



## **Audit of the key ICT project "Programme on defence and armasuisse management and logistical systems"**

### **Armed Forces Staff**

#### **Key facts**

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In the last 11 years, the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS) has invested CHF 213.5 million in the further development of its management systems. The "Programme on defence and armasuisse management and logistical systems" (BLSV/ar programme) established for coordination was concluded at the end of 2016.

The Swiss Federal Audit Office (SFAO) audited this programme for the first time as a key federal project in December 2016. The audit focussed on its conclusion and the remaining pending issues.

The SFAO considers the procedure selected by the DDPS to group all of the department's SAP projects together in one programme to be expedient. The DDPS completed the programme in a professional manner. In the final report, it had unused budget funds of over CHF 40 million. These funds consist of unrealised payments and effective savings. In the absence of an evaluation of the pending issues, allocation is not possible. The remaining amount in the programme's final report thus offers only a limited amount of information. Moreover, the concluding work was comprehensible and well implemented. Due to these audit findings, the SFAO made no recommendations.

#### **The next big challenges are already looming**

The further development of the management systems is still a permanent task for the DDPS even after the programme's conclusion. In view of the complex environment and the dependencies on other big federal projects, the DDPS is once again planning to run these projects as a programme.

The software manufacturer is presenting the next big challenge for the DDPS, and this will have to be tackled with the follow-up programme. The software which has been employed since 1997 will reach the end of its useful life at the end of 2025 and will have to be migrated to the next generation (S/4HANA). The DDPS will receive support in this project from the Federal IT Steering Unit (FITSU). In December 2016, the FITSU began the "SUPERB23" project to prepare the 2023 ERP ICT strategy. The strategy will include both military and civil solutions. Accordingly, the DDPS is also represented in the project and its committee. In the opinion of the SFAO, this cooperation increases the chances that the DDPS will manage to migrate to the next generation by the end of 2025.

#### **Original text in German**