Daily Nation, 8/10/2012).

According to a survey by Muchai (2003), every day, the mass media in Kenyan carries episodes of wide-ranging criminal incidences, ranging from plain murders, carjacking-related shootings, robbery with violence, property break-ins, abductions, rape and defilement, muggings, armed livestock raids, intimate partner violence – otherwise commonly referred to as domestic violence. In 2003, Kenyan newspapers reported 549 incidences of robbery country-wide (Muchai, 2004). More than a half of these incidents (296) had been committed using Small arms; indeed out of the 237 carjacking incidents reported in 2004, 234 incidences were reported to have involved use of a firearm. Incidences of police officers being put on the firing line by hardened criminals have become all too common occurrences in Nairobi and from such incidences, Police managed

to recover 75 assorted pistols, 10 rifles, a sub-machine gun and 8 other unidentified arms in the first quarter of 2004 (Muchai, 2004). This indicates immeasurable prevalence of SALW in the country, an aspect which has continued to contribute to insecurity, not only in Embakasi and Makadara divisions but also in many other parts across the country.

Due to insecurity, Western countries have classified Nairobi as unsafe (Browin, 2003) and continue to lobby for relocation of the United Nations Offices. Indeed, in January 2008, the UN international Civil Service Commission (ICSC), which regulates the conditions of service for the international body's employees, down-graded Nairobi from a B-station to a C-station (UN Habitat, 2008).

According to a survey by Muchai (2003), prevalence of small arms and light weapons is a serious threat to the stability and social climate of cities, sustainable and economic development and also improved quality of life and human rights. Moreover, during the 2007/8 post election violence (PEV), fuel shortages were experienced throughout East Africa, as delayed deliveries hit Uganda and Burundi and the Rwandan Government ordered fuel rationing (OHCHR, 2008). Besides, the highly progressive provisions spelt out in the (new) Constitution can only be realized in an enabling atmosphere that is characterized by peace and tranquility and the perceived insecurity in Nairobi, especially by foreign investors will definitely hamper if not slow down foreign investment in the country.

It is noted that, the neighboring landlocked countries rely on Kenya for a variety of goods, including fuel deliveries. Indeed, during post election violence (PEV), supply chain for both Tanzania and Uganda was adversely affected (OHCHR, 2008). All this underscores the importance of Nairobi as a regional economic powerhouse whose security is paramount, not only for the Kenyan citizens, but also the economic wellbeing of the neighboring landlocked countries. This study therefore sought to establish the factors influencing proliferation of these arms in Embakasi and Makadara divisions.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to establish factors influencing proliferation of Small arms in Embakasi and Makadara in order to propose practical ways of dealing with the problem.

1.4 Objectives

The study will be guided by the following objectives:

1. To establish how the supply of illicit Small arms influence their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions
2. To investigate how demand for illicit Small arms influence their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions
3. To establish how the cost of illicit Small arms influences their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions

1.5 Research Questions

1. How does the supply of illicit Small arms influence their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara Divisions?
2. To what extent does demand for illicit Small arms influence their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara Divisions?
3. What is the influence of cost on the proliferation of Small arms in Embakasi and Makadara Divisions?

1.6 Significance of the study

The study is important to the government of Kenya in designing future disarmament frameworks and in the development of security intervention strategies. It will also be a useful campaign tool to the civil society organizations in efforts to enforce the implementation of Nairobi Protocol ‘for the prevention, control and reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and bordering states’.

The study will act as a source of reference material for future researchers on other related topics; it will also help other academicians who undertake the same topic in their studies. The study will also highlight other important relationships that require further research; this may be in the areas of relationship between illicit arms proliferation and poor governance.

1.7 Delimitation

The study focused on Embakasi and Makadara divisions which, according to Daily Nation (June 21, 2009, pp. 4-5), are a conduit of armed criminal gangs. It targeted officers commanding police stations (OCS’s), District Peace Committee members (DPC), community based organizations (CBO’s) and chiefs who on account of their positions and occupation are perceived to have great

wealth of information and experience on security issues. The study did not focus on the members of the public due to the sensitivity of the subject under study.

1.8 Limitation

Many areas affected by illicit arms proliferation in Nairobi City could not be studied due to inadequate time and resources. It was also not possible to study all the factors that influence the proliferation of illicit small arms. The study therefore studied Embakasi and Makadara divisions and only investigated the supply, demand and cost of illicit small arms. The subject of the study was regarded as sensitive as it touched on illegal business. This constrained the choice of the target population to only the law enforcement agents and civil society groups.

1.9 Assumptions

Owing to the sensitivity of the issue studied, the underlying assumption was that the respondents would truthfully volunteer information herein analyzed and presented. As shown in 4.2, the respondents were very cooperative and showed keenness to respond to the interview.

1.10 Definition of Significant Terms

Supply: Refers to the total amount of illicit Small arms that is available to end-users.

Demand: Is defined as the factors driving the acquisition of Small arms by communities and individuals.

Cost: Is the amount that has to be paid or spent to acquire illicit Small arms.

Proliferation of Small Arms: Refers to the penetration of illicit Small arms into the country through various regional or local boundaries posing an immediate security challenge to individuals, societies, and the country.

1.11 Organization of the Study

The study is organized into five chapters. Chapter One provide the background of the study; statement of the problem; purpose of the study; the research objectives; research questions that would guide the study; significance of the study; delimitation and limitation of the study; the basic assumptions of the study and finally definitions of significant terms used in the study.

Chapter Two is the literature review. The study analyzed what other researchers and scholars have written in the recent past regarding proliferation of Small arms and light weapons (SALW)

and the threat it presents on public safety in Kenya. Findings and conclusions of these studies and books were analyzed critically and the key areas of their views highlighted.

Chapter Three is the methodology of the study which shows how the study was carried out through indicating the research design, target population, sampling frame and technique and method of data collection.

The fourth chapter contains the key findings of the study while the fifth chapter presents the conclusions, discussions and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter reviews relevant literature on Small arms and the factors influencing their proliferation from global, African and local perspectives. It also presents both a theoretical and conceptual framework on which the study is based.

2.2 Proliferation of Small arms

The New Oxford Dictionary defines proliferation as ‘rapid increase in numbers’. Therefore Small arms proliferation presupposes an increase in Small arms production, trade and consumption within a locality. The ‘rapid increase’ is aided by Weak domestic laws, inadequate or absence of stockpiles security and management, States’ intentional transfer to sympathetic governments and non-states actors, rogue brokers and porous borders, (Small arms Survey, 2008).

Rachel Stohl 2007), pp.38-58 observes that weak domestic laws do not adequately manage and secure the government stockpiles or arsenals thereby leading to diversion of Small arms to black markets. He notes that inadequate or absence of stockpiles security and management means that Small arms will flow from the government arsenals and insurgent groups. In 2002, media reports indicated that some of the weapons which were collected after the war in Albania were not adequately stored and managed. As a result, these weapons were transferred to Rwanda, from where they were allegedly passed on to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Kenya.

In the Great Lakes region, SALW shipments are sometimes disguised as non-lethal cargo or as humanitarian supplies and are often discovered only after the trafficker fails to bribe police and customs officers or when a plane crashes and reveals the hidden nature of its cargo (Boutwell and Klare, 1999:34). Sometimes they are hidden in clothing, vehicles or kitchen utensils (Ayissi and Sall, 2005:56). Kamenju, Singo and Wairagu (2003 pp 53) content that illicit Small arms in Kenya flow from Sudan, Uganda, Somali and Ethiopia through the porous borders. They observe that the main road that connect Kenya and Sudan and Lokichogio airport serve as the leading route for arms flows from Sudan to Kenya.

2.3 Supply of Small arms

A weak and sometimes corrupt security architecture characterized by inadequate border control mechanisms and minimal police presence in vast parts of northern Kenya creates a favorable environment for illicit small arms trafficking, possession, and use (Kimaiyo & Nthiga, 2009). Kenya is ranked 154th worldwide and 35th in Africa in Transparency International's 2010 Corruption Perceptions Index and only beats Burundi in the East African Community (TI, 2010, p. 14). While Kenya recorded an improvement in the 2011 East African Bribery Index as the fourth least corrupt country in East Africa, the Kenya Police was ranked as the most corrupt institution in the country and the fourth most corrupt in East Africa (TI Kenya, 2011, pp. 2–3). While the variables used to determine these rankings are not specific to small arms, the fact that Kenyans do not perceive their police to be transparent are a basis for concern, given this law enforcement agency's centrality in enforcing security and stockpile management, among other roles.

Poor policing in vast parts of Kenya has catalyzed the permeation of a gun culture, especially among pastoral communities. The implication is that the Kalashnikov assault rifle has ceased to be just a gun and has become a potent symbol of conflict and violence, as well as power. In northern Kenya, the gun culture or the value of Small arms as a necessary possession among groups has entrenched many people's view that Small arms possession is an essential right. This has resulted in inter-ethnic arms races (Kamenju, Singo & Wairagu, 2003).

Communities' marginal existence in underdeveloped parts of the country creates a demand for small arms as groups compete for scarce resources and protect their livelihoods. This, coupled with inter-ethnic rivalries that turn violent, for instance, through cattle-rustling raids, pushes communities to self-arm for security. Worse still, the government's failure to impose its presence through service provision and enhancing law and order in northern Kenya has cumulatively fed communities' essential need for Small arms. These Small arms find their way into the major cities and towns through transit roads or using any means possible to deceive the law enforcement officers.

Weak governance structures influence insecurity and Small arms proliferation. For instance, in listing the several factors contributing to the demand for small arms among pastoralist communities, Mkutu (2008, pp. 6–9) argues that the primary cause is poor governance, while among the secondary causes are weakening customary governance institutions, diminishing

numbers of cattle, the need to pay bride price, and unemployment. However, there are other independent triggers, like cattle rustling, which is treated as a cultural problem among most pastoralist communities in Kenya and the Eastern Africa region.

The effects of small arms supply and misuse have long been felt throughout Kenyan society. Pastoralist communities with relatively little police presence and numerous challenges (such as conflict over grazing and water access for their cattle) are greatly affected. This is especially so for communities in the North Eastern, Upper Eastern, and North Rift areas, which are believed to suffer excessively from high levels of illicit Small arms and insecurity (Muchai, 2005). These arms find their way to other parts of the country especially the urban centres like Nairobi, Mombasa, Eldoret, Thika, and Kisumu which have also suffered from the illicit trade in small arms.

2.4.Demand for Small arms

When illegal guns are viewed as a market phenomenon, trafficking and other illegal acquisition activities represent the supply side of the market. Indeed, supply of illicit arms is dictated by demand for the arms. For instance, criminals' intent and a desire for self-protection primarily drive the demand side and therefore supply of arms.

During the post election violence in Kenya, 2007/2008, the country experienced unprecedented levels of armed violence leading to mass displacements, and widespread insecurity believed to have fed a new demand for small arms, especially in central and Rift Valley Province.

Whereas many crude weapons were used to unleash the violence and resultant killings, there are reports of communities seeking to acquire—and obtaining—more sophisticated Small arms. Alongside this growing demand are concerns about the potential proliferation of armed groups and the growth of existing organized gangs. This rearmament drive among communities, widely reported by the media, confirms the need to put in place well-founded arms control measures alongside peace-building efforts. According to a report by Wepundi et. al. (2011), business people are finding trading in small arms and light weapons lucrative and using all means possible to evade the law while at the same time supplying the weapons to the black-market.

2.5 Cost of illicit Small arms

The cost of illicit Small arms has a direct relationship with demand and supply for the arms. Singo, et al (2003) avers that the cost of guns varies with the type of the gun one is interested on and from one

place to another. He observes that a wide variety of guns are available in Kenya and that an AK 47 rifle in Trans-Nzoia costs between Kshs 7,000 and 10,000, G3 between 20,000 and 30,000 while the cost of revolvers range between Kshs 3,000 and 5,000. He further noted that the prices may fluctuate from time to time depending on the level of insecurity either within or in the neighboring communities or districts.

2.6 Theoretical Framework.

Cawthra *et al* (2007) defines human security by posing fundamental questions such as “security for who?” and “security from what?” and shows how human security and state security overlap. This is important for this study as it expounds on realms of knowledge on the subject of human security and brings out the fact that the security of the state is insufficient to safeguard human security and that states that are outwardly aggressive or inwardly repressive or incapable of effective governance constitute a major source of human insecurity.

2.6.1 System Theory of Conflict

System theory is an approach to social life that stresses functional parts working together for a specific end. In general, this approach deals with what holds the organism together, when linked with conflict, the theory describes how things fall apart. A system theory of conflict seeks to show how parts of a system do not always harmoniously work together (Walter, 2011). The theory stresses how oppression is part of larger social whole; the function of the theory is to show how the structures of production oppress labor. The capitalist must force labor to work more and more for less money or as little money as the owner can get away with. But this is not because the owner is a bad person but because the capitalist system as a whole demands the capitalist save money, operate efficiently and turn a profit to survive (Walter, 2011).

The theory holds that, human nature is always changeable, and those with power will always develop ideologies that justify their domination. Without the system, those ideologies would fade away, leading to a fully human, honest life without the smokescreens or deception (Walter, 2011). Systems theory does not just deal with economics or politics, but with human attitudes (such as the sense of superiority) that derive from these relations in a system. The ultimate purpose of a systems theory of conflict is to alter the system; this can be used to relate to the perceived superiority achieved through ownership of small arms and light weapons.

The theory can be used to imply rebellion to status quo, where individuals engage in certain things to change the system. According to a report by Synovate (2010), the gap between the rich and the poor keeps on widening due to high levels of unemployment and remuneration policies in the country; this has led to high levels of desperation among the youth ultimately increasing crime incidents which can only translate to civilians arming themselves.

2.6.2 Conflict Theory

Conflict theory pertains to the differing ways that both individuals and communities grouped by social and economic class, use, abuse or are victimized by power relations (Bruscke, 2011). Sociologists, psychologists, labor and human rights organizers, academics and critics all utilize conflict theory to discuss and study how a class system affects various social interactions. The theory, in general, holds several assumptions to be true, it asserts that competition for resources, that is, wealth and power drives all human interactions; that competition begets inequality in all societies; and that change within a society is not the result of a slow, natural evolution, but rather an abrupt conflict, such as a revolution or a war.

According to classical conflict theory, the single defining factor within a society that causes discord, disputes or disagreements, is the unequal distribution of material wealth and this imposes order on society; people with power and wealth will protect their status, while those without will try and gain power and wealth (Bruscke, 2011). This can be deduced to mean that, a society in which a group of citizens feel aggrieved by the rich and mighty within their settings can result into doing anything which gives them an edge over their rich peers and this might involve ownership of illicit guns ultimately perpetrating crimes.

2.6.3 Source of SALW in Nairobi

The spread of Small arms in Kenya can be traced to 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century. At the time, the territory now known as Kenya had no regulations controlling the ownership and use of Small arms. Small arms were used freely by the colonial government and the white settler community until 1954, when the first legislation was enacted. Wairagu (2006) notes that in 1953, at the height of the Mau Mau uprising, over 660 precision Small arms were stolen or captured from the British troops, the King's African Rifles (KAR) forces, Home guard units, the police and other units of the security forces and European reservists and farmers. This would mark the first massive transfer of arms to civilians.

Another major source of arms in the country is related to overthrow of the long ruling Monarch, Emperor Haile Selassie in 1974. The new regime turned to the then Communist Russia, abrogated military assistance agreement with the US in April, 1977 changing the whole state arsenal (Wairagu, 2006). This change was exacerbated by the July 1997 attack of the Ogaden Province by Somali forces forcing a massive airlift of Russian and Cuban troops and more consignment of assorted arms. A whole arsenal of National Defence and Security forces melted into populations and probably fanning conflicts in the region remnants of which could still be in use in Nairobi (Kamenju, 2006).

According to Kamenju, the overthrow of President Okello in Uganda in 1986 by Tanzanian backed rebels disintegrated the Army which left a number of armories intact and full of arms and ammunition and which the Karamajong soon scrambled for. Stolen arms would later find their way into Kenya.

There are other sources of illicit arms in Kenya. Small Arms Survey (SAS, 2008, p 43) contends that diversions are at the heart of proliferation. Diversions occur where large international transfers may be organized and facilitated by corrupt security officials and through localized theft and resale of government stocks by those to whom they are legally issued for their day to day use. SAS observes that in Northern Kenya, 40 per cent of the ammunition in the illicit market has leaked from the Kenya Armed Forces. SAS (2008) cite another source of illicit arms as that of arms stolen from licensed civilians through burglary and other forms of theft.

2.6.4 Efforts to address SALW problem

Before 1995, talk of small arms was confined to the media and civil society. Reports were mainly on incidences of armed conflicts, armed crime and misuse of arms. Governments treated manifestations of small arms and reduced the question of arms as unimportant. Proliferation of small arms was not identified as a problem *per se* at the international, regional or local levels.

The identification of small arms proliferation as a global issue gained international recognition through the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 50/70B of 12 December, 1995, which requested the Secretary General to prepare a report on the status of SALW and the menace they may pose to international peace and security. This culminated in an international conference held in New York between 9 and 20 July, 2001 and which produced the UN Programme of Action (UNPoA) to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons

in all its Aspects and is contained in UN Document A/CONF.192/15. The document details implementation at the national, regional and the global levels, international cooperation and assistance and the follow-up actions.

At the regional level and as a build-up to this international conference, 10 countries signed the Nairobi Declaration (ND) on Small Arms and Light Weapons on 15th March 2000. The Eastern African Police Chiefs Committee (EAPCCO) embraced and fully supported the Declaration and the subsequent Protocol for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of SALW in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa. The 10 countries signatory to the Nairobi declaration and protocol are Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Somalia. Seychelles joined later.

In the same spirit, the ministers of member states of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), now AU met in Bamako, Mali, from 30 November to 1 December 2000, to develop an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons which had formed the basis for the United Nations Conference of July 2001 in New York which produced the UNPoA.

In Kenya, the UNPoA was domesticated by the development of the National Action Plan (NAP) which was launched by the Minister in charge of Internal Security in July 2007. Unfortunately, the implementation has been very slow due to the ongoing political fiasco within the coalition government. The failure to implement the NAP is despite the fact that the threat and fear of SALW in Kenya, and in Nairobi in particular, is real.

2.7 Conceptual Framework

According to Young, (2008), a conceptual framework is a concise description of the phenomenon under study accompanied by a graphical or visual depiction of the major variables of the study, that is, a diagrammatical representation showing the relationship between dependent and independent variables. In this study, the independent variables are; supply, demand, and cost of Small arms. The dependent variable will be the proliferation of these arms in Embakasi and Makadara Divisions.

Independent variables

Dependent variable

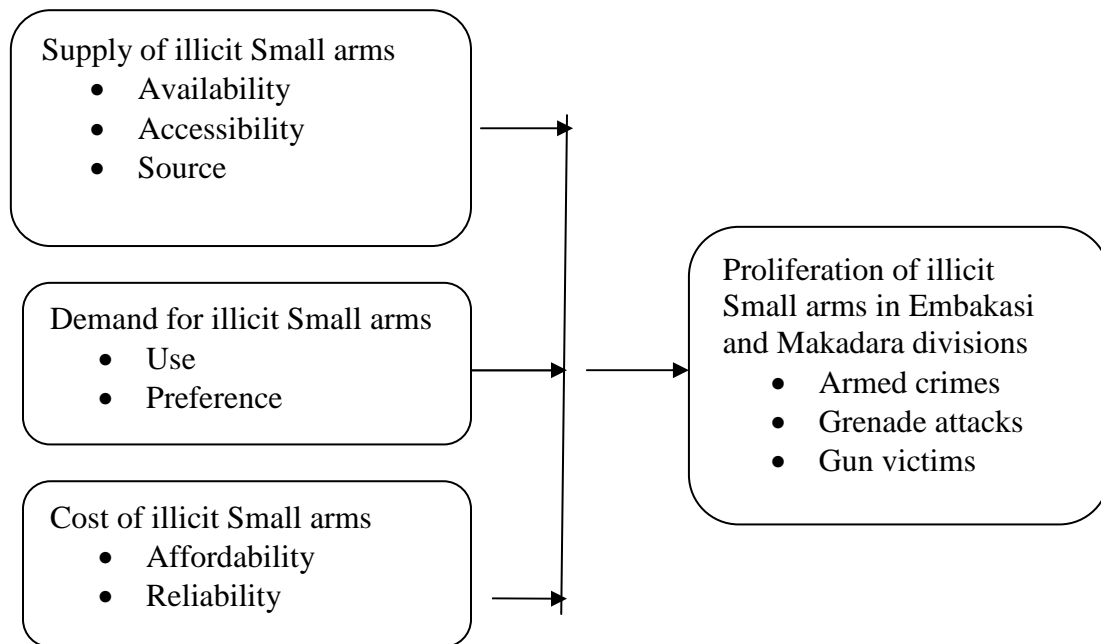


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

2.8 Research gap and chapter summary

The conceptual framework gives the relationship between the independent variables namely supply, demand and cost and influence these variables have on Small arms proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara Divisions. The three independent variables have high propensity of influencing proliferation of Small arms. The study concentrated on establishing this influence.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter describes the methodology used to find answers to the research questions. The chapter covers the research design, target population, sampling procedure, data collection procedure, reliability, validity and ethical considerations. The Chapter also explains how data was analyzed to produce the required information necessary for the study.

3.2 Research Design

According to Orodho, (2003), research design is a scheme, outline or plan that is used to generate answers to research problems. The design facilitates research to be as efficient as possible in yielding maximum information as it regards the research questions. In nutshell, the function of research design is to ease collection of relevant evidence with minimal expenditure of effort, time and money.

The study adopted descriptive research design since it is more appropriate for answering research questions which ask, “how” and “what” and which does not require control over events (Yin, 1994). The main advantages of descriptive design includes: provision of opportunity to acquire a lot of information through the area under study not to mention also that some descriptions can be used as an indirect test of a theory or model and that some behaviors or situations cannot be studied in any other way. However, a major disadvantage of descriptive design is that the Researcher “has no control over the variables; he can only report what has happened or what is happening” (Kothari, 2004).

3.3 Target Population

Target population refers to the specific population upon which information is desired (Ngechu, 2004). The study targeted respondents’ who on account of their positions in the society are perceived to have above average knowledge on arms proliferation. These were; Chiefs, officers commanding police stations, District peace committee members, and community based organizations. Table 3.1 gives the population of the target respondents in both Embakasi and Makadara divisions.

Table 3.1 Target population in Embakasi and Makadara divisions

Target population					
Embakasi Division	Locations	No. of Chiefs	No. of OCS'S	No. of DPC'S	CBO'S
	Dandora	1	0	1	5
	Kayole	1	1	0	11
	Embakasi	1	0	1	4
	Kariobangi south	1	0	0	7
	Mukuru kwa Njenga	1	0	0	2
	Njiru	1	0	1	5
	Ruai	1	0	1	1
	Umoja	1	0	0	2
Makadara Division	Makadara	1	0	1	6
	Makongeni	1	0	0	1
	Maringo	1	0	0	2
	Mukuru Nyayo	1	0	1	3
	Viwandani	1	1	1	8
Total		13	2	7	57

Source: ROK, 2010

3.4 Sampling Procedure

According to Orodho (2003), a sample is a finite and representative of individuals or objects in a population under study. The scholar further states that a sample being a representative of the population eases research work through minimizing costs, saving time and also for convenience purposes. The same researcher posits that, if a population consists of just a few hundreds, it is prudent to survey all the units in order to achieve the highest level of accuracy. Since the total number of units in the targeted divisions was 79, the study surveyed the entire population.

3.5 Methods of Data Collection

The study used both quantitative and qualitative data collection methods. This included administration of semi structured questionnaires to targeted Community based organizations. In total, 57 questionnaires were administered; one from each of the 57 targeted CBO's. Qualitative data was obtained from interviewing 22 key informants drawn from OCPD's, Chiefs and Peace

Committees. The purpose of the key informants' interviews was to buttress information generated from CBO's. The study also made use of secondary sources such as text books, reports, journals, newspapers and websites. Prior to the commencement of data collection, the researcher sought audience with local authorities in Embakasi and Makadarato clarify the purpose of the study and obtain clearance.

3.6 Validity

Validity is the degree to which a test measures what it purports and consequently permits appropriate interpretations of scores (Nachmias and Nachmias (1996). To access the content validity of the instrument; the researcher seek expert opinion from the University, particularly the supervisor.

3.7 Reliability

Reliability refers to how consistent a measuring device is; ability to produce similar results if used again in similar circumstances. (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003).

The research carried out a pilot study to pretest the reliability of the data collection tools in giving the desired results in order to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness. This involved interviewing 2 respondents randomly chosen from the target population. The two were however not part of the 57 study sample.

3.8 Data Collection Procedure

Key informants interviews were contacted by the researcher in person while the questionnaires were administered through research assistants. In order to increase efficiency in data collection, prior arrangements were made to ensure respondents' were notified before the actual day of interview. Research assistants were trained on principles of data administration. They were also briefed on the objectives of the study.

3.9 Data Analysis

Data for this study was organized, edited, coded, and analyzed using SPSS, version 21.0, from which tables were generated for inferences and conclusions. The results of the analysis were compared with the results in the literature review from which inferences were drawn and conclusions and recommendations made based on the descriptive statistics.

3.10 Ethical Considerations

Ethical issues were considered when conducting the research to ensure confidentiality, privacy and anonymity where required. The interviews were voluntary.

3.11 Operationalization of variables

Table 3.2 offers the operationalization of variables on which the study is based.

Table 3.2 Operational Definition of Variables

Research Objectives	Type of Variable	Variables	Indicators	Measurement	Data Collection Methods	Types of Analysis
To establish how the supply of Small arms influence their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions	Independent	Supply	Availability Accessibility Source	Availability, Source	Questionnaire , Key informant's Interview guide	Qualitative
To investigate how demand for illicit Small arms influence their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions	Independent	Demand	Use, Preference	Business , Protection, prestige	Questionnaire , Key informant's Interview guide	Qualitative
To establish how the cost of illicit Small arms influences their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions	Independent	Cost	Affordability, Reliability	Price,	Questionnaire , Key informant's Interview guide	Quantitative

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents an analysis of the respondents' profile and general security situation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions. The chapter also presents findings on the supply, demand and the cost of Small arms. It ends with suggestions on methods of addressing Small arms proliferation in both Embakasi and Makadara divisions.

4.2 Response return rate

All the general questionnaires were administered to CBO's from which 57 were completed giving a response rate of 100%. Additionally, 22 key informants' interviews were successfully done from the law enforcement officers. All the respondents' were generally cooperative and showed keenness to respond. Compared to other responses rates for similar results by Chiocha (2009) - 47.14%, the overall response rate of 100% was found to be absolute for analysis and for discussions of the study findings.

4.3 Respondents Profiles

The study sought to establish the age groups of the respondents and from the findings, 48% of the respondents were between the ages of 18 – 30 years, 36% were between 31 – 40 years while the rest (16%) were over 40 years; this was deemed to represent a fairly balanced representation. The high concentration at ages 18-30 years was caused by the majority of staff working with CBO's who were found to be generally young.

Table 4.1 Age Group

Age Group	Percentage
18-30	48%
31-40	36%
41+	16%
Total	100%

In terms of gender, majority of respondents were males, comprising of 60% while females accounted for 40%. The gender disparity can be explained by the general gender inequality within the public employment considering that the study mostly targeted government officers.

Table 4.2 Gender Distribution

Gender	Percentage
Male	60%
Female	40%
Total	100%

4.4 General Security Situation

The study sought to establish the general security situation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions. From the findings, people felt generally insecure. Indeed, majority of respondents, 48%, said the security situation was bad. 44% indicated it was good and a paltry 8% posited that the situation was excellent. Some of the respondents went further to state that they had been victims of gun violence in the past through either being mugged, carjacked or robbed.

Table 4.3 Security situation

State of Security	Percentage
Bad	48%
Good	44%
Excellent	8%
Total	100%

The study sought to establish whether respondents were afraid of armed attack in the target areas. When asked to state whether they were afraid of armed attack, a vast majority said they were very afraid, 59.4%. More than a quarter of respondents, 35.8% were afraid while a paltry 4.3% were not afraid at all. 0.5% did not respond. This sort of response should be alarming since some of respondents were law enforcement agents.

The study shows that 65.4% of respondents who felt very afraid of armed attack were aged between 31-50 years. These were closely followed by the over-50s at 64.8%. These are the age groups that may have property and money and therefore would be targets of robberies. They are also the groups that are likely to own cars and hence exposed to car-jacking.

Table 4.4 Fear of Armed Attack

Level of fear	Percentage
Very afraid	59.4%
Afraid	35.8%
Not Afraid	4.3%
No response	0.5%
Total	100%

The study established that the myriad grenade attack that has rocked the city in the past was part of the reason Embakasi and Makadara residents feared for their own security. The Grenade attacks are more prevalent in the area. Moreover, 56% of respondents were concerned of grenade attacks blaming the menace on the uncontrolled proliferation of Small arms in the district. And as if to confirm peoples' fears, one police officer in Embakasi reported thus:

“On 15th September, 2012 Police foiled a major terrorist attack that was being planned in Nairobi Eastleigh estate. A deadly cache of 8 explosive laden vests, two improvised devises each with at least 30 kg of explosive and weapons were recovered in an apartment in Eastleigh. Two men were arrested, one of Kenyan and another of Somali origin”

Nonetheless, 44% of respondents believe insecurity in the district is bigger than simply occasional grenade attacks citing many unreported cases of robberies, mugging, house-breaking and even day-light theft as some of other criminal activities that compound the security situation in the district.

Table 4.5 Grenade attacks

Grenade attack	Percentage
Yes	56%
No	44%
Total	100%

4.3 Supply of Small arms

The study sought to establish whether the illicit small arms were readily available in Embakasi and Makadara divisions. It also sought to establish the source of these arms and the level of accessibility.

4.3.1 Availability of illicit small arms

The study first sought to establish whether respondents were concerned about their areas being associated with illicit arms all respondent in the affirmative, that they were concerned that their residential areas were not safe anymore as a result of misuse of small arms and light weapons.

Asked whether they knew anyone who owns an illicit firearm, 5.8% said yes they did, 10.8% suspected someone had a firearm but a majority 83.4% did not know or suspect anyone had one. This is a good indication that there are not many people who are known to own illicit Small arms. However, those known and suspected to own illicit Small arms are enough to pose a threat to the residents and workers of Nairobi.

Table 4.6 Ownership of illicit Arms

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	23	5.8
No	331	83.4
Suspect	43	10.8
Total	397	100.0

Moreover, the study established that more youth (18-30) than the middle-aged knew people who own Small arms. They also lead in suspecting those who might be armed. In terms of gender, more females (6.7%) than males (5.2%) knew who own Small arms although the males lead in suspects. Almost the same number of males as females had no idea who owns a firearm.

The study observed that majority of the female youth in Nairobi do not want to own guns but know where and who has the guns better than the male youth. This observation is handy in the war against arms proliferation as it shows the right target for anti-proliferation campaigns.

The study also established that about 45% of criminals in Embakasi and Makadara possess illicit small arms and that 40% of refugees are armed. It was found that businessmen were also armed, 12% while other people with arms constitute only 4%.

Table 4.7 Extent of armament

Extent of armament	Frequency	Percent
Businessmen	3	12.0
Criminals	11	44.0
Refugees	10	40.0
Other people	1	4.0
Total	25	100.0

The study sought to establish the most common type of illicit arm in Embakasi and Makadara divisions. It was found that pistols and grenades were the most common probably owing to the recent grenade attacks experienced in various parts of the country; this was represented by 52% of the respondents. Other weapons mentioned included AK-47 represented by 4%.

Table 4.8 Most common type of illicit arms

Type of Arms	Percentage
Pistols	52%
Grenades	40%
AK-47	4%
Others	4%
Total	100%

4.3.2 Source of illicit Small arms

The study sought to establish the sources of Small arms in Nairobi. As shown in the table 4.9, 28% of respondents felt the illicit Small arms in circulation come from Somalia. The same number of respondents felt refugees in the country bring with them illicit guns. 24% said some illicit arms emanate from legally held government stockpiles through rogue police officers. Other sources were cited as Ethiopia, 8% and internal sources 8%. Majority of the mentioned sources can be blamed on porous borders which continue to allow trading of Small arms across the borders; whether from Uganda, Sudan, Somalia or even Ethiopia.

Table 4.9 Sources of Small Arms

Source	Frequency	Percent
Do not know	1	4.0
Somalia	7	28.0
Ethiopia	2	8.0
Within Country- Kiamaiko	2	8.0
Government officers	6	24.0
Refuges	7	28.0
Total	25	100.0

4.3.3 Accessibility of illicit small arms

Asked whether the illicit small arms were accessible to residents, it was established that refugees coming to the country were trafficking on the illicit Small arms and sometimes they would hire to the youth on credit to commit crimes. It was established that gun possession in some of the neighboring countries was normal and that some of the refugees were used to trading in guns.

The study also sought to establish the age groups mostly involved in arms trafficking. It was found that the youth were most likely to engage in arms trafficking than any other group. Indeed, 60% of respondents mention ages between 21- 30 years while 16% mention ages between 31 and 40 years. The study established that the Kenyan youth was more involved in arms trafficking and misuse compared to all other age groups.

Table 4.10 Age Group mostly involved in Arms trafficking

Age Group	Frequency	Percent
15-20	3	12.0
21-30	15	60.0
31-40	4	16.0
41-50	2	8.0
50+	1	4.0
Total	25	100.0

4.4. Demand for Small arms

The study has established there is illicit small arms circulation in Nairobi's Embakasi and Makadara divisions. The source of these arms has also been established. Based on this the researcher was concerned about the demand for the illicit arms.

4.4.1 Use of the illicit Small arms

When asked why civilians want to own illegal guns, 42% said illicit arms in the area were used as a means of livelihood, 35% felt the arms were required for criminal purposes while 11% cited protection. A paltry 2% said the arms were a source of prestige while 10% said they did not know. Indeed, as a result of joblessness, the youth are quickly identifying the gun as an important means to subsistence. This includes robbing others or selling the arms to criminals or private businessmen who need the arms to protect their property but are not willing to undergo through the rigorous vetting process to acquire a legal one. It was apparent that the more the availability of illicit guns in the area, the higher the insecurity and hence demands for more arms.

Table 4.12 Reasons for acquiring Arms

Reason for acquiring Arms	Percentage
Business	42%
Crime	35%
Protection	11%
No response	10%
Prestige	2%
Total	100%

4.5 Cost of Small arms

On the cost of the illicit small arms, the study sought to establish the ability of the residents of Embakasi and Makadara to afford illicit small arms.

4.5.1 Affordability of illicit Small arms

The study established that the price of an AK-47 ranged from Kshs. 50,000 to 70,000 and that a pistol averaged Kshs. 35,000. Asked whether majority of youth accused of possession and misuse of the illicit small arms could afford, it was revealed that refugees hire the arms on credit

to the youth who would pay after committing crime. The arms were however affordable to the business community who require them to secure their property.

The study also sought to establish factors influencing the price of the illicit arms and as shown in the Table 4.13, majority of respondents, 48% indicated political stability. On further analysis, it was found that when neighboring countries such as Somali and Southern Sudan are in war, the influx of refugees in the country is high. Most of the refugees bring with them illegal guns and therefore increase the supply. Increased supply of illicit arms pushes the price down. It was also found that accessibility was also important in determining the price of a firearm. Most key informants' revealed that sometimes when the law enforcement agents are cracking down on illegal arms, the traders or arms traffickers hide the guns effectively reducing on supply and therefore increased prices. Another factor given was the type and the age of the Small arms. It was found that some Small arms were too old or not conducive for a particular purpose such committing crime. Based on this it was mentioned that the easier the firearm can be concealed the higher the price if the Small arms were required for criminal purposes. The table below provides the factors mentioned.

Table 4.13 Factors influencing price of a firearm

Response	Frequency	Percent
Political stability	12	48.0
Accessibility	5	20.0
Conceal ability	2	8.0
Type & age	6	24.0
Total	25	100.0

4.6. Methods of addressing illicit arms proliferation

On being asked the best means of either combating or eradicating illicit arms in the country, majority of respondents felt that the refugees needed to be properly screened and monitored to ensure they do not bring-in guns and also not in any way involved in crime in the country. Other respondents, 24%, indicated that the government through the police needed to be more vigilant when dealing with crime and enforcing the law in order to deter individuals from trading in illicit arms, 16% of the respondents stated that the policemen still fell short of the required numbers

and there was need to recruit more police officers and also enforce strict penalties for illicit ownership of guns.

Table 4.14 Methods of addressing illicit arms proliferation

Means of Eradicating Illicit Arms	Frequency	Percent
The police officers should be more vigilant	6	24.0
Government needs to recruit more police officers	4	16.0
Inspect refugees and monitor their whereabouts	14	56.0
Strict penalties for illicit ownership of guns	1	4.0
Total	25	100.0

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter provides the summary of the findings from Chapter Four. It also gives the conclusion and recommendations of the study based on the objectives of the study. The main objective of the study was to establish the factors influencing the proliferation of illicit Small arms in Embakasi and Makadara in order to propose practical ways of dealing with the problem.

5.2 Summary of the findings

The following is the summary of the key findings of the study, the factors influencing the proliferation of Small arms in Embakasi and Makadara Divisions, Nairobi East District, Kenya. The findings are as per the three objectives of the study.

5.2.1 Supply of Illicit Small arms

The study established that illicit Small arms were available in Embakasi and Makadara and that majority of these arms come from Somali through refugees' camps. The study established that due to weak governance structures in Somali, people were used to doing illicit businesses and therefore trade in arms was just normal. The refugees brought with them the illicit arms in Nairobi. It was also found that some illicit arms emanated from government stockpiles either sold by rogue police officers or stolen from them by criminals. Some are hired by criminals within police service. The study established that youth aged between 21-30 years were mostly involved in arms trafficking.

5.2.2 Demand for Small arms

The study established that most of illicit arms were held by the youth for criminal purposes. It was found that due to escalating joblessness, the youth were quickly identifying the gun as an important means to subsistence. This includes robbing others or selling the arms to criminals or private businessmen who need the arms to protect their property but are not willing to undergo the rigorous legal vetting process to acquire a legal one. It was also found that the easy availability of Small arms contribute to increased demand for them thereby influencing their proliferation.

5.2.3 Cost of Small arms

The study found a strong relationship between the cost of a firearm and the supply. It was found that when the demand was high, the cost goes up. On the other hand, when the supply of Small arms was high, the cost goes down. The study has elaborated factors that influence the supply and also the demand. The study found that on an average, the price of an illicit pistol is about Kshs 35,000 while that of an AK-47 ranged from Kshs 50,000 to Kshs 70,000.

5.3 Discussion

The following section discussed the study findings against relevant literature.

5.3.1 Supply of Small arms

The study established there was high supply of Small arms in both Embakasi and Makadara divisions, and that these arms were brought in by refugees from neighboring countries. This finding is supported by Muchai, (2005) who observed that most of illicit Small arms circulating in Kenya come from Somalia, Uganda, Ethiopia and Southern Sudan. Illicit SALW can be smuggled quite easily from one place to another. Boutwell and Klare, 1999:34, observed that in the Great Lakes region, Small arms shipments are sometimes disguised as non-lethal cargo or as humanitarian supplies and are often discovered only after the trafficker fails to bribe police and customs officers. Ayissi and Sall, 2005:56, also observed that sometimes Small arms are hidden in clothing, vehicles or kitchen utensils. These observations confirm the high supply of Small arms in Nairobi.

5.3.2 Demand for Small arms

The study established that the demand for illicit Small arms is high in Nairobi's Embakasi and Makadara Divisions. It was also established that the demand is fueled by youth unemployment, poor governance, insecurity and corruption. This observation finds parallelism from a study by Mkutu (2008, pp. 6–9) who argued that the primary cause of illicit Small arms proliferation is poor governance and unemployment.

Kamenju, Singo and Wairagu, (2003, pp72-73) are of the view that the penetration of gun culture in the Kenyan society, where everyone owns or seeks to own, has made many people come to see it as their right to own firearm. Ton Dietz, (2004, pp 55) notes that people need firearms to defend themselves due to personal or lineage identities. This observation is collaborated by a study by Claire Jefferson (July 2001, pp 89) which established that where there is high feeling of insecurity, the demand for firearm is high.

5.3.3 Cost of Small arms

The study failed to find correlation between cost of Small arms and their proliferation. Singo, etal (2003) avers that the cost of guns varies with the type of the gun one is interested on and from one place to another.

5.4 Conclusion

The study sought to establish how the supply, demand and cost of illicit small arms influence their proliferation in Embakasi and Makadara divisions. The study concludes that high supply coupled with high demand caused the proliferation of illicit small arms in Embakasi and Makadara divisions. The study could not however attribute the high proliferation to low cost since, majority of the consumers of these arms, the youth, could not afford to buy them, instead they hired. The study further concludes that there was an oversupply of illicit Small arms in Embakasi and Makadara since high demand could not push up the cost of an illicit Small arm.

5.5 Recommendations

The following section presents recommendations to relevant authorities based on the findings of the study.

- a. Among the variables studied, the supply of Small arms in Embakasi and Makadara featured prominently and respondents blamed corrupt police officers and influx of refugees through porous border points. The study recommends that the National Police Service increases patrols on border points, enforce law on illicit immigrants and ensure corrupt officers abetting entry of illicit arms into the country are prosecuted.
- b. The study recommends that the Kenya National Focal Point on Small arms (KNFP) enhances public awareness on the dangers of illicit Small arms ownership through mobilization and coordination of relevant civil society organizations. The public awareness will reduce demand for arms born out of false perception that gun ownership increases ones security.
- c. The study recommends that the National government enhances security within the Embakasi and Makadara divisions. This will build the confidence of businessmen/women whom the study established owned arms with the aim of securing their businesses and property. It is also recommended that the government prioritizes the community based policing initiatives to enhance information sharing for effective crime management.

- d. Both the government and the universities need to facilitate research on issues of Small arms, crime safety to inform policy formulation and implementation.

5.6 Suggestions for further studies

This section presents suggestions for further studies.

- a. The findings presented in this study are based on a small portion of Nairobi County. The study suggested future studies be done on the factors influencing proliferation of illicit Small arms in Nairobi County.
- b. The study relied on the existing literature and 22 key informants' and administration of 57 questionnaires to CBO's. It is suggested that future study be done on the public perception on the factors influencing proliferation of Illicit Small arms in Nairobi East District in order to get varied scenarios.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: LETTER OF INTRODUCTION TO RESPONDENTS

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: COLLECTION OF RESEARCH DATA

My name is Leonard Kyalo Musoi, a student at the University of Nairobi pursuing a Post Graduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management (PgD – PPM). I am currently carrying out a research on the “*Factors influencing proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons in Nairobi East district*”. I am in the process of gathering relevant data for the purposes of this study with the help of the following research assistants:

1. Ms. Catherine Mutheu Kyalo
2. Mr. Jackson Kibor

I therefore write to kindly request for your assistance towards making this study a success by taking some time to respond to the questionnaire. I assure you that your response will be treated with confidentiality and will be used solely for the purpose of this study.

Thank you in advance for your valuable time and response.

Yours Sincerely,

Leonard K. Musoi

Student Reg. No. L42/ 60601/ 2009

APPENDIX 2: QUESTIONNAIRE

Introduction

This questionnaire is designed to generate information on factors influencing the proliferation of SALW in Nairobi East District. Kindly answer all the questions as truthfully as possible. All information volunteered, including respondent identity, will be kept strictly confidential.

A) Respondent profile

<p>1. Sex (tick) 1 = Male, 2 = Female</p> <p>2. Age bracket: 1 = (18 – 25), 2 = (26 – 35), 3 = (36 – 45), 4 = (46 – 55), 5 = 56+</p> <p>3. Level of Education: 1 = None, 2 = Primary Level, 3 = Secondary Level, 4 = College level, 5 = University Level.</p>	
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B) General Security

<p>4. In your opinion, how would you rate the security situation in your area of resident?</p> <p>1 = Excellent 2 = Good 3 = Bad</p>	4.	
<p>5. Have you ever been a victim of gun violence? If so, kindly explain</p>	5.	
<p>6. Are you afraid of armed attack?</p> <p>1= Very afraid 2= Afraid 3= Not afraid 4= No response</p>	6.	
<p>7. Are you concerned about grenade/terrorists attacks?</p> <p>1= Yes 2= No</p>	7.	

C) Availability of Small arms

<p>8. Are you concerned this area is associated with the proliferation of SALW? 1= Yes 2= No 3= No response</p>	8.	
<p>9. Do you know anybody with an illicit firearm in this area? 1 = Yes 2 = No 3= Suspect</p>	9.	
<p>10. In your opinion, what category of people possesses arms in this area? 1= Businessmen 2= Refugees 3= Criminals 4= Others</p>	10	
<p>11. What are the most common illicit small arms available in this area? 1= Pistols 2= AK-47 3= Grenades 4= Others</p>	11	

D) Supply of illicit Small arms

<p>12. In your opinion, where do you think is the source of the illicit small arms circulating in this area? Please state.....</p>	12.	
<p>13. Do you think refugees are to blame for the illicit proliferation of small arms in this area? 1= Yes 2= No 3= I do not know</p>	13.	
<p>14. In your opinion, which age group is mostly involved in arms trafficking? 1= 15-20 2= 21-30 3= 31-40 4= 41-50 5 = 50+</p>	14	
<p>15. Are you satisfied with the security measures put in place to address the proliferation of small arms in your area? 1= Very Dissatisfied 2= Dissatisfied 3= Satisfied</p>	15	

E) Demand for Small arms

<p>16. Among the following reasons, which one do you think best explain why people in this area want to own small arms? 1= Crime 2= Business 3= Protection 4= Prestige 4= Do not know</p>	16	
<p>17. Which age group is more likely to own illicit Small arms in this area? 1= 15-20 2= 21-30 3= 31-40 4= 41-50 5 = 50+</p>	17.	

F) Cost of Small arms

18. In your estimation, what is the cost of an AK-47 in this area?	18.	
19. In your estimation, what is the cost of a pistol in this area?	19.	
20. In your opinion what are the factors that determine the price of a firearm in this area?	20.	
21. What do you think should be done to address the proliferation of illicit small arms in this area? Kindly explain.....	21.	

*****Thank you for your time and collaboration*****

APPENDIX 3: KEY INFORMANTS' INTERVIEW GUIDE

Introduction

This interview guide is designed to generate information on factors influencing the proliferation of SALW in Nairobi East District. Kindly answer all the questions as truthfully as possible. All information volunteered, including respondent identity, will be kept strictly confidential.

1. What is your occupation?
2. Level of education
3. How long have you been working/ residing in this area?
4. Kindly give a brief on the security situation in Nairobi East district
5. Studies have shown that Nairobi East District is prone to illicit small arms proliferation. Kindly comment.
6. Are you concerned this area is associated with the proliferation of SALW?
7. In your opinion, what category of people possesses arms in this area?
8. What are the most common illicit small arms available in this area?
9. In your opinion, where do you think is the source of the illicit small arms circulating in this area
10. Do you think refugees are to blame for the illicit proliferation of small arms in this area?
11. Are you satisfied with the security measures put in place to address the proliferation of small arms in your area?
12. What do you think motivates people in this area to own illicit small arms?
13. In your estimation, what is the cost of firearm in this area? Kindly explain
14. What are the factors that determine the price of a firearm in this area?
15. What do you think should be done to address the proliferation of illicit small arms in this area? Kindly explain.