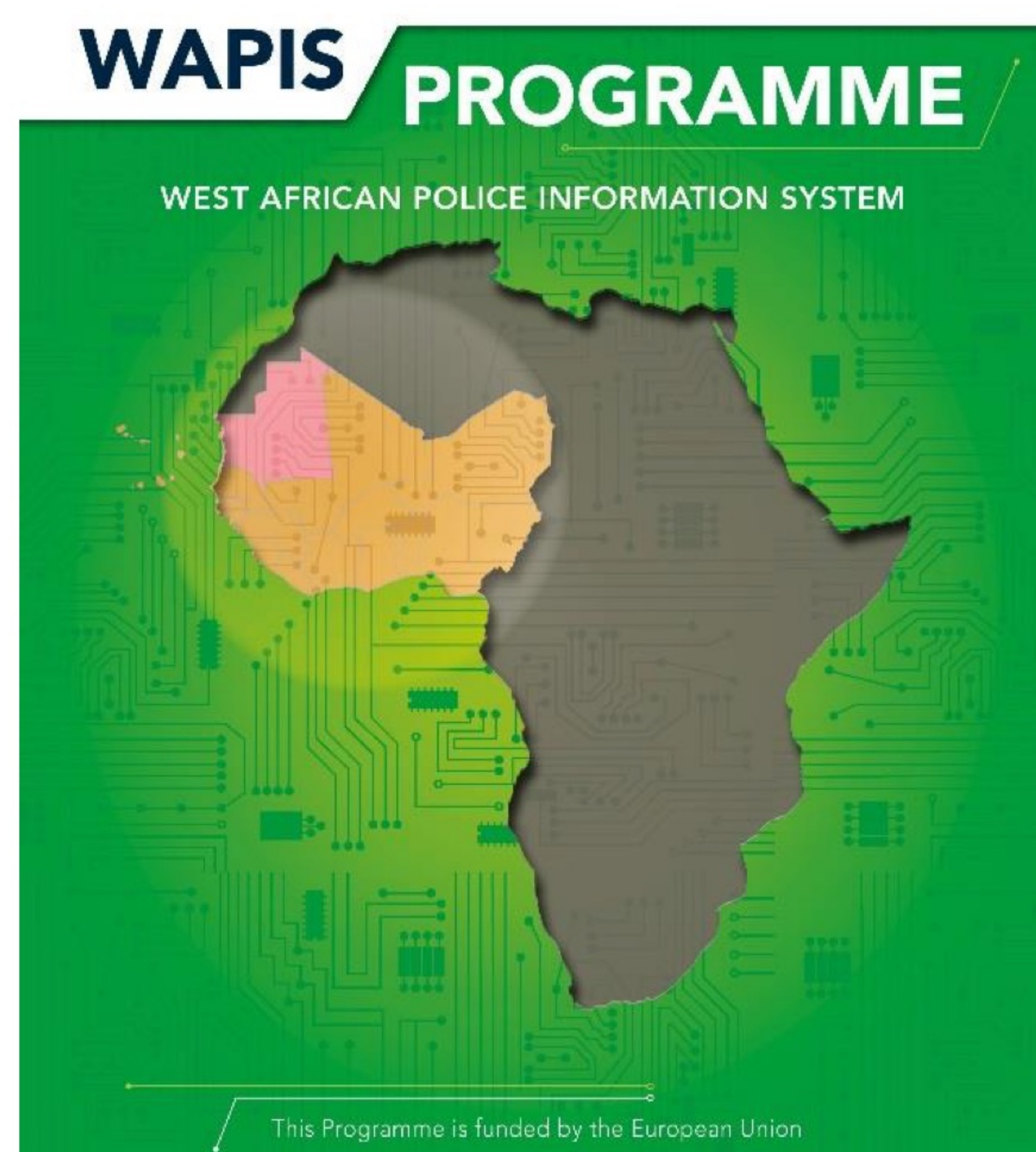




EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WAPIS Progress Report

Last updated 18 February 2019



Author : [REDACTED]

Date of publication: 18 February 2019

Original: English

Reference: [REDACTED]

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List of Abbreviations

AIRCOP	Airport Communication Project
CCSS	Committee of Chiefs of Security Services
DACORE	Data Collection and Registration (Centre)
DEVCO	Development and Cooperation Aid
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDF	European Development Fund
EEAS	European External Action Service
EU	European Union
EUCAP	European Union Capacity Building Mission
EULOs	European Liaison Officers (platforms)
IfS	Instrument for Stability
IT	Information Technology
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
LEA	Law Enforcement Agency
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCB	(INTERPOL) National Central Bureau
PAJED	Programme d'Appui à la Justice et à l'Etat de Droit
PCMS	Plateforme de Coopération en Matière de Sécurité
PSCC	Programme Steering and Coordination Committee (PSCC)
RIP	Regional Indicative Programme
SEACOP	Seaport Communication Project
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPOC	Single Point of Contact
SRIEU	Special Representative of INTERPOL to the European Union
TOC	Transnational Organised Crime
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UEMOA	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WANACO	WAPIS National Committee
WAPCCO	West African Police Chiefs Committee
WAPIS	West African Police Information System

1 BACKGROUND OF WAPIS

The West African Police Information System (WAPIS) Programme aims at responding to some of the security challenges faced by the West African countries, by allowing an effective collection of police information thanks to a centralized national system and by offering the possibility of sharing the information collected at national, regional and international levels.

The request to develop this system was put forward by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in 2011. Every year since 2011, the WAPIS Programme has officially been endorsed both at ministerial level (Ministers in charge of security gathered in the framework of the Committee of Chief of Security Services - CCSS) and Heads of Police level (gathered in the framework of the West African Police Chiefs Committee – WAPCCO).

Implemented with the financial support of the European Union (EU) under the instrument contributing to stability and peace, two (2) phases of the WAPIS Programme have been successfully completed. The first phase (September 2012 – September 2013) was intended as a preparation and planning phase, conducted in cooperation with pilot countries (Benin, Ghana, Mali and Niger – Mauritania as an observer). The second phase (October 2013 - February 2016) launched the implementation of the Programme in the four (4) pilot countries.

The transition of the third phase of the Programme that is currently running (February 2016 – November 2019) supports the strengthening of police information systems in the broader West Africa region. Expected results of this phase are that the WAPIS System will be fully operationalized in the four (4) original pilot countries and that favourable conditions will be created to enable collection, centralization, management and sharing of police data through the WAPIS System in the other four (4) countries: Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire and Mauritania.

The third phase of the Programme, funded by the 11th European Development Fund started on 15 November 2017 for an implementation period of 55 months, with a budget of 28 million Euros. It consists of implementing the WAPIS System at the national level in all ECOWAS Member States and possibly Mauritania, through operational and technical support as well as appropriate training sessions. This phase covers the development of a regional platform for data exchange. Citizens of ECOWAS member states benefit from the principle of free movement. Since organised crime and

terrorism know no borders, especially in West Africa where borders are porous, it is essential for law enforcement authorities in the region to be able to know quickly if an individual is wanted by another country or if an ID document or a vehicle is reported as stolen.

Finally, at the global level, each national WAPIS System will be connected to the country's INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) in order to share authorized national data globally through INTERPOL's I-24/7 system.

2 OVERALL WAPIS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS

Operationalisation of the WAPIS System in the four pilot countries (Benin, Ghana, Mali, and Niger) is progressing (although not at the same rate in every country) and we are starting to see queries to the System in Benin and Ghana. The two other pilot countries will start querying when the WAPIS System remote connections are operational, as a critical mass of data has now been reached. Progress has, however, been hampered by delays in setting up remote connections to the WAPIS System. This delay is also affecting INTERPOL I-24/7 connections in the countries concerned. Extensions in Benin will be completed by March 2019, in Niger by May 2019, and in the two other countries by September 2019.

Implementation of the transition phase in the four additional countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, and Mauritania) has been properly initiated through the provision of high-level support.

Chad was able to put in place the necessary legal framework to set up the WAPIS System. The country received digitisation workstations and began the digitisation of paper-based police data pending the setting up of a DACORE.

In Burkina Faso, government officials confirmed their willingness to keep the existing police information system (IRAPOL). As Burkina Faso has already put in place the necessary legal framework for the IRAPOL system, the WAPIS programme was able to send new equipment to support the government in increasing IRAPOL's national coverage. Due to the change of government, the official handover of equipment to the authorities of Burkina Faso, previously scheduled in February, has been postponed to early April 2019.

The delivery of equipment to Côte d'Ivoire and Mauritania has been postponed following a decision by the most recent WAPIS Steering Committee meeting held in June 2018 in Abidjan. During that meeting, it was decided that if Côte d'Ivoire and Mauritania failed to adopt the necessary legal

framework, donations intended for those countries would be reallocated to other eligible beneficiary countries.

Fortunately, Mauritania has recently formally created a WAPIS National Committee.

The Programme is continuing to engage with Côte d'Ivoire to in order to ensure that implementation of the WAPIS Programme in the country progresses. A new strategic visit to meet the political authorities is being planned for March 2019 in collaboration with the EU Delegation and the ECOWAS Special Representative.

Implementation of the entire third phase in the nine additional countries (Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo) has begun well. The WAPIS Programme organised strategic visits to Cape Verde, ████████, Liberia, Senegal, Togo, Nigeria, Gambia, Sierra-Leone, and Guinea-Bissau in order to obtain formal agreement from the local authorities to begin implementation of WAPIS. These missions have been successful and the respective national authorities have reassured the Programme of their collaboration and support for the full and effective implementation of the System in their countries. Strategic visits were followed by technical missions in order to perform a police data management assessment. Based on the findings, country profiles have been developed for all new countries implementing the System.

The study on regional data-sharing mechanisms was presented to an ECOWAS Expert Committee assembled by the Programme. The Committee recommended a centralised system for data sharing. However, due to the administrative, technical, and financial constraints associated with this option, the Committee agreed on a transitional period of 4 years during which a decentralised system with direct and full data sharing would be used. The programme is now preparing the technical specifications in order to launch the procurement process.

Cooperation with the G5 Sahel has been successful, with an agreement reached on I-24/7-based connectivity for national G5 Sahel platforms and a roadmap for connectivity with the G5 Sahel Headquarters. So far, all five (5) INTERPOL National Central Bureaus in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger have been upgraded using WAPIS Programme funds.

Legal and institutional frameworks adopted under the WAPIS Programme.

Implementation of the WAPIS Programme has required legal instruments to be signed in order to foster cooperation between INTERPOL and the various stakeholders. These are:

- MoU between Sierra Leone and INTERPOL, signed by Sierra Leone in January 2019;
- MoU between Liberia and INTERPOL, signed by both parties, which entered into force in December 2018;
- MoU between The Gambia and INTERPOL, signed by both parties, which entered into force in January 2019;
- Working arrangement between EUCAP Sahel Mali and INTERPOL, signed by both parties, which entered into force in November 2018;
- Working arrangement between EUCAP Sahel Niger and INTERPOL, signed by both parties, which entered into force in April 2018.

The agreements between EUCAP Sahel and INTERPOL enable EUCAP Sahel to assist in the follow-up to implementation of WAPIS Programme activities in Niger and Mali.

Moreover, MoUs have been presented to the following countries for negotiation: Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo. MoUs for the remaining countries (Benin, Niger and Mauritania) will be following soon.

Developing an effective training strategy in collaboration with INTERPOL's Capacity Building Directorate, WAPIS staff took an Instructor Development Course (IDC) in May 2018 which allowed them to be certified as INTERPOL trainers. Based on the skills acquired in that training, a training strategy was developed and is being tried out in beneficiary countries to enable them to use the WAPIS system. Two (02) training sessions have been planned for each country. They focus mainly on providing new skills for officers working on the newly-installed remote stations which have the updated version of the WAPIS software. The first training sessions on the new version of the software were organised in Niger (08-20 July 2018), Chad (12-16 November 2018), Benin (12-16 November 2018), Ghana (03-14 December 2018) and Mali (17-31 January 2019). More training sessions are being planned: up to four sessions per country per year and this will be also extended to new countries after MoUs have been signed and equipment has been shipped.

3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS PER COUNTRY

- **Benin:** The WAPIS Programme has delivered equipment to the country in order to extend the WAPIS System in the greater capital and beyond, including Parakou. The remote connected sites are expected to be operational by the end of March 2019. The Programme has conducted a training for officials on 12-16 November 2018 on the newly delivered equipment and the updated version of the WAPIS system. A second session of training and a briefing event will be organized in Cotonou in April 2019 in order to sensitize the law enforcement agencies on WAPIS and strengthen the local authorities' commitment. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- **Burkina Faso:** By a letter from the Minister in charge of security, the government clarified its position and decided to continue with its IRAPOL system. Following this decision, the WAPIS programme is working toward increasing the capacity of the existing IRAPOL by acquiring IT equipment and studying how it can be integrated into the WAPIS regional platform for data sharing. A first set of equipment (70 workstations with scanners and accessories) was ordered and delivered on 28 December 2018 at the IRAPOL Headquarters in Ouagadougou. The WAPIS Programme is currently working with the local authorities to organize an official handover ceremony in early April 2019. On the legal side, the WAPIS legal team is currently drafting the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between INTERPOL and the government of Burkina Faso. On the legal side, the WAPIS legal team is developing a Memorandum of Understanding between INTERPOL and the Government of Burkina Faso. This MoU will be presented to the local authorities during this mission.
- **Cape Verde:** The government officially appointed the Single Point Of Contact (SPOC). A follow-up mission took place in Praia on 29-31 October 2018, during which the WAPIS delegation delivered and discussed the draft version of the MoU with the Minister of Justice. During another mission which took place from 11-15 February, the MoU was finalized with the participation of the national stakeholders. It was decided that WAPIS will be the platform at the national level that will link the existing National Police database managed under the umbrella of the Ministry of Interior and the Criminal Police databases managed under the umbrella of the Ministry of Justice.
- **Côte d'Ivoire:** More than two years after the Programme was extended to the country, no significant progress has been recorded so far. In a letter sent by the Director General of Police of Côte d'Ivoire and received on 2 November 2018, the Ivorian government informed the Programme

that it had identified a location to host the DACORE and reassured the Programme of its efforts to adopt the required legal framework. Nevertheless, due to technical issues, a new location has been assigned to host the DACORE by the Ministry of Interior. The Programme is currently examining the suitability of this location. In order to revitalize the Programme in Côte d'Ivoire and boost the implementation in the country, a strategic visit will be organized in March 2019 in collaboration with the EU Delegation and ECOWAS Ambassador to meet with the Vice President, the Minister of Interior, the Minister of Justice and the National Police Director.

- **The Gambia:** The strategic visit took place on 17-21 September 2018 to get the local authorities formal consent to the implementation of the Programme in the country. The technical visit took place from 30 October to 2 November 2018. The government designated a Single Point of Contact for the WAPIS Programme. A legal focal point was also designated within the Ministry of Justice to work toward the implementation of the legal framework. The MoU was signed by the Minister of Justice during the follow-up mission held in October 2018. Following, the technical visit, a location was identified to host the DACORE but the country expressed its inability to renovate the premises. Discussions are still ongoing on the availability of funding for the renovation of this venue. An order for the first set of equipment has been made, so the Gambia will receive in the coming weeks the equipment in order to start the digitization of the paper-based data. The programme is currently working closely with the relevant authorities on the identification and selection of the participants to the first WAPIS training in the Gambia
- **Ghana:** During a ceremony that took place on 2 October 2018, the WAPIS Programme handed over IT equipment composed of 41 workstations and a server for the backup site to the government. This ceremony was attended by the Minister of Interior, the EU Ambassador to Ghana and INTERPOL Executive Director for Partnerships and Planning. This equipment is being dispatched to law enforcement agencies within Ghana as part of the extension process of the WAPIS network in greater Accra. As part of this activity, a training session was delivered to officers on the use of the WAPIS software on 5-20 December 2018 followed by the deployment of twenty (20) workstations in twenty (20) remote sites in Accra to start the data digitization. A second training session will take place from 27 February to 15 March 2019 with the deployment of the remaining workstations in the remote sites in Accra. During this mission, a WANACO meeting will take place to prepare the upcoming briefing event.

█ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- **Guinea Bissau:** Due to political issues, the EU Commission had to put on hold the start of the implementation of WAPIS in this country for several months. The strategic visit took place on 10-14 December 2018 followed by the technical mission on 17-21 December 2018. The programme is working toward the official designation of a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) and a legal expert.

- **Liberia:** The MOU between INTERPOL and Liberia was signed on 24 October 2018. Liberia is the first country to have signed the MoU. A location has already been identified to host the DACORE and is being renovated by the national authorities. The WAPIS Programme has been working closely with the Liberian authorities to identify the sites where the scanning stations will be deployed to start turning the paper-based archives to electronic data. The programme is preparing the shipment of the IT equipment to set up the DACORE and the remote workstations. The programme is also working closely with the relevant authorities on the identification and selection of the participants to the first WAPIS training in Liberia.

- **Mali:** [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] the INTERPOL Secretary General travelled to Mali from 16-18 October 2018. The issue of the WAPIS decree, [REDACTED], was addressed by the Secretary General to both the Chief of Police and Minister of Security. This decree would result in funds being allocated from the government to support the data centre and overall project at the national level. Both the Chief of Police and the Minister stressed that the decree was in the final stages of approval and that the delay was due to a lengthy review by the national data protection body. The Minister

stressed that the General Secretariat can expect finalization of the decree soon and that he will monitor the matter very closely. In the framework of WAPIS network extension within the greater Bamako, the Programme sent a set of 41 workstations. After that, a training session took place on 17-31 January 2019 and 23 officers (including 3 police officers to strengthen the staff of the DACORE and 02 officers from EUCAP Sahel to further assist in the follow-up) were trained on the new version of the WAPIS software in Mali as part of the WAPIS extension in the greater Bamako. During the opening ceremony, the EU Head of delegation, the ECOWAS Ambassador in Mali and the Head of WAPIS Programme discussed the issue of the legal framework with the Malian authorities including the representative of the Minister and Deputy Inspector General of Police. A copy of MoU was also handed over to local authorities as a reminder of the one sent later in 2018. An agreement has been signed between INTERPOL and EUCAP Sahel in Mali in order to assist in the follow-up of the Programme activities' implementation.

- **Mauritania:** [REDACTED] letters from INTERPOL were sent to the national authorities in order to request their support. Fortunately, in early February 2019, the WANACO decree was finally adopted and transmitted to the WAPIS Programme. This has been shared with our partners at the EU Commission.
- **Niger:** The Programme delivered the equipment needed for the extension of the WAPIS System to other sites in the greater capital. The training of officers has also been done and equipment installed at selected sites. A working arrangement has been signed between INTERPOL and EUCAP Sahel Niger to enable the latter assist in the follow up of the implementation of the programme in the country. From 4-8 February 2019, a follow up mission was conducted in the country. During the quality control, it was been noted that some remote sites experienced some difficulties regarding the quality of data entered. The country officer took the opportunity to monitor the status of assignment of all the staff trained for WAPIS. He noted that some of the trained staff had been transferred to other departments. In the framework of system extension in the greater Niamey, the contract between WAPIS and a network cabling company was signed and the works have started.
- **Nigeria:** The strategic and technical visits took place. Following these meetings, the government has designated the WAPIS SPOC. Nigeria inaugurated its WANACO on 5 October 2018 and the formalization of this one by a regulatory act is awaited. A location to host the DACORE has also

been identified. The MoU was submitted to the Nigerian government for its review and signature. During the side-lines of the INTERPOL African Regional Conference in Kigali, INTERPOL and Nigerian officials discussed the progress of WAPIS implementation in Nigeria. A new strategic visit will take place after the presidential election in April 2019.

- **Senegal:** Since the technical and the strategic visits organised in the beginning of 2018, no further progress has been recorded in Senegal. The Programme is still waiting for the official designation of a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) and the adoption of the legal framework. A new strategic visit to revitalize the programme will take place after the presidential election in March 2019.
- **Sierra Leone:** The strategic visit was held on 25-27 September 2018 to get the local authorities formal consent to the implementation of WAPIS. The Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Sierra Leone, the legal and the IT expert have been designated. A location has been identified to host the DACORE but it requires renovation. The technical visit took place on 5-9 November 2018. Following this visit, the MOU between Sierra Leone and INTERPOL was signed in January 2019 by the Sierra Leonean authorities. Due to the fact that there is an existing criminal data exchange system in the country, a technical mission is planned to discuss how WAPIS will integrate the existing system.
- **Togo:** The Minister in charge of Security sent a letter to ECOWAS to reiterate its full commitment to the implementation of the WAPIS Programme in Togo. Following this letter, the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) and the legal expert were designated. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between INTERPOL and the government of Togo was sent to the authorities on 18 November 2018 and as a reminder on 6 January 2019 for their review and signature.
- **Chad:** A training took place from 12-16 November 2018 in N'Djamena on the WAPIS software and 19 WAPIS workstations were deployed. The government officially designated a new SPOC after the departure of the former one. A follow up mission was conducted from 11-15 February 2019 to monitor the Programme implementation. At this stage, no major issues are encountered by the data compilers regarding the use of the system. On the contrary, their motivation is rather promising. The DACORE location is yet to be identified and is becoming an urgent matter as the WAPIS 3T segment will end in November 2019.

4 RISKS AND CURRENT CHALLENGES

Specific risks and challenges related to WAPIS have been identified and placed into categories.

Political

Beneficiary countries and their governments are the key players in implementing the WAPIS Programme. Law enforcement agencies are always willing to acquire new tools, but the effort invested, including in terms of human resources and budget, will only yield results if the Programme is supported at the highest political level. Therefore, greater involvement and accountability from governments will definitely speed up implementation. The political situation in a country has a direct impact on the implementation of WAPIS. Some countries are facing political crises which lead to constant personnel changes at a high level or even a regular restructuring of Law Enforcement Agencies. In [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. These two examples illustrate the political challenges that the Programme is facing and the negative impact this has on the progress of the implementation of the Programme.

In order to mitigate the political risks and to ensure continued support for governments, the WAPIS Programme is working closely with national authorities and communicating with them on a daily basis to improve collaboration. For instance, the MoU between INTERPOL and beneficiary countries will be an important tool in enhancing countries' political accountability. It sets out each party's obligations, the administrative, technical, and legal requirements, and officially sets out the basis of the cooperation between INTERPOL and the beneficiary country, thus avoiding the progress of WAPIS being linked to an individual who may be transferred to another post at any moment. In a letter signed by INTERPOL's Executive Director for Planning and Partnerships (EDPP), the Programme explained the necessity of an MoU to the Ministers of member countries. So far 03 countries (Liberia, The Gambia, and Sierra Leone) have already signed an MoU. The EDPP discussed the issue with high-level political authorities during field visits in Ghana and Nigeria. This issue was also part of the discussions between the EDPP and the Head of Programme and some delegations including [REDACTED], Ghana, Togo, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, and Mauritania during the most recent INTERPOL African Regional Conference held in Kigali from the 5th to the 7th of February 2019. During the 42nd meeting of Arab Chiefs of Police in Tunisia in late 2018, the Secretary General of INTERPOL had a discussion with the minister of Mauritania on implementing the programme in the country. As a result, the country recently formally established a WANACO. The Secretary General met with the Prime Minister, the Minister of Security, and the Chief of Police during his visit to Mali in October, and discussed the importance of creating the DACORE and the sustainability of the system.

The Programme is also liaising and working closely with the EU Commission and the ECOWAS Commission to strengthen countries' political will at a high level. EU Delegations in each of the

beneficiary countries play an important role as they provide a strategic and political interface with the Country and they oversee activities on the ground.

Programme implementation planning is also reviewed and readjusted if needed, by the Strategic steering committee, which is composed of the EU Commission, the ECOWAS Commission, and INTERPOL.

Technical

Most of the countries in the West African region suffer from a general lack of IT infrastructure and law enforcement agencies are particularly ill-equipped. Reliable and affordable means of communication are not available in these countries. This is a huge challenge for the Programme which is based on data-sharing and connectivity between law enforcement agencies. This situation varies from country to country, which has a direct impact on the number of remote sites connected to WAPIS, as the budget for WAPIS extensions as set out in the agreement with the EU Commission is equally shared between all countries.

Allocating suitable premises for the WAPIS centre has also proven to be an issue for several countries. In some cases, the country's law enforcement agencies already have insufficient space and it is difficult for them to find a reliable location to host the DACORE. In other cases, the premises allocated need some renovation. This creates a problem because the Programme's budget does not provide for renovating the premises itself. It is worth highlighting the case of Côte d'Ivoire, which has been engaged in the WAPIS Programme since 2016. The Ivorian authorities recently informed INTERPOL that a suitable location had been identified, almost two (02) years after Côte d'Ivoire joined the WAPIS Programme.

Finally, long term functioning of technical equipment is very important: INTERPOL has noted that some countries have failed to properly maintain the IT equipment. Maintenance of this equipment is paid for by WAPIS up to the end of the Programme in 2022. To ensure the system can continue to function after 2022, the Programme is working with local authorities to start including, from the outset, a specific budget line allocated to equipment maintenance.

Human resources

Finding someone to act as a high-level motivated focal point, and finding skilled personnel, can sometimes be a significant challenge in the implementation process. The Programme works in beneficiary countries through a focal point or "single point of contact" (SPOC). This person should be at a sufficiently high level to be able to "make things happen" within his/her own agency and to have

an impact on other participating agencies while still working at an operational level. In some countries, they have either not designated their SPOC or the personnel assigned to the system are not sufficiently skilled to fulfil this mission, which thereby slows down the implementation process.

The WAPIS Programme has been working closely with governments to designate adequate SPOCs as indicated in the requirements, and a training strategy is being tested to serve all the personnel working with the system. [REDACTED]

For this reason, the Programme and the stakeholders (EU, ECOWAS) are lobbying governments to take this issue into consideration and to put in place incentives for personnel working with the system.

Legal

From a legal standpoint, INTERPOL faces three major difficulties in implementing the WAPIS Programme: data protection legislation, legislation on the national WAPIS system, and the MoUs.

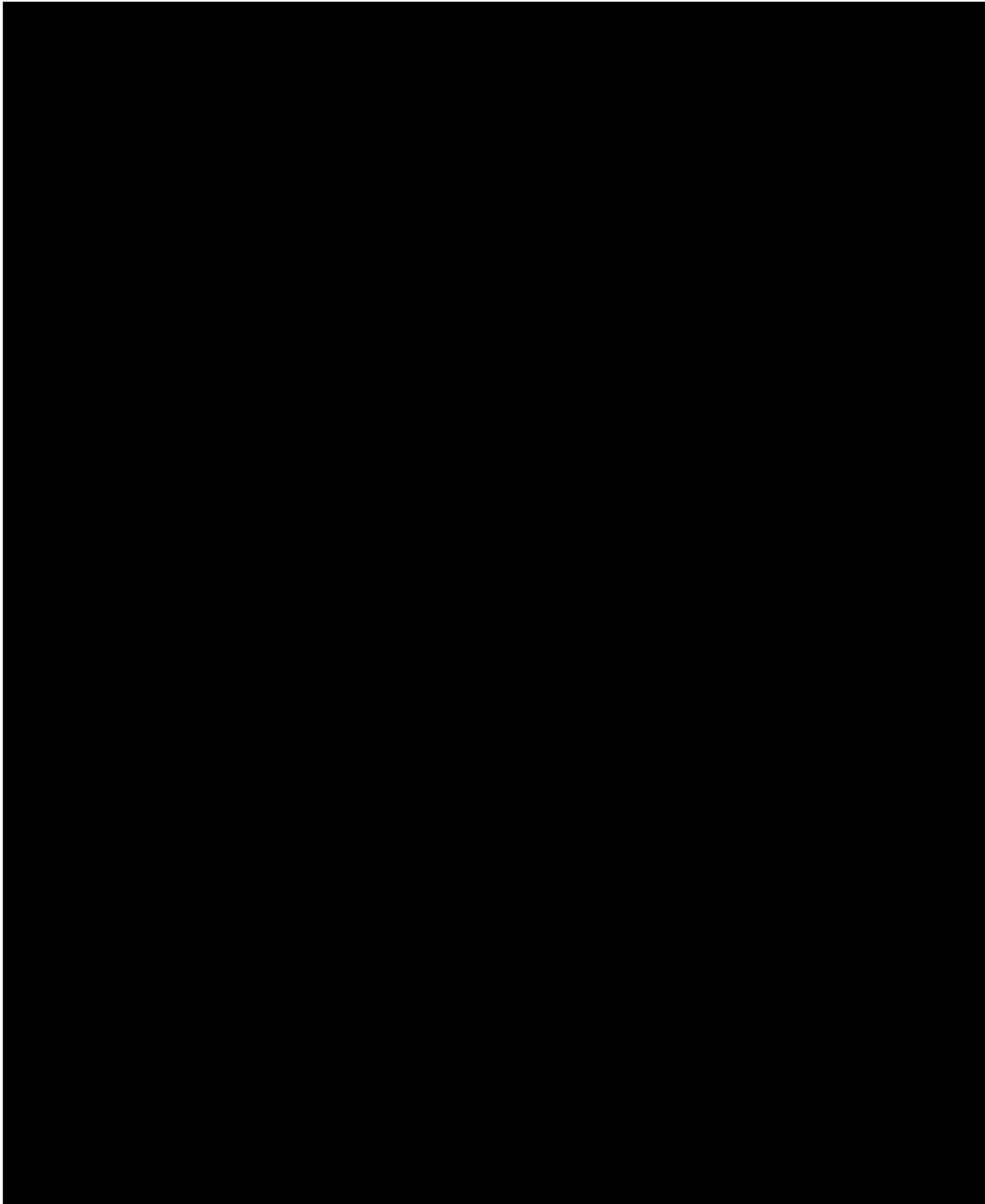
Firstly, the implementation of WAPIS at a national level requires appropriate national data protection legislation. Not all countries have put in place the required data protection legislation. Furthermore, while some WAPIS beneficiary countries do have data protection legislation, the content of this legislation may not necessarily be uniform across all countries and may also not specifically address issues unique to data processing through WAPIS. From country missions which have been conducted, it appears that the enactment of data protection legislation falls within the mandate of ministries of technology or of communication and technology. Law enforcement authorities participating in WAPIS in countries with no data protection legislation do not appear to have leverage with those state authorities whose mandate it is to adopt data protection legislation.

To overcome this challenge, INTERPOL will suggest that beneficiary countries adopt a uniform “best practices” document for data processing in the WAPIS System that conforms to the 2010 ECOWAS Supplementary Act and international data protection standards. Though not a binding instrument, a “best practices” guide can assist in: (i) allowing WAPIS implementation in countries that have yet to enact data protection legislation and/or establish independent data protection authorities; and (ii) putting in place a uniform WAPIS data protection standard for all WAPIS beneficiary countries.

Secondly, the manner in which WAPIS has been implemented has not been the same across all pilot beneficiary countries. In WAPIS beneficiary countries with a civil law system, legal texts creating the WAPIS National Committee (WANACO) and a specific legal entity to run the System have been created by subsidiary legislation, i.e. legal texts adopted by the Executive rather than the legislature. This has, however, not been the case for common law countries. Regardless of the legal system a beneficiary country has, it is crucial that WAPIS is embedded within the legislative framework of the beneficiary country in order to ensure the legitimacy, accountability, governance, and sustainability of the System. This issue will be discussed during the March 2019 Legal Seminar.

Thirdly, INTERPOL has presented 13 WAPIS beneficiary countries with MoUs governing the implementation of the WAPIS Programme. Thus far, only three (Liberia, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia) have signed their MoUs. INTERPOL will intensify its efforts to ensure that these MoUs are signed. Political support from the European Union and ECOWAS in the countries concerned would be of great assistance.

Finally, INTERPOL has retained two regional legal experts on data protection issues in West Africa. One expert is Francophone, from a civil law jurisdiction, while the other is Anglophone and from a common law background. Both experts are available to assist beneficiary countries with the legal aspects of WAPIS implementation, particularly data protection.



APPENDIX 2: STEP OF IMPLEMENTATION IN BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES

	BEN	BFA	CPV	CHD	CIV	GMB	GHA	GUI	GUB	LBR	MLI	MRT	NIG	NGA	SEN	SLE	TGO
SPOC designated	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Alert	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Alert	Completed	Completed
Technical visit completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
MoU Signed	Not started	In progress	In progress	Not started	In progress	Completed	In progress	In progress	In progress	Completed	In progress	Not started	Not started	In progress	In progress	Completed	In progress
WANACO officially established	Completed	In progress	In progress	In progress	Alert	In progress	Completed	In progress	Not started	In progress	Completed	Completed	Completed	In progress	Not started	In progress	In progress
Duty/tax-free importation adopted	Completed	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	In progress	Completed	Not started	Not started	In progress	Completed	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started
DACORE premises assigned	Completed	Not started	Not started	In progress	Completed	In progress	Completed	Not started	Not started	Completed	Completed	Not started	Completed	Completed	Not started	In progress	Not started
Compliance with the data protection laws	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
Dedicated staff to work on the WAPIS System appointed	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
National training is carried out	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
Regional IT training is carried out	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
DACORE Backup site assigned	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started	Completed	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
WAPIS backup site is functioning	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
WAPIS extension in the greater capital is effective	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
WAPIS extension to I-24/7 is functioning	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	In progress	Not started	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
WAPIS extension to regional platform is effective	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
National Awareness events is done	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started
Sustainability of WAPIS ensured	In progress	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started	Not started

Legend:

Not started	Completed	In progress	Warning	Alert
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Country names : BEN Benin, BFA Burkina Faso, CPV Cape Verde, CHD Chad, CIV Côte d'Ivoire, GMB Gambia, GHA Ghana, GUI Guinea, GUB Guinea Bissau, LBR Liberia, MLI Mali, MRT Mauritania, NIG Niger, NGA Nigeria, SEN Senegal, SLE Sierra Leone, TGO Togo.



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