

HEADING 4: Global Europe

Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace

Lead DG: FPI

Associated DGs: DEVCO

I. Overview

What the programme is about?

The Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) is one of the EU's main instruments in the areas of crisis response, conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness, and in addressing global and trans-regional threats. It came into force in 2014, replacing the Instrument for Stability (IfS) and several earlier instruments that focused on drugs, landmines, displaced people, crisis management, rehabilitation and reconstruction. The IcSP provides quick, short-term support in countries or regions where a crisis is emerging or unfolding, as well as longer-term support to conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness activities as well as activities addressing global and trans-regional threats and emerging threats. Its activities complement those of the European Union's geographical and other thematic instruments. The actions of the IcSP are structured around three operational articles in its regulation: Article 3 – Assistance in response to situations of crisis or emerging crisis to prevent conflicts – consumes 70 % of the financial envelope and is non-programmable; Article 4 activities – Assistance for conflict prevention, peace building and crisis preparedness – consumes 9 % of the financial envelope and are programmable; finally, Article 5, which is implemented by DG DEVCO, covers the third objective of the instrument – Assistance to address global and trans-regional threats – and is also subject to programming.

EU added value of the programme

The Treaty on the European Union, under Article 21, has defined common overarching principles and objectives for the Union's external action, such as to '*preserve peace, prevent conflicts and strengthen international security*'. Responding to this particular challenge requires a collective effort based on strong partnerships with states, civil society actors, multilateral and regional partners. As a global player, the EU has credibility due to its value-based positions that provide a competitive advantage to intervene in many conflict areas to avoid escalation or to offer assistance in preventing conflicts. Through an integrated approach with other EU instruments as well as through close coordination and cooperation with EU Member States active in crisis response and peace-building activities the EU not only increases the coherence of the response, it also provides the EU with more leverage to make an impact on actors and developments on the ground. Synergies and close cooperation with EU and international donors are required to make scarce resources in this sector reach further.

Implementation mode

Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) is the lead service for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (mainly through procurement of services) and indirect management with international organisations. The implementation of article 3 actions is predominantly decentralised to the five FPI Regional Teams (Bangkok, Beirut, Nairobi, Dakar, Brasilia) under the authority of the relevant EU Delegations. Management of Article 4 actions are for a large part managed centrally. Most contracts are grants under direct management mode, but around 31 % of contracts are contribution agreements to UN or other international organisations under indirect management mode. Around 5 % of contracts are signed with EU Member State implementing agencies.

The long-term component of the IcSP managed by DG DEVCO is primarily delivered through indirect and direct management, working with EU Member State agencies, UN agencies or other partners such as Interpol. The largest Member State partner as concerns Article 5.1a of the Instrument is *Expertise France* (implementing app. 29 % of the financial resources), followed by *FIIAPP* of Spain (15 %), with other Member States representing only approximately 5 % in total. The engagement with the UN is at 16 %, with Interpol at 6 %, while civil society organisations are implementing approximately 10 % of the actions.

II. Programme Implementation Update

Implementation status (2017-2019)

- Throughout 2019, the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) remained a key tool for EU diplomacy in crisis contexts and in its efforts in conflict prevention, stabilisation, conflict resolution and peace-building. All of the 51 new crisis response actions presented during the year respond directly to EU political priorities. New actions in the Sahel, Somalia, Iraq, Libya and increased funding for actions in Central African Republic, as well as ongoing programmes in Mali, Niger, Somalia, the Central African Republic, Libya, Iraq, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo ⁽¹⁾ and Ukraine, directly complement the work of CSDP missions, thereby contributing to the implementation of the EU Integrated Approach in response to conflicts and crises.

⁽¹⁾ This designation is without prejudice on status, and is in line with the UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

- In 2019, a total of EUR 366.2 million was committed under the IcSP: EUR 256.8 million under the short-term crisis response component (Article 3); EUR 35.5 million under the structural peace-building component (Article 4) implemented by FPI and and EUR 73.9 million was committed under global and trans-regional threats component (Article 5).
- In accordance with the IcSP Regulation, actions under Article 3 – *Response to situations of crisis or emerging crisis* – are not programmable as the actions depend on developments in the international arena, in particular in terms of conflicts and crises. At least 70 % of the overall IcSP financial envelope is allocated to this objective ⁽²⁾.
- Actions under Article 4 – *Assistance for conflict prevention, peace building and crisis preparedness* (9 % ⁽³⁾ of the overall financial envelope), and the third objective under Article 5 – *Assistance to address global and trans-regional threats* – are both subject to programming ⁽⁴⁾. The IcSP programme is implemented in line with the relevant Multi-Annual Indicative Programme and 100 % of allocated funds have been committed. All challenges met are addressed continuously to avoid any impact on the implementation of the programme. All *assistance for conflict prevention, peace building and crisis preparedness* actions under the Annual Indicative Programmes for 2017 and 2018 were launched as planned and implementation is on-going without delays. In 2019, a Multi-Annual Action Programme (MAAP) for 2019-2020 was adopted and implementation has started. A first Capacity Building for Security and Development (CBSD) project under Article 4 was started in 2019 to train military actors in the areas of health, mine clearance or civil protection. A second three-year CBSD action to advance the protection of civilians and stability in East Africa was approved in 2019 as part of the MAAP 2019-2020. In the period 2017-2019, EUR 210.95 million was committed under the IcSP Article 5 and implemented in accordance with the multiannual indicative programme and related strategy. Actions have focused on providing assistance in addressing global, trans-regional, and emerging threats such as the fight against terrorism, organised crime, cyber-crime, illicit trafficking, threats to critical infrastructure, and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) risk mitigation under the Centres of Excellence long term programme.

In addition, the programme included actions on Capacity-building in support of Security and Development (CBSD). The CBSD adopted in 2017 constitutes an additional EUR 100 million to support military actors in fragile contexts where there is no civilian actor that can perform the tasks and where there is a major threat to the functioning of state institutions. In line with Sustainable Development Goal 16 (peace and justice), the EU is seeking to enable partner countries to prevent and manage crises by themselves. EU financial support under the CBSD covers the performance of development and human security-related tasks by the military. Further to the adoption of the CBSD proposal in 2017, projects must have development as their main focus, and must be embedded within the EU-wide strategic framework to support the Security Sector Reform (SSR).

Key programme achievements

IcSP Art. 3 and 4:

At the end of 2019, there were 279 on-going IcSP actions operating in 65 countries. Examples of timely EU responses to high-priority crises on the EU political agenda are given below. Information on the actions funded by the Instrument under Articles 3 and 4 are available for the general public through the following online tool: <https://icspmap.eu/>.

- In response to the increase in deadly attacks against civilians and security forces in the **Sahel** – in particular in the ‘three borders area’ straddling Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger – the Commission mobilised the IcSP to strengthen peacebuilding initiatives and security forces in vulnerable areas, including through CBSD actions. The new initiatives in Burkina Faso and Niger are improving the capacity of the security and defence forces to reinforce security and stability in the regions facing growing instability, allowing the civilian administration, public services and economic activities to continue. In addition, IcSP support to the operationalisation of the police component of the G5 Sahel Joint Force was mobilised during 2019 to support the execution of military operations of the G5 Sahel Joint Military Force. These new initiatives complement ongoing support in the region, including projects supporting civil society organisations with activities *inter alia* in the fields of mediation, dialogue and the prevention of violent extremism as well as efforts to strengthen community resilience and relations between communities and security forces in the Sahel.
- In 2019, the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments has continued to step-up its efforts in the field of **counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism**, in line with the June 2017 Foreign Affairs Council Conclusions on EU external action on Counter Terrorism. In this respect, the IcSP was quickly mobilised to strengthen response capabilities for counterterrorism in both Sri Lanka and the Maldives following the Easter 2019 attacks in Sri Lanka. Similarly, counter-terrorism efforts are supported in the Sahel, in Iraq as well as in South-East Asia with an overall engagement of approximately €50M.
- So far, a total of seven CBSD actions have been launched in five countries (Central African Republic, Mali, Somalia, Lebanon and Tajikistan) under article 3 and one regional action under article 4 to train military in the areas of health, mine

⁽²⁾ The allocation key is foreseen in the Regulation (EU) No 230/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an instrument contributing to stability and peace (OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 1) amended by Regulation (EU) 2017/2306 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2017 (OJ L 335, 15.12.2017, p. 6–10).

⁽³⁾ Idem.

⁽⁴⁾ The 2014-2020 Strategy Paper and 2014-2017 Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) adopted on 11 August 2014.

clearance and civil protection. The Annual Action Programme 2019 for article 5 included one CBSD project aiming to prevent the spread of terrorist armed groups in Burkina Faso and Benin, in order to allow Burkina Faso to regain control of its territory and Benin to preserve peace in its northern region. This contract is in the final stages of negotiation. Under the Annual Action Programme 2018, one CBSD action is under implementation in CAR and one action in Somalia was signed on 6 December 2019.

- Under the component, covering programmable actions for conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness (Article 4) a total of **971 processes and 638 entities** benefited from the strengthened capacity attributable to IcSP funding during the course of 2019 ⁽⁵⁾. This allowed the EU to engage with its partners – international, regional, sub-regional organisations, Member States and civil society actors – on structural measures to support peace-building in a more comprehensive manner.

IcSP Art. 5

Under the third IcSP objective covering programmable actions addressing global, trans-regional and emerging threats, preliminary key programme results based on established programme indicators indicate the fulfilment of planned objectives. In terms of overall programme management, a successful change process over the past years has led to actions being designed to be of a longer duration and the average size of contracts has also increased leading to a more effective use of resources and efficiency gains.

Legislative and operational capacity in third countries was strengthened and global and trans-national cooperation frameworks and networks established as demonstrated below. The focus has been two-fold: supporting security capacities at national and regional levels on the one hand and promoting frameworks for effective global and trans-regional cooperation on the other. Following a tailored approach, key countries were identified in priority regions and the capacities of local law enforcement and security units strengthened by setting up or further developing specialised units and inter-agency cooperation. Regional coordination and information-sharing functions continued to be supported to foster regional and trans-regional cooperation, primarily by making use of existing structures whenever possible.

– CBSD

The Annual Action Programme 2019 for article 5 included one CBSD action aiming to prevent the spread of terrorist armed groups in Burkina Faso and Benin, in order to allow Burkina Faso to regain control of its territory and Benin to preserve peace in its northern region. This contract is in the final stages of negotiation. Under the Annual Action Programme 2018, one CBSD action is under implementation in CAR and one action in Somalia was signed on 6 December 2019.

– Cybersecurity

The EU CyberNet action was launched to strengthen the global delivery, coordination and coherence of the EU's external cyber capacity building actions, and to reinforce EU's own capacity to provide technical assistance to third countries in the field of cybersecurity, while promoting an inclusive multi-stakeholder and rights-based approach and ensuring compliance with the rule of law and good governance principles.

– Counter Terrorism and Prevention and Countering of Violent Extremism

Counter-terrorism (CT) and the Prevention and Countering of Violent Extremism (P/CVE) remained high priorities in 2019 with continued investment in global actions that strengthen the resilience of communities and governments against violent extremism and terrorist attacks.

Specific examples under Article 5 of the IcSP include a EUR 20 million global action on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing (AML/CFT). The EU is an important actor in the area of CFT both within and outside Europe. Additional resources have been added to provide assistance to partner countries aimed at supporting efforts to put in place effective AML/CFT frameworks in compliance with EU requirements, Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations and relevant UN Security Council Resolutions on AML/CFT.

Furthermore a number of global P/CVE-specific actions have been launched around the world under the Strengthening Resilience to Violent Extremism (STRIVE) programme. These STRIVE actions aim to facilitate innovative P/CVE engagement in collaboration with local communities, to strengthen conditions conducive to development, and resilience towards violent extremism. Commencing in 2013, over EUR 33 million has been allocated to actions in over 20 countries across the globe in an effort to prevent and counter violent extremism as part of the STRIVE initiative. The key common factor is that the specific actions under the programme are innovative, testing new ground and creating a platform for learning.

– Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Centres of Excellence (CBRN CoE)

One of the most pressing current concerns in the EU and worldwide is the recent use of CBRN substances by terrorist organisations and criminal groups (example: ricine in FR and DE, use of chlorine gas and sulphur mustard by Daesh in Iraq and Syria). There is an increased access to technology (especially in the Bio field) and to CBRN 'ready-to-use' materials, as well as tutorials on the internet (open sources and Dark Web). In light of this, risk mitigation efforts made through the Centres of Excellences initiative are more important than ever.

⁽⁵⁾ Annual achievement.

At a global level, one major evolution in 2019 is the integration of the risk analysis into the CoE, combined with needs assessments to produce national action plans. This approach provides a sound CBRN risk management approach, which identifies priority areas for both partner countries, regions and the EU, in line with the request of the European Court of Auditors. Donor coordination meetings were organised in several regions. At the request of partner countries, the programme ‘School of Excellence’ has been launched covering several regions in order to increase the capabilities of local experts and training centres.

In 2019, a number of regional achievements have been also successfully implemented:

In the Middle East, a new action was launched to protect critical infrastructures from CBRN threats, ranging from protection of critical command chain to secure the water reserves.

In the Gulf, an unprecedented CBRN AUDIT was carried out in one of the Gulf countries with a team of high level CBRN officials from EU Member States and NATO, with the objective to provide a full scale review of the national CBRN security architecture. It paves the way for an external cooperation approach on security. The first regional CBRN action was approved and launched, bringing together UAE, KSA, Bahrein, Kuwait and Qatar stakeholders;

In Central Asia, a CBRN-Counter-terrorism field exercise (JEYRAN) was organised with Uzbek Elite Forces, involving Security services and their secret situation room, National Guards, State Committee, Min of Emergency and Health.

In the European Eastern neighbourhood, the regional CBRN secretariat in Tbilisi was transferred from the Police Academy to the State Security Services.

In North Africa and Sahel, strong interest was shown to join the Medilab secure programme. Two twin actions on the Security of transportation of dangerous goods were launched in the African Atlantic Façade region (SECTRANS-AAF for Benin, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Gabon, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo) and in the North Africa and Sahel region (SECTRANS-NAS for Algeria, Burkina Faso, Mali, Morocco, Niger and Tunisia). The actions aim to strengthen and harmonise legislation and regulatory frameworks for the transport of dangerous goods according to the United Nations’ recommendations and to improve safety and security conditions for transportation of dangerous goods in a sustainable manner.

In the Atlantic Façade, the first step of a CBRN master for French Speaking first responders but also CBRN decision-makers has been reached, involving EU and local experts and trainers with a long term perspective. Furthermore, a new action (INSTASUR) was launched as a continuation of a previous action to further enhance sound chemical hazard management within the African Atlantic Façade Region in order to prevent the occurrence of high-risk chemical accidents inside and around all important chemical installations. This action will contribute to the mitigation of emerging and urgent needs, by taking into account the requests from ‘most vulnerable regions’ covered by the EU CBRN CoE.

In Eastern and Central Africa, safety, safeguards and security of the transport of uranium and radiation sources and in the fight of illicit trafficking of radiological and nuclear materials was completed. More than 300 experts coming from 10 countries were trained and several small-scale field exercises were conducted; a first national action plan has been adopted by RWANDA.

In South East Asia, the intensified dialogue between the EU and ASEAN that took place throughout 2019 paved the way for a collaboration in the area of CBRN emergency response and preparedness. An increased cooperation with ASEAN means more political support and sustainability of all actions undertaken to mitigate CBRN risks in the region, which include fight against new epidemics. The quality of the support provided to the region through the projects funded (biosafety, biosecurity and chemical waste) and the demand driven approach of the Initiative were instrumental in renewing Indonesia’s commitment and regional leadership role. a first national action plan has been adopted by Vietnam.

- In the area of **export control**, the EU P2P Export Control Programme for Dual-Use Goods has continued to substantially contribute to partner countries’ creation, consolidation or updating of effective strategic trade controls systems. In 2019, for example, Jordan, Thailand, and the Philippines adopted legislation based on EU regulations. The Programme was extended until 2021.

Evaluation/studies conducted

IcSP Art. 3 and 4:

A sector evaluation of IcSP support under Articles 3 and 4 of **actions on Mediation** from 2014-2018 was carried out in 2019. In addition to desk reviews, two field visits were carried out (Lebanon for the Syria crisis and to Nigeria for the Niger Delta Conflict). The evaluation indicated that IcSP actions were highly relevant and useful to implement EU policies and strategies and that they contributed to reinforce the credibility of EU mediation engagement. It also indicated that IcSP actions were responsive to contextual realities and beneficiary needs in the conflicts addressed. Furthermore, relevant civil society and regional actors (religious/traditional leaders) were included in mediation processes, although a more consistent engagement with youth was still challenging. Areas for further improvement included increased emphasis on gender and human rights as well as a strengthening of knowledge management and information exchange to improve the way lessons learnt are collected and best practices used.

An evaluation of the IcSP Article 4 action on *Responsible Mineral Supply Chains in Conflict-affected and High-risk Areas* took place between January and June 2019. It concluded that the action was successful in achieving a greater understanding and implementation of the OECD *Due Diligence Guidance* on responsible mineral supply chains. The evaluation mentioned the example of the Democratic Republic of Congo where the action helped initiate domestic political processes related to governance of the extractive industry. In addition, the *Annual Forum on Responsible Mineral Supply Chains* in Paris was highlighted as a specific success as it brings stakeholders from across the world, and all along the supply chain together for exchanges, mutual learning and promotion of the *Due Diligence Guidance*. On the other hand, there was a more critical response regarding how far the resources provided by the action contributed to tackling challenges in the artisanal and small-scale mining sector.

Forthcoming implementation

The forthcoming implementation for commitments appropriations for the year 2020 is EUR 266 million for Article 3 and EUR 39.8 million for Article 4.

The forthcoming implementation for the payment appropriations for the year 2020 is EUR 240 million for Article 3 ⁽⁶⁾ and EUR 32 million for Article 4.

Given the implementation mode of the instrument, it is not possible at this stage to indicate the forthcoming implementation for the payment appropriations for the year 2021.

IcSP Art. 3 and 4:

As measures under the crisis response component (Article 3) are non-programmable and respond to international developments and crises, it is not possible to outline future implementation measures.

Under the structural peace-building component (Article 4), the following main outputs and policy results can be expected in 2020:

- Support to **in-country civil society actors** in conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness will continue in conflict-affected or post-conflict countries and regions. The indicative thematic scope of support will be: (i) mediation; (ii) dialogue and confidence building; (iii) social media and conflict; (iv) natural resources and conflicts; and (v) transitional justice and peacebuilding.
- A new phase of the **Civil Society Dialogue Network** is also envisaged to maintain the forum for dialogue on peace-building issues between the EU and a broad range of civil society actors.
- Continue to enhance EU's **early warning capacities** in order to help bridge gaps between warning and response by enabling policy-makers across the EU to better identify and act upon early signs of conflict before they lead to violence.
- Maintain the capacity for the EU to contribute to **Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessments (RPBA)** and **Post Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNA)** in collaboration with the UN and the World Bank. This will include the provision of technical expertise including the deployment of experts, dedicated training and coaching as capacity building activities to national authorities and regional/international organisations outside the EU.
- Continue to contribute to peace-building and stabilisation efforts through the **promotion of responsible sourcing and trading of minerals**. The action will in particular aim to engage with the mineral sector at the upstream level (the producing country) as well as downstream (the importing countries including the private sector actors) on the promotion of responsible sourcing and trading to limit the level of illicit financing of armed conflict from the extraction and sale of minerals.
- Strengthen the **capacities of members of EU civilian stabilisation missions**, whether from internal security forces or other civilian services.
- Promote the **active and inclusive participation of youth in peacebuilding and conflict resolution processes**, in particular through capacity building initiatives targeting youth in fragile countries and regions.
- **Promote the effective role of women in prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding**, through capacity building of women in mediation, including mentorship initiatives, in order to promote the active and effective participation of women in mediation and peace processes at local, national, regional and international level.

⁽⁶⁾ The EUR 240 million in payments appropriations foreseen for 2020 for Article 3 will be broken down as follows: EUR 220 million for IcSP and EUR 20 million for CBSD.

- Promote **Social Media for Peace** through a multi-stakeholder collaboration between social media platforms, internet governance and regulatory bodies, as well as conflict prevention and peacebuilding organisations at country and global levels aiming to monitor, analyse and tackle harmful online content (hate speech, violent extremist propaganda, disinformation) in conflict-affected countries.
- Contribute to more concerted and coherent international efforts to prevent conflict and build peace through a **strategic EU-UN Partnership on Peace-Building**. This includes supporting and cooperating with the UN Peace Building Fund (PBF) to sustain peace in countries or situations at risk of or affected by violent conflict.
- Support and promote a **conflict sensitive approach to elections** through the development of a free and user-friendly web-hosted resource guide, available to all international and national electoral actors, providing a platform on the prevention of election-related violence.
- Strengthen the capacities of military actors in the exceptional circumstances foreseen in the EU Regulation (EU) 2017/2306 (**CBSD**), to deliver development activities and security for development activities, in particular to protect civilians in conflict or post conflict areas.

IcSP Art. 5:

The Multiannual Indicative Programme for 2018-2020 recalibrated the programming guidance for the instrument based on the evolving nature of global threats while also taking into account the 2016 EU Global Strategy. The AAP 2019 of the ICSP Article 5 includes six priority areas: Countering terrorism; Fighting organised crime; Critical Infrastructure protection; Climate Change and Security; CBRN risk mitigation; and CBSD. Consolidation of existing actions will be the priority in 2020, which is the final year of current financial framework. The following outputs and policy results can be expected in the coming implementation period:

- Cybersecurity: Under the Cyber4Dev project, the Commission aims to achieve a twofold objective: (i) helping partner countries increase their cyber resilience, be more effective protecting their critical infrastructure; and (ii) provide a layer of protection to programmes and projects carried out under the digital 4-development initiative.
- Continuing support and implementation of the CBSD actions in Somalia and the Central African Republic and contracting new planned interventions in Burkina Faso and Benin.
- In the field of CBRN risk mitigation, strengthening national and regional CBRN governance and promoting a culture of CBRN safety internationally will continue. With the EU CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence initiative – security platforms – having reached a stage of maturity in 2018, further efforts will concentrate inter alia on developing its sustainability and involving existing local expertise and experts, enhancing the role of EU delegations, which will help raising the political visibility of the initiative. Consolidation in priority regions will be a key objective (North Africa Sahel, Middle East, Gulf, and Central Asia).
- Continued support to partner countries on CT and P/CVE issues will be provided in 2019. DEVCO launched a EUR 8.5 million facility of training and technical assistance in the field of intelligence cooperation in partnership with the Spanish National Intelligence Centre in January 2019. The project is intended to create or strengthen the capacity to collect, assess and share information. In the area of P/CVE, a new action worth EUR 6 million was launched in the beginning of 2019 and contributes to P/CVE efforts in Central, South and Southeast Asia through a whole society/multi-stakeholder approach, including governments, security actors, civil society and the private sector. Another EUR 3 million project, aiming at strengthening the resilience against violent extremism among the most vulnerable groups of repatriated migrants in Afghanistan, started in January 2019.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

In the future MFF, the current activities of the IcSP will under the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council be continued under a new, Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) ⁽⁷⁾. According to the proposal, what are currently Article 3 actions will be financed under the envelope ‘Rapid Response Actions’ (art. 6.c of NDICI) while Article 4 and Article 5 actions will be financed under the Envelope ‘Thematic Programmes – Stability and Peace’ (art. 6.b of NDICI).

The negotiations for the adoption of the NDICI Regulation are still ongoing.

Given the implementation mode of the instrument, it is not possible at this stage to indicate priorities for 2021.

⁽⁷⁾ COM(2018) 460 final 14.06.2018.

III. Programme key facts and performance framework

1. Financial programming

Legal Basis	Period of application	Reference Amount (EUR million)
Regulation (EU) No 230/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an instrument contributing to stability and peace	2014 – 2020	2 338,7

	Financial Programming (EUR million)							
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total Programme
Administrative support	9,1	8,8	8,9	9,2	9,6	10,7	10,7	66,9
Operational appropriations	267,7	321,6	335,9	251,1	359,9	366,2	383,1	2 285,5
Total	276,8	330,4	344,8	260,3	369,5	376,9	393,8	2 352,5

2. Implementation rates

	2019				2020			
	CA	Impl. Rate	PA	Impl. Rate	CA	Impl. Rate	PA	Impl. Rate
Voted appropriations	376,903	100,00 %	312,800	98,77 %	393,657	18,68 %	344,550	26,45 %
Authorised appropriations (*)	387,016	99,88 %	322,617	97,99 %	395,929	18,57 %	351,733	26,07 %

(*) Authorised appropriations include voted appropriations, appropriations originating from assigned revenues (internal and external) as well as carried-over and reconstituted appropriations; the execution rate is calculated on 15 April 2020

3. Performance information

Programme performance

Actions through IcSP have enhanced the role of the EU as a relevant and responsive global actor in often sensitive contexts. In the vast majority of countries that have been subject to the EU early warning analysis, the IcSP has been mobilised to translate early warning into early action.

Support through the IcSP has underpinned the commitment of the EU to processes in support of peace in numerous contexts including Colombia, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Yemen, Libya, Syria, and Central African Republic. In the latter, three parallel IcSP actions were instrumental in supporting and accompanying the peace process leading to the negotiation of the Khartoum Peace Agreement and its signature in February 2019 in Bangui. In Ukraine, IcSP provided support to ensure cyber-security in connection with the 2019 presidential elections in an environment of intense cyber-attacks.

IcSP actions have supported the EU's commitment to help protect communities and civilians in highly volatile areas including the Sahel and the Horn of Africa, as well as to develop cooperation with security sector actors in numerous countries, e.g. Iraq, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nigeria. In Nigeria, an IcSP action helped the national authorities to develop a strategy to address the violent conflict between farmers and herders in the Middle Belt region – a conflict accelerated by climate change. A second IcSP action will support implementation of the strategy.

Through its conflict prevention and peacebuilding component, the IcSP has contributed to enforcing the capacities of the EU and its partners to engage in conflict prevention, peace building and to address post-crisis needs in coordination with international organisations and civil society actors. In particular, IcSP has been instrumental to the strengthening of the dialogue and cooperation with civil society on issues pertaining to conflict prevention and peacebuilding, and to empower local civil society actors to play an active role in conflict-affected contexts, contributing to more resilient societies and to build long-term peace.

IcSP has also contributed to the EU objective to promote effective multilateralism, through a strategic cooperation with the UN and other international organisations, identifying synergies and coordinated approaches to crisis response, conflict prevention and peacebuilding. This includes cooperation with the UN on peacebuilding and mediation, work with the UN and the World Bank on the Post-Disaster and the Recovery and Peace-Building Assessments, as well as the partnership with the OECD on responsible sourcing of minerals from conflict and high risk areas.

During implementation, a number of challenges and lessons have been identified. While aiming to promote the EU's Women, Peace and Security policy, IcSP actions could still increase their focus on gendered conflict analysis and on diversity mainstreaming. Similarly, IcSP actions in support of demobilisation, disarmament and reintegration (DDR) have not always been as successful as intended, mainly due to challenges identifying longer term funding to ensure continuity. Furthermore, the IcSP response to the Ebola outbreak in Western Africa show that while the instrument has a clear added value in work to prevent conflict triggered by such a health emergency, the public health component is perhaps better responded to through humanitarian funding as implementing partners do not have the required resources during a major health emergency to accommodate a different set of procedures from the humanitarian ones.

General objectives

General Objective 1: To provide direct support for the Union’s external policies by increasing the efficiency and coherence of the Union’s actions in the areas of conflict prevention, crisis preparedness and crisis response and peace-building, and in addressing global and transregional threats.

Indicator 1: Number of conflicts worldwide								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Total 405	Actual results							399
	424	409	402	379	363	358		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Highly violent conflicts (Level 5+4) 44	Actual results							
	46	43	38	36	40	38		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Violent conflicts (Level 3) 177	Actual results							
	177	180	188	187	173	158		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Non-violent conflicts (level 2+1) 184	Actual results							
	201	186	176	156	150	162		

Comment: NB: This indicator is used on a trial basis and will need to be evaluated over a longer time period whether it is appropriate for the assessment of the EU’s impact on global crises. The indicator is based on the ‘Conflict Barometer’ of the Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research (HIK), which measures the number of crises in the world and quantifies crises by intensity of conflict as: wars (level 5); limited wars (level 4); violent crises (level 3); non-violent crises (level 2); disputes (level 1). The indicator has the merit of establishing a global picture of the situation annually, thus making it possible to track conflicts over time based upon empirical evidence. However, it is difficult to establish a direct link between IcSP interventions and any particular outcome as regards the overall global level of conflict or in relation to the country/region concerned by the intervention. For example, IcSP responses often require a collective effort based on partnerships with other donors, civil society actors, multilateral and regional partners. Moreover, the EU does not intervene in all conflicts and therefore no correlation can be established between IcSP interventions and the number of conflicts. The evolution of a specific conflict, as measured by the Conflict Barometer in terms of intensity, depends on factors, which go beyond the results and the scope of a specific EU intervention. These interventions have to be seen as a contribution to the ultimate goal of either a de-escalation of a conflict or avoiding its escalation, in light of the EU’s comprehensive approach and the efforts of the international community. 2018 is the fourth consecutive year when the worldwide insecurity shifted from an increasing trend to a slight decrease in total worldwide conflicts as measured by the Barometer.

Situation in 2018 (total 363):

1. 40 highly violent conflicts (level 5: 16 wars and level 4: 24 limited wars)
2. 173 violent conflicts (level 3)
3. 150 non-violent conflicts (level 2: 82 non-violent crises and level 1: 68 disputes)

Source: Conflict Barometer published annually by the Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research; <https://hiik.de/conflict-barometer/current-version/?lang=en>

Specific objectives

Specific Objective 1: In a situation of crisis or emerging crisis, to swiftly contribute to stability by providing an effective response designed to help preserve, establish or re-establish the conditions essential to the proper implementation of the Union’s external policies and actions in accordance with Article 21 TEU.

Performance

Throughout the MFF period, the response through the IcSP continued to display a high degree of flexibility and timely action. In response to the evolving transition process in Sudan, fast and flexible support to assist the new authorities start the transition and

reform process was quickly provided through the IcSP. Earlier examples include support to the transition process in Burkina Faso (2015) and in the Gambia (2017), as well as the significant response under the IcSP to the conflict in eastern Ukraine, not least through support to the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (2014).

Indicator 1: Percentage of projects adopted within 3 months of a crisis context (date of presentation to PSC).								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
69 %	Actual results							75 %
	68 %	64 %	61 %	47 %	82 %	91 %		

Comment: Of the 46 exceptional assistance measures (under article 3 of the IcSP) adopted in 2019, 42 were adopted (COM Decision) within 3 months of a crisis context (presentation to PSC), a percentage rate of 91.3 %. The objective set for 2020 is to reach a percentage rate of 75 %.

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2020	
		Number	EUR million
Number of estimated response actions in situations of crisis or emerging crisis (except CBSD actions)	19 02 01	32	245,1
Number of estimated response actions in situations of crisis or emerging crisis for CBSD	19 02 01 01	3	21
Total number of estimated response actions in situations of crisis or emerging crisis (including CBSD actions)	19 02 01 19 02 01 01	35	266,1

Outputs		Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of estimated response actions in situations of crisis or emerging crisis (projects launched, except CBSD actions)	F	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
	P	30	44	39	36	42	46	
Number of estimated response actions in situations of crisis or emerging crisis (CBSD projects launched)	F	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3	3	3
	P	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5	4	
Total number of estimated response actions in situations of crisis or emerging crisis (including CBSD actions)	F	32	32	32	32	35	35	35
	P	30	44	39	36	47	50	

The IcSP component ‘crisis response’ is not programmable. However, based on previous IfS experience, some 32 response actions are launched per year. The financing will remain flat over the period 2014-2020.

Throughout the MFF period, the IcSP continued to be mobilised to transform political objectives into concrete actions reflecting EU priorities and strengthening the position of the EU as a global actor. The increase in the number of actions reflects the increased appreciation among EU institutions and services for the usefulness of the rapid response capacities of the non-programmable IcSP action, as well as the support received from EU Member States for timely and politically relevant EU responses.

Specific Objective 2: To contribute to the prevention of conflicts and to ensuring capacity and preparedness to address pre- and post-crisis situations and build peace.

Performance

Through the MFF period, results of the indicator measuring the number of processes (for example: mediation processes, training and coaching) and entities (local communities, regional organisations, NGOs, technical bodies, media outlets) benefiting from strengthened capacity, has steadily increased, partly through accumulation.

Indicator 1: Number of processes and entities with strengthened capacity attributable to IcSP funding								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Total 1 183	Actual results							1 650
					1 200	1 550	1 650	

	1 373	1 415	1 464	1 487	1 592	1 609		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Processes 734	Actual results							
	512	961	996	922	994	971		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Entities 449	Actual results							
	861	454	468	565	598	638		

Comment: Total: The indicator measures the strengthened capacity of EU and beneficiaries of EU assistance to prevent conflicts, address pre- and post-crisis situations and to build peace. The figure aggregates the processes and entities stemming from the contracting of the year n-1 Annual Action Programme.

Processes: It refers to the annual number of processes (for example: mediation processes, training and coaching, training of trainers, capacity building activities, specific researches) attributable to IcSP funding which contribute to conflict prevention, crisis preparedness and peace-building.

Entities: It refers to the annual number of entities (local communities and community-based organizations, youth and women organisations, formalised NGOs, private sector operators, traditional as well local and government authorities) benefiting from strengthened capacity, attributable to IcSP funding in conflict prevention, crisis preparedness and peace-building.

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2020	
		Number	EUR million
Number of actions launched under the Annual Action Programme (except CBSD actions).	19 02 02	6	37
Number of actions launched under the Annual Action Programme for CBSD	19 02 02 01	1	2,8
Total number of actions launched under the Annual Action Programme (including CBSD actions).	19 02 02 19 02 02 01	1	39,8

Outputs		Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of actions launched under the Annual Action Programme.	F	5	5	5	5	5	6	6
	P	5	7	7	7	6	7	

Specific Objective 3: To address specific global and trans-regional threats to peace, international security and stability.

Performance

EU contributions towards tackling global and transregional threats has increased continuously over the period, not only under this Instrument. On issues of for example: **Risk Mitigation**, the number of former weapon scientists talents redirected to peaceful activities (Astana and Kiev) has increased while the redirection of former weapon scientists has gradually shifted towards a wider approach, by protecting sensitive knowledge, technologies and materials. Younger scientists with sensitive knowledge are nowadays more and more involved in addition to the remaining ones that were formally involved in soviet weapons programmes.

Several large scale projects **bio safety/security** have been initiated around the Mediterranean basin to prevent and respond to bio threats rising from the migration of diseases linked both with the migration of the population due to desertification or conflict, but also with the migration of the vectors of diseases.

CBRN actions have worked towards building capacity, strengthening national institutions and developing enhanced cooperation on the national and international levels, facilitated by partnerships through the regionally-established Centres of Excellence. The regional all hazard approach combined with a national inter-agency working method contribute greatly towards an increased security governance by mitigating the impact of future major natural or man-made crisis like the Ebola crisis, the Fukushima accident or the Seveso chemical explosion in the past.

On **counter-terrorism**, actions contributed to address key issues of the CT cycle: threat analysis, judicial international cooperation, strategy development and information exchange from a rule of law perspective, in priority regions, fully in line with the Council Conclusions on Counterterrorism of 2015 and 2017.

For the **fight against organised crime**, actions targeting the illicit trafficking of drugs and small arms and light weapons

contributed to reducing illicit drugs and arms flows, increasing the number of seizures and follow-up criminal investigations.

Indicator 1: EU contribution towards tackling global and transregional threats, measured as								
Baseline	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Risk Mitigation: Number of former weapon scientists talents redirected to peaceful activities (Astana and Kiev): 18 000								18 600
	Actual results							
	18 150	18 300	18 500	18 700	19 425	19 730		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Strengthening capabilities against biological threats: Number of facilities upgraded to international standard level: 2								12
	Actual results							
	5	8	8	10	10	10		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Regional centres of excellence: Number of partner countries benefitting from the assistance of the EC acting in multilateral framework: 15								62-65
	Actual results							
	45	52	55	59	62	62		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Countering Terrorism: Number of partner countries covered by the countering terrorism activities financed by the EU: 8								20
	Actual results							
	12	12	12	29	31	36		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Fighting organised crime: Number of major drug smuggling routes tackled by activities supported by the EU: 2								2
	Actual results							
	2	2	2	2	2	2		
2012	Milestones foreseen							2020
Protecting critical infrastructure: The number of countries covered by protection of critical infrastructure activities: 4								14
	Actual results							
	11	14	14	14	29	29		

Methodology: Yearly values

Narrative: Cut off date: end of the year.

Comment: Including Tacis period (from 1994)

Source: Statistics issued by the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) and the Science and Technology Center Ukraine (STCU), project data and request of adhesion received and officially accepted

Unit of measure: Number of people, facilities, countries and major drug smuggling routes respectively (look at the names in baseline area of table)

Expenditure related outputs

Outputs	Budget line	Budget 2020
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		Number	EUR million
1. Number of countries involved /projects covered in the chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) Centres of Excellence initiative	21 05 01	62	24
2. Number of countries/regional organisations covered by critical infrastructure activities	21 05 01	29	9.5
3. Number of major drug smuggling routes covered by the organised crime activities	21 05 01	2	10.5
4. Number of countries covered by the cyber-crime activities	21 05 01	110	0
5. Number of countries covered by counter terrorism activities	21 05 01	31	22.5
6. Climate change project	21 05 01	5	0
7. CBSD	21 05 01	2	8.45
8. Export Support Facility project	21 05 01	10	2.3
Total			77.25

Outputs		Number of outputs foreseen (F) and produced (P)						
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1. Number of countries/projects involved in the Centres of Excellence initiative	F	40/40	45/48	50/51	50/55	57/57	59/60	60/60
	P	48/42	52/53	56/60	59	57/62	61	
2. Number of countries/regional organisations covered by critical infrastructure activities	F	10	12	14	14	14	14	14
	P	11	12	14	14	29	29	
3. Number of major drug smuggling routes covered by the organised crime activities	F	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	P	2	2	2	2	2	2	
4. Number of countries covered by counter terrorism activities	F	12	14	16	16	16	16	16
	P	12	14	12	29	31	36	
5. Climate change projects	F	0	2	5	5	6	7	8
	P	0	0	1	5	4	4	
6. Export Support Facility projects	F	6	10	10	10	10	10	10
	P	6	10	10	10	10		

4. Contribution to Europe 2020 Strategy and mainstreaming of policies

Contribution to Europe 2020 headline targets

Table Contribution to Europe 2020 headline targets

The '20/20/20' climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30 % of emissions reduction if the conditions are right)

Relevant objective/output

Relevant objective/output	Budget 2019	Budget 2020
Specific objective: Addressing global and trans-regional effects of climate change having a potentially destabilising impact.	7,0	8,0
Total	7,0	8,0

Programming climate action

2014-2018					2019-2020 estimates		Total
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
	5,0		5,5	5,5	7,0	8,0	31,0

(*)The appropriations for the year 2014 have been reviewed to take account of the transfer to subsequent years of the allocations not used in 2014 (reprogramming exercise carried-out in 2015 in accordance with Article 19 of the Multiannual Financial Framework Regulation).

Justification

Climate change is acknowledged to be a threat multiplier and exacerbates conflicts and migration of populations. The actions prepared enhance early warning and prevention measures to help promoting relations aiming at reducing tensions over limited natural resources.

Gender mainstreaming

Gender is a key cross-cutting issue for the IcSP: it is integrated into all actions, both non-programmable crisis response measures under Article 3 and programmable actions on conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness and in addressing global and trans-regional threats under Articles 4 and 5, respectively. Due attention is paid to the relevant provisions of the legal basis

particularly those related to combating gender-based violence and promoting the participation of women in peace-building. In this regard, key priority is given to ensuring that all actions contribute to delivering on EU commitments on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) based on the Comprehensive EU Approach to the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 on WPS (2008) and the EU Strategic Approach to Women, Peace and Security (15086/18) adopted by the Council in December 2018.

In line with the EU Gender Action Plan II (GAP II), the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) has markedly stepped up its engagement, either by mainstreaming gender horizontally across its interventions and by dedicating funding to support specific initiatives on the topic. Taking stock of the support and guidance provided in the previous years by the IcSP Gender Facility the staff at Headquarters, in the regional Teams and in the EU Delegations mainstreamed gender more systematically when designing Article 3 and Article 4 actions, addressing Women, Peace and Security (WPS) issues more efficiently in all IcSP actions. It is foreseen to pursue this proactive approach in training and providing coaching to staff on gender issues, with a specific focus on gender-sensitive conflict analysis.

In 2019, two new interventions specifically dedicated to gender were launched under the IcSP: a first intervention – ‘Women as Actors in Peace Processes’ – will aim at strengthening the effective inclusion of women in peace and transition processes at all levels. The action foresees mentorship, networking, capacity-building for women leaders and mediators as well as the provision of resources to allow the effective participation of women in peace process (€3 million, 2020-2022). Activities will focus on the Middle East and North African region where the IcSP can build on previous engagement (i.e. the dialogues on women’s inclusion in the Syrian and Yemeni peace processes, supported in previous years through the European Resources for Mediation Support (ERMES)). The second intervention ‘Preventing Violent Extremism: Integrating a Gender Perspective’ (€2.5 million; 2019-2022) will be implemented through UN Women and will aim to prevent violent extremism in Jordan, Pakistan and globally by strengthening capacities at local level and building resilience, with a focus on the gender aspects of the threat and response.

In 2019, 70 % of contracted actions reported a G-Marker 1,(66 %) or G-Marker 2 (4 %), confirming the progress in gender-focused actions.

This data is provided in line with Objective 5.3.2 of the EU Gender Action Plan 2016-20.

5. Programme contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals

SDG 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

The IcSP is mainly contributing to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and to providing access to justice for all and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels in line with SDG 16. Specifically, IcSP contributes to:

- Sub-Goal 16.1 ‘Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere’,
- Sub-Goal 16.3 ‘Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all’.
- Sub-Goal 16.a ‘Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime’.
- Sub-Goal 16.7 ‘Ensure responsive, inclusive and participatory and representative decision-making at all levels’.

IcSP Art. 3 and 4:

- Regarding target 16a, the IcSP has continued to step-up its efforts in the field of counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism, in line with the June 2017 Foreign Affairs Council Conclusions on EU external action on Counter Terrorism. In this respect, the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) was quickly mobilized to strengthen response capabilities for counterterrorism in both Sri Lanka and the Maldives following the Easter 2019 attacks in Sri Lanka. Similarly, counter-terrorism efforts are being supported in the Sahel, in Iraq as well as in South-East Asia with an overall engagement of approximately €50M. Furthermore, specific attention was also paid to efforts to counter disinformation, which can be a catalyst for instability or violence as well as to the safe conduct of elections through assistance to the enhancement of cyber-security.
- In relation to sub-goal 16.1, support through the IcSP has also focused on the protection of civilians from the worst consequences of the conflict, e.g. through engagement with governments and security forces. In Ukraine, IcSP support through the NGO Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC) managed to support the development of a draft Presidential Order on the adoption of a National Policy on Protection of Civilians in Conflict as well as the establishment of a Civilian Casualties Mitigation Team within the Ukrainian Joint Forces Operation. Due to the success of this action during 2019, it will be followed up with additional resources in 2020. Similarly, in Nigeria IcSP support was instrumental in convincing authorities to improve the protection of civilians in connection with security operations in the country through the promotion of ‘civilian harm mitigation’ measures and approaches. During 2019, the action managed to build a constituency within the government, with civil society as well as with multilateral agencies. This allowed ‘Protection of Civilians and Civilian Harm Mitigation’ to be introduced into the curricula of key military training institutions. At the

same time, self-protection workshops were conducted for conflict-affected communities, helping them also to have more regular dialogue with security forces. As a result, security arrangements and military patrols are better coordinated and civilians better protected.

- In relation to sub-goal 16.3, the EU Transitional Justice Facility, launched in January 2019, aims to provide short-term support and expert advice for third countries in the areas of e.g. constitution building and transitional justice. In 2019, through the rapid deployment of experts, the Facility inter alia provided expertise in Colombia to support the transitional justice mechanisms; assess the Constitution building and transitional justice processes in The Gambia; support the ongoing dialogue on transitional justice in South Sudan; and supported work to improve the methodology of documenting detention-related human rights violations in Venezuela.
- Concerning sub-goal 16.7 the IcSP has supported electoral processes in several contexts, one example is Ethiopia, where Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has made promising steps to open political space in Ethiopia and initiate legal, institutional, political, economic and social reforms. These efforts were recognized, with the award of the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize. Nevertheless, the reform process remains perilous and requires support. Ethiopia is facing severe challenges including ethnic violence; more than 3 million internally displaced persons. The first multi-party elections in 2020 may constitute a big step forward, but may also stoke existing social and ethnic tensions, potentially leading to violence. During 2019, IcSP activities were started to help prevent election-related conflict. Relevant stakeholders, such as political parties and civil society started a dialogue to prepare for the electoral process. IcSP support is also being made available for inclusive dialogues among communities in Ethiopia, including on sensitive issues such as ethnic tensions, e.g. through mediation activities in the Guji-West Gedeo region, where many IDPs have arrived. Finally, the EU will provide capacity building to Ethiopian security sector actors to help prevent ethnic and political violence, in particular in relation to the elections.

IcSP Art. 5:

- In the domain of **counter-terrorism**, the CT MENA action contributes to SDG Target 16.3 ‘Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all’. It does so by contributing to materialise the commitments and the political dialogues in the region fully in line with the Council Conclusions on Counterterrorism of 2015 and 2017. CT MENA is actively working with partner countries across the counterterrorism cycle in the MENA region on key issues of CT terrorist cycle: threat analysis, judicial international cooperation, strategy development and information exchange from a rule of law perspective. The programme is also contributing to establish an institutionalized partnership with the League of Arab States and the Council of Ministers of the Interior of the Arab League on CT issues.
- IcSP **fight against organised crime** actions, targeting the illicit trafficking of drugs and small arms and light weapons, directly contribute to the achievement of SDG Target.16.4 ‘*By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.*’ and provide global data on its status.
- **Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) actions**, and most notably, the Centres of Excellence (CoE) initiative, contribute to the attainment of numerous Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular 3, 6, 11, 13, 16 and 17, as described below.
- Under the umbrella of SDG 16: CBRN actions work towards capacity building and strengthening national institutions and developing enhanced cooperation on the national and international levels, facilitated by partnerships through the regionally-established Centres of Excellence. The regional all hazard approach combined with a national inter-agency working method contribute greatly to support SDG16 goals towards an increased security governance by mitigating the impact of future major natural or man-made crisis like the Ebola crisis, the Fukushima accident or the Seveso chemical explosion in the past.
- Other actions support SDG 13, especially under the angle of Climate Change Adaptation: several large scale projects bio safety / security have been initiated around the Mediterranean basin to prevent and respond to bio threats rising from the migration of diseases linked both with the migration of the population due to desertification or conflict, but also with the migration of the vectors of diseases. In Central Asia the melting of glaciers could lead to contamination of transboundary rivers with chemical and radiological pollutants (such as heavy metals issued from mining). This is a direct threat for the population but it also can amplify tensions between the countries, which is covered by a new water security project launched in 2019.
- In addition, CBRN is a key action in relation to SDG 3 ‘Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages’. Through the development of CBRN-related National Action Plans (NAPs), based on Needs Assessment Questionnaires (NAQs) and assessments of capabilities and risk, the CoE initiative works towards the achievement of two key indicators for SDG 3: developing national capacities to assist in reducing the risks of illness and death from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination; and strengthening national capacities for early warning, risk reduction, and the management of national and global health risks.
- Similarly, CBRN actions contribute to the attainment of SDG 6 ‘Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all’. Through the CoE initiative, partners are assisted in developing measures to ensure the elimination dumping and the minimal release of hazardous chemicals and materials, in order to improve water quality.
- SDG 11 ‘Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable’ is an equally relevant goal. In particular, risk mitigation efforts developed through the CoE Initiative, alongside disaster management planning, are

actions which contribute directly to reducing the number of deaths and the number of people affected by disasters, including water-related disasters. Developing institutional capabilities and resilience to disasters, alongside integrated policies and plans related to CBRN management is of great importance in this area.

- Finally, CBRN actions make a strong contribution to SDG 17 ‘Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development’. Through encouraging national, regional, and international partnerships via established Centres of Excellence, CBRN programmes are able to enhance access to science, technology and innovation in addition to increased knowledge sharing (like in the Caucasus and Balkans through a regional CBRN innovation competition implemented in 2018-2019). Actions including training, tutoring, and the lending of experts and expertise in the field of CBRN, all contribute to enhancing capacity-building and national planning capabilities.

The IcSP Programme contributes also to the SDG 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

6. Information about financial instrument(s) and trust fund(s) financed by the Programme

During 2019, an Article 3 action contributed to the United Nations Peace Support Facility (PSF) for Yemen (€1 million) and the UN Peace Building Fund was financed with EUR 0.1 million under an Article 4 action.

7. Programme related additional information

The Regulation on the Capacity Building in support of Security and Development (CBSD) ⁽⁸⁾ allows for cooperating directly with military actors to implement actions with clearly civilian development objectives in areas where no civilian authority is able to perform the tasks.

The CBSD amendment to the IcSP Regulation increased the financial envelope by EUR 100 million.

⁽⁸⁾ Regulation (EU) 2017/2306 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2017.