

This action is funded by the European Union

ANNEX II

of the Commission Implementing Decision on the Annual Action Programme – Part 1 – for 2019 in favour of ENI South countries

Action Document for 2019 Security Package

ANNUAL PROGRAMME

This document constitutes the annual work programme in the sense of Article 110(2) of the Financial Regulation and action programme/measure in the sense of Articles 2 and 3 of Regulation No 236/2014.

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	2019 Security Package CRIS number: ENI/2019/042-049 financed under the European Neighbourhood Instrument	
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	The action shall be carried out at the following location: Southern Neighbourhood countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel (¹), Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine (²), Tunisia and Syria (³) for Euromed Police and Euromed Justice.	
	Enlargement countries (Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia), Neighbourhood East (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) and Neighbourhood South for EU Initiative on Health Security.	
	In duly justified cases, other countries outside the Neighbourhood may be added, in particular Sahel countries.	
	Countries referred to as "partner countries" in the present document are the ones mentioned above.	
3. Programming document	Regional South Strategy Papers (2014-2020) and Multiannual Indicative Programmes (2018-2020)	

^{(&}lt;sup>1</sup>) See Guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities and their activities in the territories occupied by Israel since June 1967 for grants, prizes and financial instruments funded by the EU from 2014 onwards on <u>http://eurlex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C .2013.205.01.0009.01.ENG</u>.

^{(&}lt;sup>2</sup>) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

^{(&}lt;sup>3</sup>) Co-operation with the Government of Syria suspended since 2011.

4. Sustainable	SDG 16: Peace justice and strong	institution	s for compone	ants 1 and 2	
Development	SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions for components 1 and 2				
Goals (SDGs)	SDG 3: Good health and well-being for Component 3 SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals for all components				
5. Sector of intervention/	Building resilience and promoting	g DEV. A	ssistance: YE	ES	
thematic area	stability				
6. Amounts	Total estimated cost: EUR 18 mill	lion			
concerned	Total amount of European Union	(FU) contri	ibution FUR	18 million	
-	Total amount of European emon				
7. Aid	Project Modality				
modality(ies)	Indirect management with the European Union Agency for Law				
and implementation	Enforcement Training (CEPOL) f	1			
modality(ies)	Indirect management with the E	-		or Criminal	
	Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) for	•	1		
	Indirect management with the E	-	entre for Disea	ase Prevention	
	and Control (ECDC) for health se	•		• • • • • • • •	
	Implementation through the above into account the conditions laid of		0		
	Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/		fuele 7 of the	Commission	
(\mathbf{r})					
8 a) DAC code(s)	15130 Legal and judicial develop - 15131 Justice (27.8%)	nent :			
	- 15132 Police (38.9%)				
	12250 Infectious disease control (33.3%)			
b) Main Delivery	90000 other				
Channel					
9. Markers	General policy objective	Not	Significant	Principal	
(from CRIS DAC		targeted	objective	objective	
form)	Participation development/good			X	
	governance Aid to environment	X			
	Gender equality and Women's and	X			
	Girl's Empowerment				
	Trade Development				
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born	X			
	and child health	Λ			
	RIO Convention markers	Not	Significant	Principal	
		targeted	objective	objective	
	Biological diversity Combat desertification	X			
	Climate change mitigation	X			
	Climate change adaptation	X X			
		Λ			
10. Global Public Goods and	Not applicable				
Challenges (GPGC)					

thematic flagships

SUMMARY

The Euromed Police and Euromed Justice programmes will develop further the concept of a sustainable cooperation mechanism for cross-border police cooperation and on judicial cooperation in criminal matters, between EU Member States and the partner countries with a more direct involvement of EU Justice and Home Affairs agencies (namely CEPOL, Europol, Eurojust) and the European Judicial Network. They build upon lessons learnt from the previous phases.

The EU Initiative on Health Security aims to set up a regional competent workforce for the prevention and control of challenges posed by transferable diseases and to enhance regional cooperation to tackle cross-border health security threats. The first part of the programme is the continuation and further development of the existing EU-funded MediPIET (Mediterranean Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training). In order to facilitate regional cooperation, the programme seeks to bring partner countries closer to the work of the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC). The programme is open to all countries of the Neighbourhood and Enlargement regions.

1 CONTEXT ANALYSIS

1.1 Context Description

The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) Review (⁴) places a stronger emphasis on security in order to make partner countries more resilient against threats they currently experience. The new focus on security opens up a wide range of new areas of cooperation under the ENP. Security cooperation includes security sector reform, fighting organised crime and cybercrime, cybersecurity, border protection and protection of critical infrastructure, tackling terrorism and radicalisation, and disaster and crisis management.

The Regional South Multiannual Indicative Programme 2018-2020 (5) highlights that the Southern Neighbourhood region is facing an unprecedented level of security threats. These threats often have a cross-border dimension or possible spill over effects on neighbouring countries. This warrants that the EU fosters regional dialogue and collaborative action on these issues, among Southern Neighbourhood countries, and between those countries and their neighbours, including the EU.

The programming document identifies four priority sectors of which the first one deals with "building resilience and promoting stability".

The EU continues to place rule of law, democracy and human rights at the heart of its engagement to strengthen regional cooperation against security threats such as terrorism and serious organised crime. A renewed emphasis is placed on prevention, be it against violent extremism or against natural and man-made disasters including health security threats.

One of the specific objectives in the sector is to set up effective regional mechanisms to enable the EU and partner countries to respond to factors promoting instability, security challenges and their longer-term impact on resilience in the Southern Neighbourhood.

^{(&}lt;sup>4</sup>) SWD(2015) 500, 18 November 2015.

^{(&}lt;sup>5</sup>) C(2018) 6362 5 October 2018.

One of the expected results is that South Partner Countries/regional organisations seek closer alignment on methodologies, such as the EU Policy cycle against serious and organized crime.

Another expected result concerns regional dialogue platforms allowing for exchanges and for capacity reinforcement notably through the expertise of European agencies and the partnership with relevant international actors.

1.2 Policy Framework (Global, EU)

In 2015, the European Neighbourhood Policy Review led to the adoption of a Joint Communication in November 2015 (⁶), setting out a new framework for building more effective partnerships between the EU and its neighbours, and supporting stabilisation and resilience as overarching priority. The review reinforced the principle of flexibility to tailor our cooperation to the specific needs and expectations of each partner country and to ensure cooperation can adapt to rapidly evolving circumstances and priorities.

Rolling out the ENP security dimension has also built on the European Agenda on Security⁷ and the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy presented to the European Council on 28 June 2016.

On 27 March 2017, the Council decided to continue the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime for the period 2018 - 2021. This multi-annual Policy Cycle aims to tackle the most important threats posed by organised and serious international crime to the EU in a coherent and methodological manner through improving and strengthening co-operation between the relevant services of the Member States, EU institutions and EU agencies as well as third countries and organisations, including the private sector where relevant (⁸).

EUROPOL plays a central role. Except for Israel, EUROPOL does not have a formal framework in place for cooperation in place with the other Southern Neighbourhood countries. Since May 2017, Europol may cooperate with third country authorities on an ad hoc basis (excluding the transfer of personal data), and may formalise this strategic-level cooperation via working arrangements. In 2018, the European Commission received a mandate from the Council to open negotiations with seven of these countries with a view to conclude agreements that will allow the exchange of personal data between EUROPOL and competent law enforcement authorities in those countries. A central part of the model agreement concerns ensuring adequate safeguards with respect to fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals, including privacy and data protection.

On judicial cooperation, EUROJUST has no cooperation agreement with any of the Southern Neighbourhood countries, but contact points in most of the countries. EU-led regional judicial cooperation has primarily focused on promoting relevant UN instruments and Council of Europe conventions.

On health security, the security chapter of the ENP also reads, "the EU will also put stronger emphasis on health security aspects by strengthening country capacities to respond effectively to health threats including communicable diseases".

^{(&}lt;sup>6</sup>) JOIN(2015)50 of 18 November 2015.

^{(&}lt;sup>7</sup>) COM(2015) 185 of 28 April 2015.

^{(&}lt;sup>8</sup>) <u>https://www.europol.europa.eu/empact</u>

The ECDC Single Programming Document (⁹) refers to the ECDC International Relations Policy. It highlights that "By working in coordination with the European Commission and the health authorities in EU enlargement and ENP partner countries, ECDC aims to progressively integrate country experts into its activities, systems, and networks, thereby assisting them in aligning with the relevant EU acquis, and exchange information and best practices on communicable diseases threats of common interest as appropriate". These activities should continue beyond 2020 in a sustainable, comprehensive, and programmatic way.

1.3 Stakeholder analysis

Euromed Police

Following the same approach as for CEPOL's intra-EU activities, the main stakeholders and beneficiaries of the action are law enforcement agencies (including police, gendarmerie, immigration services, customs, border guards and other services with tasks relating to the prevention and fight against serious organised crime, terrorism and other crimes), as well as public ministries, central authorities, and legislative and judicial institutions, taking a holistic approach in encouraging cooperation of all relevant security agencies in partner countries.

The European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) addresses training needs of the law enforcement sector in the EU and follows this same pattern when providing assistance to third countries. As a result, under an EU-funded project (¹⁰), CEPOL has built solid collaboration with multiple law enforcement services in several Southern Neighbourhood countries (Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey). The multidisciplinary approach of CEPOL training, encompassing customs, prosecutors and other relevant services, is a key value added in the international training environment, thus the project will extend the target to the wider law enforcement community instead of putting only police in the focus.

Euromed Justice

EuroMed Justice brings together the most relevant stakeholders in the field of justice (judges, prosecutors, magistrates ...), from the partner countries, but also EU Member States, as well as, representatives of other relevant EU and international organisations.

The cooperation mechanism encourages justice practitioners to work together in criminal law, in national and regional platforms directly connected with, and sustained by, Eurojust and the European Judicial Network, which are currently closely involved, as associate entities, in Euromed Justice. Some of the project activities will also be developed in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (UNCTED), the Council of Europe (in particular, the European Committee on Crime Problems), and the International Association of Prosecutors.

EU Initiative on Health Security

^{(&}lt;sup>9</sup>) <u>https://ecdc.europa.eu/sites/portal/files/documents/ECDC-Single-Programming-Document%202019.pdf</u>

^{(&}lt;sup>10</sup>) IcSP/2017/394-210 EU/MENA Counter-Terrorism Training Partnership 2 (CEPOL CT 2).

Building on existing networks of ECDC Correspondents in EU Enlargement and ENP partner countries, as well as networks created under the current MediPIET programme, ECDC will continue engaging with all partners already involved in the project.

ECDC will continue to associate Israel and Turkey proposing to these countries to be full member and not only observers to the programme and invite Belarus as well as Azerbaijan to join this cross-regional programme.

Emergency response teams and policy/decision makers are also targeted.

1.4 Problem analysis/priority areas for support

Euromed Police

Despite fighting serious and organised crime often has trans-boundary features and is a shared challenge, strengthening strategic and operational police cooperation within the region, and with the EU, remains highly complex and sensitive, due to a lack of trust or of an established relationship, or the absence of formal agreements. Still, interest in strengthening cooperation on common threats and objectives has been persistently increasing among partner countries and a number of EU member States.

Law enforcement systems and forces differ from country to country. While some have already been reorganised and modernised, others remain out-dated in terms of knowledge and reaction capacity. Some countries are well equipped with training academies, while others do not have the required structures to cover their needs and significantly rely on bilateral aid and capacity building support.

Southern neighbourhood countries are points of origin, transit and destination for trafficking (drugs, human beings, firearms and explosives). Terrorist networks operating in the region are also involved in criminal activities (e.g. kidnapping for ransom and extortion) and terrorist operations that target local populations in those countries pose a significant threat to domestic security, and regional stability.

Tackling serious and organised crime requires that regional cooperation mechanisms be strengthened, starting from having a shared threat assessment based on strategic cooperation.

Euromed Justice

The fight against new and emerging forms of transnational crime has transformed in recent years due to: globalization, growth in the volume of international trade, larger freedom of movement of goods and persons, new forms of international crime and highly sophisticated money-laundering schemes.

The development of information and communication technology is leading to a growing number of crimes being committed in various jurisdictions simultaneously.

The need for assistance of other States for the successful investigation, prosecution and punishment of offenders, particularly those who have committed transnational offences, is vital.

The international mobility of offenders and the use of advanced technology make it more necessary than ever for prosecutors and judicial authorities to collaborate and assist the State that has assumed jurisdiction over the matter.

Bilateral and multilateral treaties, conventions, protocols and covenants contain rules for cooperation in the form of a legal relationship providing legal certainty and security, but

international cooperation can also be informal. Some States do not require a treaty basis for judicial cooperation, and many are able to provide assistance based on reciprocity.

Euromed Justice offers this possibility of informal cooperation and can help pave the way to formal cooperation.

EU Initiative on Health Security

The Western Balkans, the Mediterranean and the Black Sea regions which are the closest neighbours of the European Union, are particularly exposed to health security threats/risks and disasters (natural or man-made). This may concern communicable diseases, but also Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) threats, be it by accidental exposure or for organised crime and terrorist purposes.

For example, the resurgence of measles is of serious concern, with extended outbreaks occurring across regions, and particularly in countries that had achieved, or were close to achieving measles elimination. Reported cases increased by more than 30 percent worldwide from 2016.

As disease outbreaks do not know borders, it is essential for the EU to build the necessary capacity to reduce the exposure of the partner countries' population as well as EU citizens, but also to provide evidence for effective and efficient decision-making, to strengthen public health systems, and to support the response to public health threats. Geographical proximity requires the establishment of sustainable networks of highly skilled experts across the regions to address the health threats and risks in an efficient and timely manner.

EU candidate countries, as well as gradually EU potential candidates need to be in a position upon accession to assume responsibilities and obligations of an EU Member State.

ENP countries have also stressed their interest in continuing and deepening this cooperation with the EU and ECDC on early warning, prevention and preparedness, and key EU global health priorities such as antimicrobial resistance and vaccine-preventable diseases.

Based on the work carried out by ECDC together with other partners (e.g. WHO, EU MS), including the assessments of communicable disease prevention and control systems, there is a good understanding of gaps in some of the countries (e.g. Western Balkans and Turkey, Eastern Partnership).

2 **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

Successful implementation and sustainability of the projects can only be achieved if partner countries provide full governmental, technical and administrative support. Their commitment is crucial to both the implementation of project activities and the achievement of the objectives.

Risks	Risk	Mitigating measures
	level	
	(H/M/L)	
Complex heterogeneity of the SPC	Н	Inclusion of countries in more complex
with different development and		activities that already have minimum
security challenges, languages and		capacity (e.g. analysis), and demonstrate
levels of institutional capacity to		a readiness to fully engage in the
implement some of the components		initiative. The initiative will take into

of the Action.		consideration different development stages, capacities and specificities, and	
Inappropriate nomination of participants in project activities by national authorities.	Н	avoid 'one size fits all' approaches. Nomination of POCs (Points of Contact) to facilitate authorities in the selection of relevant participants. Terms of reference, required qualifications and skills and specific professional experience must be fulfilled in order to participate.	
Lack of trust and limited cooperation among countries.	М	The cooperation between participating countries will be promoted in a gradual manner and around consensual matters through a phased approach with clear deliverables and milestones to ensure results and sustainability.	
Lack of trust towards the EU Agencies.	М	The Agencies will have to clearly explain their mandate, how they operate and explain what is the added value of working with them and the mutual interest of doing so.	
The security context could interfere with the implementation of activities.	М	Close dialogue and coordination with EUD in the region and the EEAS.	
High turnover of staff in the partner countries.	М	Train-The-Trainer approach at national level.	
Assumptions National authorities in the ENI SPC are committed to actively collaborate with the Action			

National authorities in the ENI SPC are committed to actively collaborate with the Action.

3 LESSONS LEARNT AND COMPLEMENTARITY

3.1 Lessons learnt

Where possible, working with and through EU Agencies is probably the best solution to guarantee continuity and to provide outreach to a maximum of EU Member States enabling real opportunities for a partnership between EU countries and partner countries.

A recent global evaluation of the EUs engagement on Counterterrorism (¹¹) calls the EU to consider an increased mandate for EU agencies (especially Europol and Eurojust) in external capacity building assistance, beyond the increased operational cooperation foreseen in the 2017 Council Conclusions.

Euromed Police

The Mid-Term Evaluation Euromed Police IV (¹²) (the project ends in January 2020) has concluded that the project is ambitious in its objectives and complex in its formulation. It is ambitious because it seeks to achieve a number of challenging objectives with relatively

^{(&}lt;sup>11</sup>) IcSP/2018/396-902. (¹²) ENI/2018/400-072.

limited inputs. It is complex because it includes a number of innovative initiatives that need to interact with each other in order to be effective. Notwithstanding this, the project has succeeded in planting the seeds for a future cooperation mechanism between EU Member States and South Partner Countries. In particular, the involvement of EUROPOL and CEPOL as supporting entities has been a strong asset to enhance the credibility of the project among partner countries. The project has started to promote the principles of the EU Policy Cycle, particularly the threat assessment methodology. Having a fully-fledged threat assessment for the Southern Neighbourhood requires more capacity building support and further trust building. The evaluators consider the programme highly relevant and recommend the continuation.

The ongoing programme has led to tangible results: a regional threat assessment, development of a regional strategy and action plans. It also increased informal cooperation between EU Member States and our partner countries. Tools have been created that are sustainable beyond the implementation of the programme (Euromed Knowledge Base and Euromed Threat Forum).

Both the current Euromed Police project and CEPOL's CT 1&2 project have addressed terrorism. It proved difficult to really engage with the counterterrorism community in partner countries, because it is different from the one dealing with organised crime (intelligence and State security services instead of traditional police forces). In addition, the EU has other CT projects running in the Southern Neighbourhood, in particular CT MENA and one expected to commence in 2020 on counterterrorism information exchange to be implemented by CEPOL. Therefore, the next phase of Euromed Police will exclusively focus on serious and organised crime.

Euromed Justice

The External Evaluation of EU Support for Rule of Law in Neighbourhood Countries and Candidates and Potential Candidates of Enlargement (2010-2017) (13) includes a case study on Euromed Justice. The innovative approaches and mechanisms developed in Euromed Justice IV are presented as a best practice and, as a side result, have led to tangible results in solving concrete pending cases (EU – South and South-South). The programme delivered legal and gaps analysis in a diversity of sectors which serve for the preparation of action plans. It also delivered practical tools facilitating cooperation but requiring continuous updates in the future: Euromed Fiches (a compendium of legislation and procedures in our partner countries), Euromed Manual on digital evidence (in close cooperation with Euromed Police) and a handbook for international cooperation in criminal matters.

Despite these are relevant issues, the next phase of Euromed Justice will no longer address issues such as access to justice and civil/family law, and instead will entirely focus on criminal matters, for the sake of more homogeneity and impact, but also complementarity with Euromed Police. The topics are better addressed either by TAIEX, twinning or through our bilateral cooperation programmes active in all of our partner countries, of which some of them are directly dedicated to these.

EU Initiative on Health Security

^{(&}lt;sup>13</sup>) Final report still to be approved.

The Final Evaluation MediPIET (¹⁴) (2018) reads that MediPIET is a particular initiative that includes participants from EU and non-EU countries in communicable disease epidemiology. Participants perceive this is very important for monitoring diseases, trends and outbreaks as the programme creates a network of scientists from many countries around the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions, and provides a space for interaction and collaboration.

However, training is not enough and the present programme will complement the capacitybuilding component with a mechanism for prevention, preparedness and response, securing the participation of the alumni into more operational activities in these systems.

3.2 Complementarity, synergy and donor co-ordination

Euromed Police and Justice

Euromed Police IV and Euromed Justice IV have already been working very closely together and delivered already common outputs such as the Manual on Digital Evidence. This cooperation will continue.

They both also developed synergies with projects such as Interpol South Sharaka (15), CyberSouth (¹⁶), CT MENA (¹⁷), EU Global facility on CFT AML, CEPOL CT 1&2 (¹⁸) and Council of Europe Programme South III (¹⁹) at regional level and the ongoing bilateral programmes in order to avoid overlaps.

EU Delegations are closely involved at all levels in preparing activities and participating in events.

Complementarities will be sought, as appropriate, with the new programmes such as EU4Monitoring drugs (²⁰) and EU4BorderSecurity (²¹).

Close cooperation with EU Justice and Home Affairs agencies is embedded in the design.

Euromed Justice will liaise with the Council of Europe, for any of its activities promoting the Council of Europe's Conventions (on substantive criminal matters).

Euromed Justice and Euromed Police are part of the CT MENA coordination platform established under the IcSP project CT MORSE. Such platform allows for coordination of relevant initiatives funded under ENI and ICSP on Counterterrorism but also broader security branded projects.

EU Initiative on Health Security

Synergies will be sought with related programmes that are funded under the umbrella of CBRN (EU Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation) Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative, such as the MediLabSecure II project (project $(75)^{22}$, Stronglabs

⁽¹⁴⁾ Final Evaluation: "Mediterranean Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training- MediPIET" PROEVAL CONSULTORES S.L; 25/01/2018.

^{(&}lt;sup>15</sup>) ENI/2017/382-572.

¹⁶) ENI/2017/385-202. ¹¹⁷) IcSP/2016/376-309.

¹⁸) IcSP/2017/394-210.

¹⁹) ENI/2018/395-924.

^{(&}lt;sup>20</sup>) ENI/2018/401-149.

⁽²¹⁾ ENI/2018/398-919. (²²) IcSP/2018/402-247.

to minimise potential biological risks increased by environmental and climate change (project 76) $\binom{23}{2}$.

The initiative will also seek complementarities with ongoing bilateral activities in the health sector.

Finally, the programme will develop complementarities with European and partner countries' coordination capacities for emergency response. This also requires synergies with civil protection mechanisms and programmes like PPRD South (²⁴) the regional CBRN Centres of Excellence(²⁵) and the future PPRD East program(²⁶).

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1 Overall objective, specific objective(s), expected outputs and indicative activities

With the aim of ensuring of coherence and effectiveness of EU financing and fostering regional and trans-regional co-operation, the Commission decides to extend the eligibility of this action to the Enlargement countries and Sahel if needed.

Below activities are indicative and may be modified and/or completed during the negotiation and inception period of each component.

Euromed Police

Overall objective:

- Contribute to enhancing institutional capacity to protect EU neighbours' citizens against transnational serious and organised crime

Specific objectives:

- Enhance capacities of the South Partner Countries (SPC), to fight serious and organised crime.

- Strengthen strategic cooperation between national law enforcement authorities in SPC, as well as between SPC and EU MS and EU agencies

Expected outputs:

- Enhanced coordination in SPC and with EU (Component 0)

- Training needs based on a joint permanent training platform for SPC and EU MS Law Enforcement officials (Component 1)

- Enhanced evidence-based identification of priority crime areas in the Southern Neighbourhood region, action plans and ad hoc assistance (Component 2)

Activities:

Component 0: Enhanced regional networks

- Yearly High-Level meetings involving Heads of EU MS and SPC National Police to increase political and strategic ownership, building trust and offering also the opportunity for informal bilateral meetings on real operational cases in particular between SPC and EU MS

 $^(^{23})$ IcSP/2018/402-649.

^{(&}lt;sup>24</sup>) ENI/2017/392-714.

²⁵ http://www.cbrn-coe.eu/

²⁶ ENI/2017/392-714

- Regular meetings of the Euromed Capacity Building Network composed of Capacity Building Single Points of Contact (CAPASPOC) (support to Component 1)

- Regular meetings of the Euromed Analysis Network composed of Analysis Single Points of Contact (ANASPOC), with Europol and EU MS, (support to component 2) *Component 1: Training*

Operational Training Needs Assessment

a) Sharing and building analytical capacities of the beneficiaries on self-diagnosing their gaps and needs

b) Conducting regional Operational Training Needs Assessment (OTNA) led by CEPOL in collaboration with the partners countries

c) Design robust training program on evidence basis provided by the OTNA

- Fostering E-learning and blended learning via CEPOL Learning and Management System with the integration of Euromed Knowledge Base and providing support for building such capacities in the partner countries

- Joint residential training on thematic areas for Law Enforcement specialists from partner countries and EU MS organised in SPC on identified training needs corresponding to EU crime priorities

- Euromed Mobility Scheme implemented via CEPOL's flagship Exchange Programme (CEP) and SPCs participation in meetings of EMPACT Operational Action Plans where relevant and in agreement with the responsible OAP drivers and in other relevant meetings at Europol

- SPC participation in CEPOL standard residential training activities organised in the EU

- Joint simulation exercises for SPC and EU MS Law Enforcement specialists in close cooperation with any specific operational action in relevant OAPs

Component 2: Regional Threat Assessment, strategy and ad hoc assistance

- Specialised training on the EU Policy Cycle for organised and serious international crime (threat assessments, strategic plans, implementation through Operational Actions and evaluation), jointly with Europol and other JHA agencies if needed

- Moderate inputs on the Euromed Threat Forum, on the European Platform for Experts (EPE) hosted by Europol for thematic discussions on threats and exchange of strategic intelligence

- Fine-tune the Euromed Strategy and Euromed Threat Assessment with the National Coordinators, in alignment with the EU Policy Cycle on serious and organised crime

- Ad hoc technical assistance upon request of minimum 2 partner countries.

Euromed Justice

Overall objective:

- Contribute to protecting the EU neighbours' citizens against criminal activities respecting the rule of law and human rights

Specific objectives:

- Strengthen the strategic cooperation in criminal matters between national judicial authorities in South Partner Countries (SPC), as well as with EU MS and EU agencies

Expected outputs:

- The regional training platform is strengthened (Component 1)

- Practical tools facilitating cross border cooperation are updated and new ones developed (Component 2)

Joint cross border cooperation activities are supported (Component 3)

Activities:

Component 0: Coordination

- Regular meetings of the EuroMed Justice Expert Group in Criminal Matters (CrimEX). CrimEx brings together experts in a regional forum to build trust and mutual confidence, to exchange good practices and lessons learned, to carry out thorough analyses of the situation in each SPC and in the whole region, to set up specific recommendations, guidelines, manuals, studies and researches.

- Set up the EuroMed Judicial Network in Criminal Matters, a network of national contact points. The contact points assist with establishing direct contacts between competent authorities and by providing legal and practical information necessary to prepare an effective request for judicial cooperation or to improve judicial cooperation in general.

- Organise the Euromed Forum of Prosecutors General: yearly high-Level meetings involving Prosecutors of EU MS and SPC to increase political and strategic ownership and offering the opportunity for informal bilateral meetings on real cases

Component 1: Training and exchange (possibly to be implemented with external service providers)

- Create a repository for all Euromed Justice training materials (in close cooperation with EJN and the European Commission)

- Update the existing training materials: training needs and training the trainers (manual, methodology and curricula)

- Organise joint specific training on thematic areas for judicial specialists from partner countries and EU MS

- Finance study visits and exchanges

- Finance the participation of SPC specialists in the training programme of other platforms (for example the Euro-Arab Judicial Training Network (EAJTN))

Component 2: Practical tools facilitating cross border cooperation

- Continuous update of the "living" CrimEx documents: legal and gap analysis, Euromed Fiches (equivalent of the Fiches Belges), handbook for judicial cooperation, manual on digital evidence

- Preparation of new CrimEx documents: for example legal and gap analysis on personal data protection

Component 3: Joint cross border cooperation activities

- Facilitate cooperation on cross-border cases, including via the coordination of parallel investigations and the organisation of joint investigations.

- Ad hoc technical assistance upon request of minimum two partner countries.

EU Initiative on Health Security

Overall objective:

- To contribute to health security by protecting EU neighbours' citizens against crossborder health threats posed by communicable diseases.

Specific objectives:

- Strengthen partner countries' skills and institutional mechanisms to respond to health threats

- Support cross-border cooperation between the EU and partner countries on health security threats of common interest through exchange of information, best practices and lessons learnt.

Expected outputs:

- Continuation and further development of MediPIET as Field Epidemiology Training Programme (FETP) (component 1)

- Stronger countries' systems and capacities necessary to effectively assess, detect, respond and prevent threats from communicable diseases (component 2)

Progressive integration of the partner countries in the work of ECDC (component 3)

- Enhanced regional cooperation in the field of preparedness, response and emergency operations (component 4)

Activities:

Component 0: Coordination

- Yearly High-Level meetings involving Heads of EU MS and SPC National Public Health Institutes to increase political and strategic ownership and building trust

Component 1: Increasing capabilities

- Adapt the content of the training modules to tackle areas with remaining gaps such as emergency preparedness and response, risk assessment and risk communication; emerging diseases; rapid response teams

- Training successive cohorts of fellows, through the MediPIET (FETP) to respond timely and adequately to health threats

- Mobility of the MediPIET FETP Alumni for cascading knowledge

- Strengthen the national training centres and the MediPIET Training Centre Forum (TCF) (representing all MediPIET countries)

- Set up a virtual platform for communication, exchanges of ideas and experiences, thematic discussions, sharing of training materials, using existing ECDC infrastructure

- Develop collaboration with relevant centres and networks (EMPHNET, AFENET, WHO Emergency Programme, SEEHN, Africa CDC, US CDC ...) in order to increase efficiency and synergies

Component 2: Strengthen countries' systems and capacities necessary to effectively assess, detect, respond and prevent threats from communicable diseases

- Conduct assessments of country capacities following procedures and methodologies of ECDC with Technical Assessment Reports (TAR) and recommendations for system improvement

- Support to countries in the implementation of their action plans, in collaboration with other partners

Component 3: Participation of partner countries in the work of ECDC

Participation as observers in ECDC meetings, networks and conferences

- Development of rules and procedures for exchange of national data and technical information with ECDC

- Training on requirements, standards and workflows for data submission

- Training on ECDC Rapid Risk Assessment (RRA) methodologies

- Integration into the European Surveillance System (TESSy), Epidemic Intelligence Information System (EPIS) (ETMS) and other relevant data sharing platforms

- Identify synergies and promote integration between the activities of MediPIET FETP and the ECDC Fellowship Programme (EPIET and EUPHEM)

Component 4: Enhanced regional cooperation

- Establish and pilot a Regional Health Security Network to enhance the regional exchange of information, interoperable with EU-level networks

- Exchange of experience on the ECDC and national Emergency Operation Centres, operational procedures and standards

- Regional simulation exercises and preparedness capacity building for Public Health Experts (PHE), including PHE protocols and tools

4.2 Intervention Logic

Both programmes Euromed Police and Euromed Justice have a Technical Assistance Facility ("TAF"). This flexible tool allows for integrating ad hoc activities not foreseen in the original plans, upon request of minimum 2 countries. Both programmes are also encouraged to develop joint activities enhancing the linkage between law enforcement, investigations and prosecution.

Euromed Police

CEPOL will pursue the inherited unique regional approach of Euromed Police IV, putting focus on multidisciplinary activities combining expertise, good practices and modern methodologies of relevant law enforcement bodies in Southern Neighbourhood countries and in the EU. To further improve the effectiveness of the intervention, CEPOL aims to transfer the already established partnerships under the IcSP funded action with Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia to the Euromed Police umbrella.

In the context of the action, Europol horizontal support is instrumental along with close collaboration with the respective EMPACT OAP $(^{27})$ drivers.

With the horizontal component, the action will ensure that the regional networks (on threat analysis and capacity building) support the achievement of the objectives and foster ownership and interest at the highest level among law enforcement services by allowing them to attend the annual meeting organised back-to-back with the European Police Chief Convention hosted by Europol.

A central element of Euromed Police remains the promotion of the EU Policy Cycle tools, in particular the methodology to conduct a multi-country threat assessment. The project will provide substantial capacity building to pursue this objective.

Euromed Justice

The EuroMed Justice objective is to build the fundaments for a Euro-Mediterranean, cross-regional mechanism for judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

The mechanism, composed of criminal justice professionals (judges, prosecutors, legal advisors form the Justice Ministries) will be directly connected with and supported by Eurojust and the European Judicial Network (EJN).

The EuroMed Justice Expert Group in Criminal Matters – CrimEx, is placed at the core of EuroMed judicial mechanism of cooperation and coordination. CrimEx members have been

^{(&}lt;sup>27</sup>) European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats (EMPACT); the Operational Action Plan (OAP).

designated according to the criteria defined in consultation with Eurojust and the EJN in criminal matters. CrimEx fosters the region's ownership in the implementation of the project activities and the monitoring of the results. Benefiting from Eurojust, EJN, the UN Counterterrorism Executive Directorate (UNCTED) and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) support, CrimEx builds trust and mutual confidence, exchanges good practices and lessons learned, carries out thorough analyses of the situation in each SPC and in the whole region, to set up specific recommendations, guidelines, manuals, studies and researches. This should lead progressively to the creation of a EuroMed Judicial Network in criminal matters.

The "CrimEx Documents" (Legal and Gaps Analysis, EuroMed Fiches, and the practical Handbook on judicial cooperation in criminal matters) are "pioneer documents" in the Mediterranean region and constitute major practical tools for cross-regional cooperation in criminal matters. These are however, living documents and need continuous updates.

The EuroMed Forum of Prosecutors General has been launched and now needs to meet on a regular basis. Its main objectives are to facilitate successful cooperation, identify and discuss prosecution-related difficulties, challenges and obstacles and possibly recommend solutions through cooperation. It should also encourage the implementation of the relevant international and regional legal instruments for combatting serious and organised crime and terrorism, such as various Council of Europe Conventions on substantive criminal matters.

EU Initiative on Health Security

The Western Balkans, the Mediterranean and the Black Sea regions which are the closest neighbours of the European Union, are particularly exposed to health security threats/risks and disasters (natural or man-made).

As disease outbreaks do not know borders, it is essential for the EU to build the necessary capacity to not only mitigate the exposure of our partners' population as well as EU citizens but also to create the necessary conditions to build a sustainable prevention and preparedness health response system. Geographical proximity requires the establishment of sustainable networks of highly skilled experts, early warning and rapid response systems across the regions to address the health threats and risks we are and could be facing, in an efficient and fast manner.

4.3 Mainstreaming

Human rights and the respect of rule of law are at the core of Euromed Police and Euromed Justice. They also provide a better defence of victims, mostly vulnerable groups, of criminal acts.

EU Initiative on Health Security contributes to the protection of vulnerable groups since they are the most exposed to the consequences of epidemiological outbreaks.

The projects will encourage gender-balanced representation of trainers and will pay particular attention to the participation of women in its activities.

The projects will be aligned to the EU Gender Action Plan (28), putting specific focus on thematic priority 3 that stipulates political voice and participation, moreover objective 17 on

^{(&}lt;sup>28</sup>) https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/staff-working-document-gender-2016-2020-20150922_en.pdf

equal rights and ability for women to participate in policy and governance processes at all levels.

4.4 Contribution to SDGs

This intervention is relevant for the 2030 Agenda. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG(s):

- 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", for components 1 and 2.

- SDG 3: "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages" for component 3.

- SDG 17: "Partnerships for the goals" for all components by promoting institution building and regional cooperation.

5 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner countries.

5.2 Indicative implementation period

The indicative operational implementation period of this action, during which the activities described in section 4 will be carried out and the corresponding contracts and agreements implemented, is 66 months from the date of adoption by the Commission of this Financing Decision.

Extensions of the implementation period may be agreed by the Commission's responsible authorising officer by amending this Decision and the relevant contracts and agreements.

5.3 Implementation modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures (29).

5.3.1 Indirect management with entrusted entities

This action may be implemented in indirect management with:

CEPOL for Euromed Police

Eurojust for Euromed Justice

ECDC for EU Initiative on Health Security

^{(&}lt;sup>29</sup>) www.sanctionsmap.eu Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

The envisaged entities have been selected because they were increasingly active in the previous phases of the three programmes. Cooperation of these agencies with third countries has been encouraged over the lasts years, but requires ad hoc funding to perform these non-core tasks. These agencies also offer the possibility for an increased partnership between all EU Member States and our partner countries. Indirect management through EU Agencies and consortia thereof mostly enhance partnerships only with the EU Member States part of the implementing consortium.

Implementation through the above-mentioned EU Agencies will take into account the conditions laid down in Article 7 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/715.

In case the envisaged entities would need to replaced, this action may be implemented in indirect management with pillar-assessed EU Member States' agencies and consortia thereof. The entrusted entities will be selected after negotiations resulting from a call for manifestation of interest addressed to all EU Member States agencies eligible for indirect management.

5.4 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply, subject to the following provision.

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility based on urgency or of unavailability of products and services in the markets of the countries concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult.

	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Indirect management with (cf. section 5.3.1):	
- CEPOL for Euromed Police	7 000 000
- Eurojust for Euromed Justice	5 000 000
- ECDC for EU Initiative on Health Security	6 000 000
Totals	18 000 000

5.5 Indicative budget

5.6 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

<u>Europed Police</u>: This programme will be directly implemented by CEPOL, in partnership with Europol. The European Commission will supervise the agreement in close liaison with the EU Delegations in the ENP South Partner countries. A Steering Committee will be

established with the participation of the relevant Commission Services, especially the Directorate General CEPOL reports to.

<u>Euromed Justice</u>: This programme will be directly implemented by Eurojust. The European Commission will supervise the agreement in close liaison with the EU Delegations in the ENP South Partner Countries. A Steering Committee will be established with the participation of the relevant Commission Services, especially the Directorate General Eurojust reports to.

<u>EU Initiative on Health Security:</u> This programme will be directly implemented by ECDC. The European Commission will supervise the agreement in close liaison with the EU Delegations in the ENP East and South Partner Countries and the Enlargement countries. A Steering Committee will be established with the participation of the relevant Commission Services, especially the Directorate General ECDC reports to.

5.7 **Performance and Results monitoring and reporting**

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partners' responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partners shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (outputs and direct outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the Logframe matrix (for project modality) or the partner's strategy, policy or reform action plan list (for budget support).

SDGs indicators and, if applicable, any jointly agreed indicators as for instance per Joint Programming document should be taken into account.

The report shall be laid out in such a way as to allow monitoring of the means envisaged and employed and of the budget details for the action. The final report, narrative and financial, will cover the entire period of the action implementation.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

5.8 Evaluation

Having regard to the importance of the action, an ex-post evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that these are innovative approaches.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partners at least 3 months in advance of the dates foreseen for the evaluation missions. The implementing partners shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner countries and other key stakeholders. The implementing partners and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner countries, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.

The financing of the evaluation shall be covered by another measure constituting a Financing Decision.

5.9 Audit

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, based on a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

The financing of the audit shall be covered by another measure constituting a Financing Decision.

5.10 Communication and visibility

Communication and visibility of the EU is a legal obligation for all external actions funded by the EU.

This action shall contain communication and visibility measures, which shall be based on a specific Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action, to be elaborated at the start of implementation.

In terms of legal obligations on communication and visibility, the measures shall be implemented by the Commission, the partner countries (for instance, concerning the reforms supported through budget support), contractors, grant beneficiaries and/or entrusted entities. Appropriate contractual obligations shall be included in, respectively, the financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and contribution agreements.

The Communication and Visibility Requirements for European Union External Action (or any succeeding document) shall be used to establish the Communication and Visibility Plan of the Action and the appropriate contractual obligations.

CEPOL, Eurojust and ECDC will be using their regular communication channels and tools. The mere fact that they are EU bodies will guarantee that EU visibility is ensured at all times.

6 **PRE-CONDITIONS**

Not applicable.

APPENDIX - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX

The activities, the expected outputs and all the indicators, targets and baselines included in the logframe matrix are indicative and may be updated during the implementation of the action, no amendment being required to the financing Decision. When it is not possible to determine the outputs of an action at formulation stage, intermediary outcomes should be presented and the outputs defined during inception of the overall programme and its components. The indicative logframe matrix will evolve during the lifetime of the action: new lines will be added for including the activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) for the output and outcome indicators whenever it is relevant for monitoring and reporting purposes. Note also that indicators should be disaggregated by sex whenever relevant.

	Results chain:	Indicators	Sources of data	Assumptions
	Main expected results (maximum 10)	(at least one indicator per expected result)		
Impact (Overall Objective)	Contribute to protect EU and EU neighbours' citizens against transnational serious and organised crime and health security threats.	SDG 16: Target 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere; Indicator 16.1.4: proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live SDG 16: Target 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; Indicator 16.3.2: un- sentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population SDG 3: Target 3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of	SDG Reviews	Not applicable
		AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases; Indicator 3.3.2: tuberculosis incidence per 1.000 population		
	1/ Euromed Police:	1/ Euromed Police:	1/ Euromed	The security
	- Enhance capacities of the South	- Number of updated threat assessments at	Police:	context does not
	Partner Countries (SPC), to fight serious and	country level and regional level	- Security	interfere with the
Outcome(s)	organised crime.	- Number of strategies and action plans based	dialogues	implementation of
(Specific	- Strengthen strategic cooperation	on the threat assessments	- Sub-committee	activities
Objective(s))	between national law enforcement authorities in	- Number of MoUs, working arrangements or	reports from DG	
Objective(s))	SPC, as well as between SPC and EU MS and	joint investigations between South Partner countries	HOME-EEAS	Complex
	EU agencies	but also with EU agencies and/or EU Member States,		heterogeneity of
		facilitated by the programme	2/ Euromed	partner countries
	2/ Euromed Justice:	2/ Euromed Justice:	Justice:	with different
	- Strengthen the strategic cooperation in	- Number of MoUs, working arrangements or	- Sub-committee	development and

	 criminal matters between national judicial authorities in South Partner Countries (SPC), as well as with EU MS and EU agencies 3/ EU Initiative on Health Security: Strengthen partner countries' skills and institutional mechanisms to respond to health threats Support cross-border cooperation between the EU and partner countries on health security threats of common interest through exchange of information, best practices and lessons learnt. 	joint investigations between South Partner countries but also with EU agencies and/or EU Member States, facilitated by the programme 3/ EU Initiative on Health Security: - A sustainable capacity building mechanism after completion of project	reports from DG JUST-EEAS, 3/ EU Initiative on Health Security : - Reports ECDC	security challenges, languages and levels of institutional capacity does not impede implementation of activities
Outputs	 1/ Euromed Police: Enhanced coordination in SPC and EU Training needs based on a joint permanent training platform for SPC and EU MS Law Enforcement officials Enhanced evidence-based identification of priority crime areas in the Southern Neighbourhood region, action plans and ad hoc assistance 	 1/ Euromed Police: Number of EU MS actively participating in the High level meetings Number of multilateral/bilateral cooperation initiatives that can be attributed to Euromed Police Quality of the Training Needs Assessments Number of participants in E-learning Number of joint residential trainings Number of exchanges under the Mobility Scheme Quality of the Euromed Strategy and Euromed Threat Assessment Number of joint simulation exercises 	1/ Euromed Police: - Project reports - Cepol web	Partner countries trust EU Agencies.
	 2/ Euromed Justice: The regional training platform is strengthened Practical tools facilitating cross border cooperation are updated and new ones developed Joint cross border cooperation activities are supported 	 2/ Euromed Justice: Number of EU MS actively participating in the High level meetings Number of multilateral/bilateral cooperation initiatives that can be attributed to Euromed Justice Number of inputs in the repository of Euromed Justice documents Number of joint specific trainings Number of participants in existing training 	2/ Euromed Justice: - Project reports - Eurojust web	

 3/ EU Initiative on Health Security: Continuation and further development of Field Epidemiology Training Programme (FETP) Stronger countries' systems and capacities necessary to effectively assess, detect, respond and prevent threats from communicable diseases Progressive integration of the partner countries in the work of ECDC Enhanced regional cooperation in the field of preparedness, response and emergency operations 	platforms-Number of study visits exchanges under the Mobility Scheme-Frequency of updates of the "living" CrimEx docs-Number of new CrimEx docs-Number of formal or informal joint investigations facilitated-Quality of results of the activities organised through the Technical Assistance Facility 3/ EU Initiative on Health Security :-Number of fellows graduated from the MediPIET FETP-Number of country experts trained with input from MediPIET Alumni-Statistical data on the use of the virtual platform-Number of technical assessment reports with recommendations accepted by the country-Average annual attendance rate to ECDC events-Number of non-EU participants accessing ECDC data sharing systems-Number of Regional Health SecurityNetwork meetingsNumber of regional simulation exercises	3/ EU Initiative on Health Security: - Project reports - ECDC web	
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