

LendForGood Public Impact Loan Information for for Centre for Armed Violence Reduction (CAVR)

21 March 2023

Loan Summary

Loan name

Accelerating Arms Reduction Technology Solutions

Loan description

Growth in demand for armed violence reduction tools around the world means that the Centre for Armed Violence Reduction (CAVR) needs to invest in upgrades and improvements to its technology products. Due to systematic payment delays from some of its customers (especially UN agencies), CAVR wants an impact loan so that work can commence on its product upgrades now, rather than wait an uncertain amount of time to fund it from customer receipts.

Loan amount (in AUD dollars)

\$120,000

Loan period

6 months

Loan interest rate

8% per annum, simple interest

Borrower name

Centre for Armed Violence Reduction

Borrower country

Australia

Borrower city, state

Sydney, NSW

Borrower website

<https://armedviolencereduction.org/>



Intermediary Details

Impact intermediary name
Red Hat Impact

Impact Intermediary country
Australia

Impact intermediary website
www.redhatimpact.com



Loan Detail



Photo Credit: Sean Sutton, used by permission from CAVR

Provide a short summary on the background and context of the loan, and how this fits with the mission of the borrower

The purpose of this loan is for the Centre for Armed Violence Reduction to invest \$120k into required enhancements and upgrades to its 3 technology products for armed violence reduction - (1) its arms control solutions through ArmsTracker, (2) its global database of gun and related regulation through GunPolicy.org, and (3) its new initiative to assist all violence-affected, developing countries to better Prevent and Respond to armed violence through Armed Incidents Management (AIM).

The funds will expand functionality, increase and maintain access, and support CAVR in continuing to onboard new jurisdictions to tackle the challenges of armed violence in their countries.

Describe the positive social and/or environmental impact the loan will create, and how it will be measured/assessed

CAVR develops solutions to reduce armed violence in developing countries, through better control of arms, ammunition, explosives and violent incidents. We do this through three initiatives which we are expanding: ArmsTracker, GunPolicy.org and AIM.

ArmsTracker

ArmsTracker continues to grow. In addition to the four Pacific Countries where it was initially tested, ArmsTracker is now being used or installed in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Burkina Faso (in French), and Cambodia (in Khmer and English). We are also assisting other countries, such as Cote d'Ivoire (in French), who want to add the features of ArmsTracker to their existing system. It will soon be installed in Ecuador, our first Spanish version, which will open doors to other Latin American countries where it is desperately needed as they have the highest gun violence rates in the world.

The funder for our Ecuador project is keen to see ArmsTracker proven in Ecuador before funding us to expand it to other Latin American countries. In order to update the Spanish translations, IT customisation and to arrange additional support in Ecuador, **we need to invest an additional A\$52,000.**

GunPolicy.org

Effective implementation of global instruments on arms regulation is highly dependent on accurate, up-to-date information and tracking. GunPolicy.org is the world's leading source for such information. It was visited by 686,691 new users alone in the past year and we achieved media reach in the hundreds of millions. Our site is regularly quoted by those working to implement and improve, to compare and to write about arms regulation across countries and regions.

Launched by the Australian Government at the UN in 2010, our site has relied on the same database architecture and server stack for 13 years. In that time, much of the original software has become obsolete and the entire system is now in urgent need of an overhaul. As with other sites that attract disagreement, our server fends off thousands of automated and manual hacking attempts every month. Basic upgrades and patches can no longer be relied upon. If our site is to remain online, it must now be rebuilt with a thorough security upgrade and the latest versions of essential software.

We are confident of obtaining a grant for this work, though they will not pay until August. We need to get started earlier than that to ensure the site stays online. **We require A\$32,000 for the work that needs to be done prior to August.**

AIM

The Armed Incidents Management system (AIM) is our new initiative and it is being built to assist all violence-affected, developing countries to better Prevent and Respond to armed violence.

AIM gathers, tracks, analyses and enhances:

1. Prevention measures undertaken by communities and authorities, including information on their effectiveness and promotion of successful interventions. Prevention work includes Public Campaigns, which AIM seeks to enhance or develop with human support and

AI-driven tools. These campaigns range from risk education (eg about unexploded ordnance and landmines) to arms collection, amnesties and anti-violence campaigns;

2. Responses to incidences, including:
 - Reports of armed violence, illicit arms possession and trafficking using new and existing reporting options; and
 - Responses by law enforcement, enabling greater oversight and coordination by relevant authorities.

We currently collect, map and analyse information about every incident of armed violence over the past 3 years in our pilot countries of PNG and Nigeria. We are confident of funding for these pilots in the coming months. There are already over 30 staff and post-grad researchers from Macquarie University working with us on this new initiative and that is expected to grow to over 100 shortly. Those researchers are from various departments, including Security Studies, Social Sciences and Computing (Artificial Intelligence).

We require **a one-time A\$36,000 loan to cover IT development on additional elements of AIM, especially the AI-driven tools, in order to ensure the PNG and Nigeria trials are successful** and grants can then flow.

What Sustainable Development Goals does the loan help to achieve? (for more info see <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



- 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 17 Partnerships For The Goals

Lender subscription start date
21/03/2023

Lender subscription cut-off date
12/04/2023

Participating in this Impact Loan

If you are already signed up as a LendForGood lender, you will have received the complete details of this loan to your nominated email address (including access to all related documents). If you have not received this, email us at hello@lendforgood.com.au

If you are not signed up as a LendForGood lender and would like to explore participation in this loan, email us at hello@lendforgood.com.au to get started on becoming a LendForGood lender.

Contributing funds to an impact loan always comes with risk. LendForGood transmits loan information provided by impact intermediaries and their clients (borrowers) for you to assess. All parties use their best endeavours to ensure this information is accurate and up to date at the time of publishing. LendForGood undertakes no due diligence on the loan information, the impact intermediary or the borrower, and holds no financial licence in any jurisdiction. As a LendForGood lender, you participate entirely voluntarily and at your own risk.