EU BUDGET 2014-2020
Programmes’ Performance Overview

Extract from Programme Statements of operational expenditure
Draft Budget 2019
COM(2018) 600 - May 2018

#EUBudget
INTRODUCTION

The Programme’s Performance Overview is an extract of the Programme Statements attached to Draft Budget 2019. This document aims to present all EU spending programmes (2014-2020) in a concise and uniform way. The presented information explains what the programme is about and its benefits for EU citizens, covers the recent implementation status, presents the programme performance framework and highlights recent key achievements.

The information summarised and presented in this Overview for each individual programme is not replacing a full set of data and performance information in accordance with the Financial Regulation. A complete overview of all 60 EU spending programmes is presented in the Working Document Part I on Programme Statements of operational expenditure.

THE EU BUDGET 2014 – 2020

EU budget 2014-2020
In billion euro and in percentage, current prices

**FIGURES TOTAL 1087.1**

- Education
- Energy
- Industry and small and medium-sized enterprises
- Networks and technology
- Research and innovation
- Transport

Economic, social and territorial cohesion
EUR 371.4
- Research and innovation
- Information and communications technology
- Small and medium-sized enterprises
- Low-carbon economy
- Climate change and risk
- Environment and resource efficiency
- Transport and energy
- Employment
- Social inclusion
- Vocational training

Competitiveness for growth and jobs
EUR 142.1
- Agriculture
- Rural development
- Fisheries
- Environment and others

Global Europe
EUR 66.3
- Development and international cooperation
- Humanitarian aid
- Neighbourhood and enlargement
- Foreign policy instruments

Security and citizenship
EUR 17.7
- Migration and home affairs
- Health and food safety
- Culture
- Justice

Administration
EUR 69.6
- Lawmaking
- Institutions cost and staff

Sustainable growth: natural resources
EUR 420

Note: Commitments; adjusted for 2018.

2017 was the fourth year of implementation of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for the period 2014-2020. Most spending programmes are now fully operational following the delays at the beginning of the implementation period and results are starting to show. In 2017 a number of interim evaluations have been finalised, providing a comprehensive analysis on the EU added value, relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the programmes.

The aim of the Commission’s budgetary performance framework is to provide its stakeholders with adequate performance information on programmes and activities and to support its decision-making on the allocation of resources. The performance framework for each spending programme under the 2014-2020 MFF is set in the relevant basic act and defines objectives and corresponding indicators to measure progress and includes monitoring, reporting and evaluation arrangements.

In addition of this Overview and the Programme Statements, the Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget brings together information on both the performance and management of the EU budget. The report covers the results achieved with the EU budget across all budget headings and policy areas. It explains how the EU’s financial programmes have contributed to the Union’s political priorities and summarises the latest evaluation results on the performance of EU programmes in the 2014-2020 period. This report is part of the annual Integrated Financial Reporting Package. This package is also the Commission’s main contribution to the annual budgetary discharge process.

---

1 COM (2018) 600 May 2018 of 23 May 2018
3 This framework is set out in SWD (2014)200
METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

“Distance towards the target” – a snapshot of programme progress

The Commission is working on the continuous improvement of the presentation of the spending programmes’ performance information in order to provide accurate, reliable and understandable information on programmes’ performance. Each indicator is specific by its nature and presenting comparable information is a challenging task. Indeed, those indicators provide meaningful indications on the progress and the achievements of programmes through quantitative or qualitative measures.

Targets are defined at the beginning of the programmes and come in various guises (e.g. quotas, benchmarks, numerical goals); in order to be able to interpret information across the whole EU budget we calculate the distance towards targets, i.e. progress of the programme output with respect to the targets set.

The distance towards the target charts therefore present a snapshot of selected indicators providing a consistent presentation of performance information across programmes. Specific adaptions, if any, are noted in the footnote at the bottom of the respective figures.

The current performance framework of the spending programmes includes more than 700 indicators measuring the performance against more than 60 general and more than 220 specific objectives. Therefore applying the Distance towards the target approach to all indicators is not feasible for this exercise. A selection of indicators was made based on certain criteria such as relevance, availability of data and etc.

Example

Programme – Implementation and exploration of European satellite navigation systems (GALILEO and EGNOS)*

| Specific Objective 1: To develop and provide global satellite-based radio navigation infrastructures and services (Galileo) by 2020 |
| Indicator 1: Galileo infrastructure – cumulative number of operational satellites |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| 4           | 3    | 9    | 18   | 22   |      |      | 30          |


Distance towards the target calculation

Factual achievement: 22 operational satellites in 2017
Target value: 30 operational satellites in 2020

Distance towards the target: $(22/30)*100 = 73\%$

Presentation

Milestones

Milestones are measurable and observable key implementation steps that serve as intermediate targets in specific cases. Progress towards achieving milestones is not a full measure of performance, but it serves as progress markers with respect to delivering targets set for outputs.

The chart of progress towards achieving milestones is presented in the same style as distance towards the target with the specific adaptions noted in the footnote at the bottom of the respective figures.

Cut- off date

The most recent performance information is available for the programmes directly managed by the Commission. In most cases, the reported achievements are factual values recorded at the end of 2017. The programmes under share management present values recorded and reported by Member States at the end of 2016. The programmes under indirect management present a mixed picture; some have achievements reported up to 2017 while the others depend on the reports carried out by the international organisations.
COMPETITIVENESS FOR GROWTH AND JOBS

List of programmes

- Implementation and exploitation of European satellite navigation systems .................................................. 4
- International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor ............ 6
- European Earth Observation Programme .......................... 8
- European Fund for Strategic Investments .......................... 10
- Nuclear Decommissioning assistance programmes in Bulgaria and Slovakia ........................................... 12
- Nuclear Decommissioning assistance programme in Lithuania ... 14
- The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation ...... 16
- Euratom Research and Training Programme ......................... 18
- Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises ....................... 20
- The Union Programme for Education, Training, Youth and Sport 22
- European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation .................................................. 24
- European Solidarity Corps .................................................. 26
- Action programme for customs in the European Union .......... 28
- Action programme for taxation in the European Union ........... 30
- Programme to promote activities in the field of the protection of the financial interests of the European Union .... 32
- Exchange, assistance and training programme for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting ................. 34
- Anti-Fraud Information System ............................................. 36
- Connecting Europe Facility ................................................... 38
- Interoperability Solutions and common frameworks for European public administration, businesses and citizens ............. 40
- European statistical programme ............................................. 42
- Specific activities in the field of financial reporting and auditing . 44
- Enhancing consumer involvement in EU policy making in the field of financial services ................................. 46
- European Defence Industrial Development Programme ........ 48
GALILEO AND EGNOS

IMPLEMENTATION AND EXPLOITATION
OF EUROPEAN SATELLITE NAVIGATION SYSTEMS

What the programme is about
Galileo is one of the European large infrastructure projects and is entirely financed by the EU budget. It is Europe’s Global Satellite Navigation System and will ensure Europe’s autonomy in an area that is of strategic importance to both its economy and security. Galileo will be used for a large number of purposes, including for critical business processes that require uninterrupted navigation, and for timing services needed for example for critical applications such as the synchronisation of electricity grids and telecommunication networks. The Galileo system consists of a satellite constellation and the necessary ground infrastructure to control the satellites and enable the provision of positioning, navigation and timing services.

EGNOS, the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service, is a fully operational regional satellite navigation system monitoring and correcting open signals emitted by the US GPS and Galileo. It consists of several transponders installed on geostationary satellites and a network of ground stations. By improving the accuracy and reliability of the US GPS signal over the territory of Europe, EGNOS allows users in Europe to use GPS signals for instance for safety-critical applications such as operating aircraft and users in Europe and beyond to determine their position to around 1 metre.

Benefits for EU citizens
Today, about 11% of the EU’s GDP, i.e. about EUR 1 300 billion, relies on satellite navigation signals, often controlled by third countries.

EGNOS and Galileo ensure Europe’s autonomy and provide additional benefits in combination with other GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System), resulting from the additional services of the systems and the increased performance coming from additional satellites. Galileo is also the only GNSS specifically designed for civil purposes, i.e. it aims to satisfy the requirements and the needs of the civil sector, in compliance with the most demanding security standards. Billions of users over the world are expected to use Galileo, hence reaching an unequal level of outreach of any infrastructure owned by the EU.

Both programmes are complex projects, which exceed the financial and technical capacities of a single Member State. As such, they fully fall within EU competence. Considering their requirements in terms of security, all Member States must be involved in those programmes.

Implementation status
Start of the exploitation phase of the Galileo programme, while the deployment phase continues in parallel until 2020, when the deployment is due for completion. The Galileo initial services (Open Service, Public regulated service and Search and Rescue) were successfully provided throughout 2017. Launch of 4 additional satellites in 2017, which brings the total of launched satellites to 22. Additional procurements in 2017 included the signature of the contract for additional satellites and the on-going procurement for the completion of the ground segment.

Galileo ground infrastructure: the ground mission and ground control segment ensured the operation of the Galileo satellites. The European GNSS Service Centre (GSC) in Madrid (Spain) continued to provide a single interface between the Galileo system and Galileo users. To ensure independent monitoring of the Galileo services, the Galileo Reference Centre (GRC) was established in 2016 and it will start to operate in Noordwijk (The Nederlands) in 2018. In December 2017, the Galileo Integrated Logistic Support (ILS) Centre was inaugurated in Transinne (Belgium).

Security: measures to ensure the accreditation of the system and initial services, and the development of operational concepts and procedures for the Public Regulated Service (PRS).

International cooperation: negotiations with the US and Norway for access to PRS continued. Progress was also made with the adoption of EGNOS in the Western Balkans and the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries. The continuity and quality of the EGNOS services were successfully ensured. In order to guarantee the continuity of services beyond the 2020 horizon, the development of a major EGNOS release (V2.4.2-A) was initiated, while a decision was taken to have an additional EGNOS evolution (V2.4.2-B), in order to improve the coverage of the EU Member States’ territories.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. Both Galileo and EGNOS are implemented through direct (grants and procurement) and indirect management with the European Space Agency (ESA) and the European GNSS Agency (GSA).
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- Supporting European presence in space and the development of satellite-based positioning, navigation and timing services

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To develop and provide global satellite-based radio navigation infrastructures and services (Galileo) by 2020
- To provide satellite-based services improving the performance of GPS to gradually cover the whole European Civil Aviation Conference region by 2020 (EGNOS) and European neighbouring countries

Examples of achievements so far

Over the past years, the key priority has been the preparation of the exploitation phase of the Galileo programme in view of the provision of the full set of Galileo services in 2020, the operation and maintenance of the EGNOS services, and preparation for the market uptake of Galileo and EGNOS services. These achievements can be highlighted as follows:

- **Declaration of Galileo Initial Services**: The Galileo initial services were declared operational on 15 December 2016. The declaration of Galileo initial services ensures that Galileo is positioned on the global satellite navigation market. Additionally, the declaration allows the Union to take a much stronger role on the world stage in the area of satellite navigation. Galileo Initial Services are fully interoperable with GPS, and their combined use will bring many benefits to end users. With Galileo satellites working in conjunction with GPS, there will be more satellites available, meaning more accurate and reliable positioning. Navigation in cities will particularly benefit from the increased positioning accuracy this will provide. Also, Galileo’s accurate timing will contribute to enabling more resilient synchronisation of banking and financial transactions, telecommunication and energy distribution networks to help them operate more efficiently – an often overlooked, but essential task. Finally, Galileo will help save lives. Galileo’s Search and Rescue service reduces drastically the time it takes to detect emergency distress beacons from up to three hours to just ten minutes: people lost at sea or in the mountains can be rescued more quickly.

- **Putting into place the framework for the full operational capability of Galileo by 2020**: As of 1 July 2017 the European GNSS Agency (GSA) has been in charge of the exploitation phase of the Galileo programme and related activities. The handover of operations from ESA to the GSA and to the Galileo Service Operator (GSOp) was successfully completed in July 2017.

- **Further acceleration of the Galileo space infrastructure deployment**: In 2017 a successful launch of an Ariane 5 launcher added 4 more satellites to the constellation, which brought the total of satellites in space to 22.

- **Market uptake**: The market uptake of Galileo has progressed continuously. By 2017 several major handset manufacturers such as Apple, Samsung and Sony have included Galileo within their chipsets. Altogether, some 75 million Galileo enabled smartphones were sold in 2017.

- **EGNOS**:
  - The uptake of EGNOS has further advanced. At the end of 2017, there were 271 EGNOS-enabled airports and 503 EGNOS-based procedures in 20 countries in Europe.
  - The evaluation of the new EGNOS generation evolution (EGNOS V3) was completed and the contract was signed in January 2018. The GNSS Security Board endorsed the security requirements for EGNOS V3 in February 2017.
  - The Commission Implementing Decision determining the location of the ground-based infrastructure of the EGNOS system was adopted.
ITER
INTERNATIONAL THERMONUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL REACTOR

What the programme is about
ITER (“The Way” in Latin) aims to demonstrate fusion as a viable and sustainable source of energy. The ITER project, which is part of the Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan, aims at building and operating an experimental fusion reactor, a major step towards the demonstration of fusion as a sustainable energy source. Due to its important advantages, such as the availability of large fuel reserves and the lack of CO2 emissions, fusion could greatly contribute to the long-term EU strategy of decarbonisation of the energy system in a safe, efficient and secure way. The magnetic fusion device is being built in Saint-Paul-Lèz-Durance (France) with the support of seven international partners that represent half of the world’s population (Euratom, Russia, Japan, China, India, South Korea and the United States). The programme covers the European contribution to the ITER International Organization (IO) for the construction of the ITER facility, which includes the procurement of equipment, installation, general technical and administrative support for the construction phase as well as the participation in commissioning and operations. The programme also covers other ITER related activities, such as the Broader Approach activities with Japan. These contributions are channelled through a European Domestic Agency, the Joint Undertaking Fusion for Energy (F4E) located in Barcelona (Spain).

Benefits for EU citizens
The risk, costs, and long-term nature of a large research project such as ITER puts it beyond the reach of individual EU Member States and even of the EU as such. Thus, the establishment of a global framework through an international agreement between Euratom and six other Parties was essential to undertake this large-scale scientific experiment. ITER construction started in 2007 and Euratom provides about 45 % of all components through the Joint Undertaking Fusion for Energy (F4E). Europe’s support to ITER and to other activities related to ITER such as the Broader Approach activities with Japan contributes to the strategic agenda of the European Union for clean and secure energy. In particular, it supports the first objective of the Commission’s political agenda: ‘boosting growth, jobs and investment in future high potential technologies’ as ITER is stimulating the European industrial investment in new advanced technologies for the components of the facility and in advanced civil engineering for its construction. Over the last ten years, F4E has directly awarded almost 1 000 contracts and grants for a value of approximately EUR 4 billion spread all over Europe. Some 300 companies including SMEs from about 20 different EU Member States and Switzerland, as well as some 60 research organisations, engaged in cutting-edge Research and Development, technology, design and manufacture work have benefited from this investment. In the longer term, ITER is contributing to the Research & Innovation pillar of the Energy Union.

Fusion has an enormous potential and net present value as an environmentally acceptable and virtually unlimited source of energy. In addition, thanks to its leadership in fusion research and the construction of ITER, Europe will be in a privileged position to reap the benefits of constructing and operating the first generation of fusion power plants in the future.

Implementation status
The challenges encountered by the project, in particular regarding the schedule and cost estimates but also in terms of governance are largely linked to its inherent first-of-a-kind nature which goes beyond the current technological state-of-the-art, and also to its complex governance set-up. In 2015 the ITER Council approved an action plan to address these challenges. As a result, the long term schedule and associated costs were revised and agreed by ITER Parties representatives in the ITER Council in 2016. According to the so-called staged approach, the updated schedule focuses first on the construction of the components essential to achieving First Plasma in 2025, followed by successive series of installation and testing phases before starting the full performance phase (Deuterium-Tritium operation) in 2035. To address the governance issues, comprehensive strategies to improve the supervision and governance of F4E and to strengthen Euratom’s participation in the governance of the ITER Organization were prepared in 2017 and are implemented during 2018.

A communication to inform the EP and the Council of the EU on the new schedule and associated costs was presented in June 2017, seeking the support of the EP and a mandate from the Council of the EU to allow the approval of the new schedule and associated costs of the project at an ITER Council meeting at ministerial level, likely to take place in 2018.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme implementation is entrusted to the Fusion for Energy Joint Undertaking.

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>7298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>3919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>3227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>3764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>4047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>2 910.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.86 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.97 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.73 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.76 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://fusionforenergy.europa.eu/
https://www.iter.org/
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

• Development of fusion as a potentially limitless, safe, sustainable, environmentally responsible and economically competitive source of energy

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To provide the Euratom contribution to ITER and to the ITER related activities
- To support to European industry and research through the ITER construction and ITER related activities

Examples of achievements so far

• The ITER construction involves over 10 million components being built around the world. About 75% of the investment in ITER is spent on the creation of new knowledge and cutting-edge materials and technology, offering European industries and SMEs a major opportunity to innovate and develop ‘spin off’ products in sectors outside ITER remit such as the broader energy sector, aviation and hi-tech instruments like the nuclear magnetic resonance - scanners. An example of this is the successful fabrication of the superconductors and the winding packs in Europe for the ITER Toroidal Field Coils, which have never been manufactured with such size before and are therefore a major technological progress.

• A total of 110 out of 137 procurement arrangements have been signed by the ITER Organisation for the different work packages of the construction of the ITER reactor. This represents 92.6% of the project’s total in-kind value. This means that a significant part of ITER activity is now in the hands of the ITER members who will deliver the ITER components. F4E has now placed most of the large value contracts (more than EUR 100 million). As of 30 September 2017, F4E has signed 601 operational procurement contracts and 322 grants for a total of EUR 3.97 billion (2008 value).

• As far as the construction is concerned, the bio-shield of the Tokamak building is almost completed. Construction is progressing for several other buildings such as the cryoplant, the magnet power conversion buildings and the cooling towers. The production of conductors for both the Toroidal Field (TF) Coils and the Poloidal Field (PF) Coils was completed. The series production of TF coils components has been launched in 2017. Manufacturing of the PF coils is progressing well in the PF Coil Building in Saint Paul-Lez-Durance (#PF5), in Saint Petersburg in Russia (#PF1) and in Hefei in China (#PF6).

• The manufacturing of the Vacuum Vessel is progressing as well, with all five sectors now in some stage of fabrication, with sector #5—the first due on site according to the ITER machine assembly schedule—leading the way. The pre-qualification for 3 suppliers of the Inner Divertor Target started. The foundations for the cryoplant buildings were laid and the building is now rising from ground while the subsystems that will go into the building are ready to be tested and close to delivery. First components for the Neutral Beam Test Facility were delivered. Finally, there is important progress in diagnostics, in cooperation with the European Fusion Laboratories.

• The physical progress of the project is evident on the ITER site with many buildings under Euratom responsibility being erected. In November 2017 it was announced that the project reached the completion of 50% of the total physical work (design, manufacturing construction, assembly, installation) needed for First Plasma.
**LEGAL BASIS**

**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**
2014 - 2020

---

**What the programme is about**
The Copernicus programme is the European system for monitoring the Earth. It is a user-driven programme which provides six free-of-charge operational services to EU, national, and regional institutions, as well as to the private sector: atmosphere monitoring, marine environment monitoring, land monitoring, climate change, emergency management and security. The programme builds on the initiative on global monitoring for environment and security launched in 2001. It aims at filling the gaps in European earth observation capacities. Data is provided from space infrastructures, particularly the sentinel missions developed under the programme, and in-situ infrastructure supported by the Member States.

The Copernicus Services transform this wealth of satellite and in situ data into value-added information by processing and analysing the data. Datasets stretching back for years and decades are made comparable and searchable, thus ensuring the monitoring of changes; patterns are examined and used to create better forecasts, for example, of the ocean and the atmosphere. Maps are created from imagery, features and anomalies are identified and statistical information is extracted.

**Benefits for EU citizens**
The Copernicus programme encompasses a pan-European capacity and depends on the coordinated provision of data and services throughout all the Member States, which needs to be coordinated at Union level. From an economic point of view, action at the EU level also allows for economies of scale from which public spending is benefiting. Copernicus (former GMES) explicitly refers to five areas of EU legislation in the fields of maritime policy, civil protection, agriculture and space debris surveillance and tracking. Besides, Copernicus continues to deliver data and information for EU policies for agriculture, environment, development and humanitarian aid, energy or coastal surveillance, and smart cities, climate change adaptation, border security and many other fields, including the IT sector and education.

**Implementation status**
The overall status of implementation is well in line with the foreseen progress in the planning, with six satellites in orbit and in operational mode, and six services all operational. One last launch (of Sentinel 3B) is expected before mid-2018. The mid-term evaluation, based on a large consultation, has shown a high level of satisfaction by stakeholders, including users. The satellites produce now more than 12 Tbyte of high-quality data every day. A data and information access service is being setup, to face the unprecedented users demand growth, and to improve access to Copernicus data and services while facilitating combination with other sources of data, to also reduce the need for downloads. In parallel, the cooperation with international partners continued to promote the uptake of Copernicus globally. The use of Copernicus data and information services is quickly picking up, creating a vibrant eco-system around the programme, including public organisations, researchers, SMEs and start-ups. The user base has dramatically increased to well above 120 000 users, and is still growing. Copernicus relies also on in-situ measured data. The Copernicus in situ component established in 2017 an agreement to have a single interface providing access to meteorological, hydrological, and climatological data owned by all EUMETNET members which is recognised as a best practice of efficiency.

**Who is in charge**
Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) is the lead DG for the programme implementation through indirect management as well as direct actions. A number of delegation agreements were signed with the European Space Agency and EUMETSAT (European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites) for the Space infrastructure, and six delegation agreements with the European Environment Agency, the European Medium-Range Weather Forecasting Centre, Mercator-Océan, Frontex, European Maritime Safety Agency and the EU Satellite Centre.

---

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount (EUR Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>362.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>556.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>586.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>607.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>630.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>877.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>645.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>4 266.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**
Interim evaluation of Copernicus was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/GJ34Xr

---

**% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**% EXECUTED PAYMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.68 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.72 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- Monitoring the Earth to support the protection of the environment and the efforts of civil protection and civil security
- Maximising socio-economic benefits, thus supporting of the Europe 2020 strategy and its objectives of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth by promoting the use of Earth observation in applications and service.
- Fostering the development of a competitive European space and services industry and maximising opportunities for European enterprises to develop and provide innovative Earth observation systems and services.
- Ensuring autonomous access to environmental knowledge and key technologies for Earth observation and geoinformation services, thereby enabling Europe with independent decision-making and action.
- Supporting and contributing to European policies and fostering global initiatives, such as GEOSS.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Delivering accurate and reliable data and information to Copernicus users, supplied on a long term and sustainable basis enabling the services referred to in Article 4(1) and responding to the requirements of Copernicus Core Users.
- Providing sustainable and reliable access to spaceborne data and information from an autonomous European Earth observation capacity.
- Providing sustainable and reliable access to in-situ data, relying, in particular, on existing capacities operated at European and national levels, and on global observation systems and networks.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- **Copernicus Emergency Management Service (CEMS):** The Mapping component was activated 70+ times in 2017 to assist civil protection authorities in emergency activities, including for forest fires in Spain, Portugal, Greece, hurricane Ophelia in Ireland, windfall in Poland as well as Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in the US and the Caribbean. The EMS provides early warnings for floods and fires to more than 50 National Focal Points.
- **Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS):** Since 2016, it supplies high quality products relevant to “Blue Growth” and European economic development. The number of users has continued to grow. In 2017, ocean colour and ice products have been updated. A key publication in 2017 was the Ocean State Report highlighting changes in the marine environment, an important contribution to the Sustainable Development Goal 14. Close to 100 use cases of CMEMS are now available online.
- **Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLM):** continues to produce land monitoring products and services like the Corine Land Cover and EU Digital Elevation Models, high resolution layers on imperviousness, forest, grassland, wetness-water and small woody features, as well as functional urban areas, riparian zones and Nature 2000 sites. The CLMS is preparing jointly with the CMEMS for a coastal zone monitoring information product. The service also delivers worldwide variables covering vegetation, agriculture, energy, cryosphere and water cycles and domains.
- **Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS):** is supporting public and commercial entities that inform citizens about the air quality. In 2017 CAMS has released the first year of the CAMS global reanalysis and documented the plumes from fires in Portugal and Spain, as well as those of Saharan dust transported over Northern Europe by Hurricane Ophelia. CAMS European air quality forecasts are presented several times daily in the form of bulletins. More detailed forecasts are also made available via the Euronews website.
- **Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S):** is transitioning to an operational phase. During 2017, it has become a recognised climate information resource for WMO (World Meteorological Organisation), GCOS (Global Climate Observing System) and other international bodies, while continuing to grow its user base. At the end of 2017, 175 different entities are contributing. C3S was the first to confirm 2017 as the second hottest year on record.
- **Copernicus Security Service (CSS):** is implemented through agreements with FRONTEX, SATCEN and EMSA, serving needs on migration, border and maritime surveillance. Civilian security is the prime objective but the service is also available to defence users. As an exception to the Copernicus open data policy, Security service products are restricted to authorised users. In 2017, the Service supported the Spanish Customs by spotting a suspicious vessel, which resulted in intercepting a major smuggling operation.
**What the programme is about**

The European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) is an initiative to help overcome the current investment gap in the EU. Jointly launched by the European Commission and the EIB Group, it aims to mobilise private investment in projects which are strategically important.

EFSI is one of the three pillars of the Investment Plan for Europe, the Juncker Plan, that aims to revive investment in strategic projects around the continent to ensure that money reaches the real economy. The Juncker Plan also includes the European Investment Advisory Hub (EIAH) and the European Investment Project Portal (EIPP). EIAH offers a single access point to a 360 degree offer of advisory and technical assistance services to identify, prepare and develop investment projects across the European Union. The EIPP is a meeting place for project promoters and investors providing visibility for investment projects. With EFSI support, the EIB Group is providing financing for economically viable projects, especially for projects with a higher risk profile than usually taken on by the Bank. The focus is on sectors of key importance for the European economy, including:

- Strategic infrastructure including digital, transport and energy;
- Education, research, development and innovation;
- Renewable energy and resource efficiency;
- Support for small and mid-sized businesses.

EFSI 1.0 is a EUR 16 billion guarantee from the EU budget, complemented by a EUR 5 billion allocation of the EIB's own capital. The total amount of EUR 21 billion aims to unlock additional investment of at least EUR 315 billion by 2018.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The Juncker Plan focuses on removing obstacles to investment, providing visibility and technical assistance to investment projects and making smarter use of new and existing financial resources. EFSI aims to overcome current market failures by addressing market gaps and mobilising private investment. Action at the Union level allows for economies of scale in the use of the Union budget guarantees in combination with the EIB Group financing by catalysing private investment in the whole Union and making best use of the European Institutions and their expertise and knowledge for that purpose. The multiplying effect and the impact on the ground will thus be much higher than could be achieved by an investment offensive in a single Member State or a group of Member States. In the past years, the EFSI has effectively increased access to financing and mobilised private capital, particularly under the SME Window which has showed quick market absorption.

**Implementation status**

As of December 2017, EFSI initiative is on track with more than 81% of the target investment volume of EUR 315 billion already being mobilised. On 30 December 2017, the Regulation to extend and enhance the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI 2.0), entered in force, extending the EFSI’s lifetime to end-2020 and raising its investment target to EUR 500 billion.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) is the lead DG for the programme implementation.

EFSI is implemented by the EIB Group and projects supported by it are subject to usual EIB procedures.

---

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2015 – 2020

---

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!k37xn
http://www.eib.org/efsi/index.htm

---

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1 360.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2 128.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2 661.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2 038.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>186.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>172.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total programming</strong></td>
<td><strong>8 548.50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**% EXECUTED PAYMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

• Supporting growth-enhancing investments in line with Union priorities, especially in the areas of:
  (a) research, development and innovation;
  (b) development of the energy sector in accordance with the Energy Union priorities;
  (c) development of transport infrastructures, and equipment and innovative technologies for transport;
  (d) financial support through the EIF and the EIB to entities having up to 3 000 employees, with a particular focus on SMEs and small mid-cap companies;
  (e) development and deployment of information and communication technologies;
  (f) environment and resource efficiency;
  (g) human capital, culture and health;
  (h) agriculture, fishery, aquaculture and other elements of wider bioeconomy;
  (i) for less developed regions and transition regions, other industry and services eligible for EIB support

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Increasing the volume of European Investment Bank (EIB) financing and investment operations in priority areas.

Increasing the volume of European Investment Fund (EIF) financing for small and medium enterprises.

Examples of achievements so far

• As of end-December 2017, the volume of investment mobilised by the approved EFSI operations stood at 81 % of the target of mobilising EUR 315 billion of total investment, i.e. EUR 256.3 billion across both investment windows: EUR 166.7 billion for Infrastructure and Innovation investments and EUR 89.6 billion in favour of SMEs.

• The EIAH (European Investment Advisory Hub) team received 641 requests as of end-2017 of which 500 were project-related, 59 requests are currently allocated to receive more detailed technical assistance.

• The EIPP (European Investment Project Portal) was officially launched in June 2016. As of end-2017 there were 239 projects published on the Portal emanating from 27 Member States.

• 28 countries receiving financing under EFSI.

• 328 projects (signature) receiving support under the EFSI- SME Window.
The mid-term evaluation was launched in 2017.

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING**

**Total programming**

**Period of Application**

2014 - 2020

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 - 2020

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!jw46Rk

**NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING (BG AND SK)**

**NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES IN BULGARIA AND SLOVAKIA**

**What the programme is about**

When Bulgaria and Slovakia were candidate countries to join the European Union (EU), the closure and subsequent decommissioning of six Soviet-designed, first generation nuclear reactors at two nuclear power plant sites was made a condition for their accession. As part of the agreements the Union declared its willingness to provide financial aid and the Nuclear Decommissioning Assistance Programmes were established to assist the Member States concerned in implementing the decommissioning of Kozloduy units 1 to 4 and Bohunice V1 units 1 and 2 in accordance with their respective decommissioning plans, whilst maintaining the highest level of safety.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

Being confronted to early closure of their plants, it was not possible for Bulgaria and Slovakia to accumulate sufficient funds from operation of the plants. It is therefore in the interests of the Union to provide financial support until 2020 for the seamless continuation of decommissioning in order to reach the end state within the decommissioning process of the concerned nuclear reactor units, in accordance with their respective decommissioning plans, while keeping the highest level of safety. This will contribute to provide substantial and durable support for the health of workers and the general public, preventing environmental degradation and providing for real progress in nuclear safety and security.

**Implementation status**

In June 2017, the Commission presented to the European Parliament and the Council the third report on the implementation of the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme to Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia. It also adopted the 2017 annual work programmes and associated financing decisions, allocating EUR 74 million for the implementation of the actions in Bulgaria and Slovakia. These funds sum up to EUR 287.4 million allocated from 2014 to 2017.

In September 2016, the European Court of Auditors published the performance audit report on the decommissioning assistance programmes. To date the Commission has implemented a number of actions to address the Court’s recommendations insofar they have been either accepted or partially accepted.

In 2017 the programmes were assessed in line with Article 9 of the relevant regulation, with the aim to prepare the mid-term evaluation report to the European Parliament and the Council. Bulgaria and Slovakia have progressed effectively and efficiently in the decommissioning of their reactors in line with expectations set for the current Multiannual Financial Framework; there have been challenges and setbacks due to the programmes’ complexity, but the management system has proven – especially in Slovakia - increasing ability to anticipate emerging issues and cope with them as needed.

As the decommissioning operators in Kozloduy (BG) and Bohunice (SK) have got the relevant decommissioning licenses in the past years, the way to dismantle the core systems was opened. In the coming years, the clean-up of controlled areas will generate an increased flow of materials being removed from the nuclear installation. Moreover additional buildings will disappear from the sites, as the dismantling and demolition processes will progress.

The Bohunice programme (SK) has reached a high level of maturity: the estimate at completion of the overall programme is slightly decreasing and supported by a state-of-the-art plan for risks and contingencies, which provides a high level of confidence to the estimations. Important D&D works have been performed in the reactor-building, despite technical challenges encountered in early stages. To date the reactors’ cooling circuits have been fully decontaminated. It is worth noting that this process allowed to minimise the staff employed for dismantling the reactors and to maintain the programme end-date in 2025.

The Kozloduy programme (BG) between January 2014 and June 2017 dismantled 18 969 t metal, i.e. 47 % of the target value by 2020. As well, the dismantling of the civil structures in the turbine hall progressed visibly. In the period between January 2014 and June 2017, 9 493 t of concrete were removed. The percentage of dismantling of the whole turbine halls was about 60 % as of June 2017.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is managed through the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Member State national agencies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>2016 100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99.98 %</td>
<td>2017 100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- To assist the Member States towards the decommissioning end state of Kozloduy units 1 to 4 (Bulgaria) and Bohunice VI units 1 and 2 (Slovakia), whilst maintaining the highest level of safety.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kozloduy</th>
<th>Bohunice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performing dismantling in the turbine halls of units 1 to 4 and in auxiliary buildings</td>
<td>Performing dismantling in the turbine hall and auxiliary buildings of reactor V1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dismantling of large components and equipment in the reactor buildings of units 1 to 4</td>
<td>Dismantling of large components and equipment in the V1 reactor buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safely managing the decommissioning waste in accordance with a detailed waste management plan</td>
<td>Safely managing the decommissioning waste in accordance with a detailed waste management plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Examples of achievements so far

**Kozloduy programme (BG)**

- The reactor cores and ponds are defueled and the decommissioning licences for Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant units 1-2 and units 3-4 were issued in November 2014 and July 2016 respectively. Dismantling & Decontamination works in the turbine halls and auxiliary buildings have progressed well and will likely be completed before 2020.
- A state-of-the-art waste volume reduction facility has been installed; it will provide very high performance in radioactive waste treatment as compared to other similar facilities in the EU.
- The project to dismantle the reactor’s cores is in a preparatory phase and should commence before 2020. The end date of the decommissioning programme is confirmed to be 2030.

**Bohunice programme (SK)**

- The reactor cores and ponds are defueled, and the Slovak nuclear regulator issued the licence for stage 2 (i.e. reactor dismantling) of the decommissioning of Bohunice V1 NPP in December 2014. The Bohunice programme has progressed substantially and has reached a high level of maturity: the budget estimate at completion is slightly decreasing and supported by a state-of-the-art plan for risks and contingencies.
- Dismantling & Decontamination works in the turbine halls and auxiliary buildings are winding down, with the last task (dismantling of cooling towers) well underway and to be completed in 2018.
- Important Dismantling & Decontamination works have also been performed in the reactor building. To date the reactors’ cooling circuits have been successfully decontaminated and their insulation completely removed and treated. The decontamination process allowed to minimise the staff employed for dismantling the reactors and to maintain the programme end-date in 2025.

### NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING (BG AND SK) PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kozloduy - Quantity and type of safely conditioned waste</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bohunice Quantity and type of safely conditioned waste</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about

When Lithuania was a candidate country to join the European Union (EU), the closure and subsequent decommissioning of two Soviet-designed, first generation nuclear reactors at Ignalina was made a condition for their accession. As part of the agreement the Union declared its willingness to continue to provide adequate additional Community assistance to Lithuania’s decommissioning effort and the Nuclear Decommissioning Assistance Programme was established to assist Lithuania in implementing the decommissioning of Ignalina units 1 and 2 in accordance with an approved decommissioning plan, whilst maintaining the highest level of safety.

Benefits for EU citizens

Being confronted to early closure of their plants, it was not possible for Lithuania to accumulate sufficient funds from operation of the plants.

It is therefore in the interests of the Union to provide further financial support for the seamless continuation of decommissioning in order to progress towards the so called decommissioning end state, in accordance with approved plans, while keeping the highest level of safety. This will contribute to provide substantial and durable support for the health of workers and the general public, preventing environmental degradation and providing for real progress in nuclear safety and security.

Implementation status

In June 2017, the Commission presented to the European Parliament and the Council the third report on the implementation of the nuclear decommissioning assistance programme to Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia. It also adopted the 2017 annual work programme and associated financing decision, allocating EUR 64.4 million for the implementation of the actions in Lithuania. These funds sum up to EUR 250 million allocated from 2014 to 2017. The transfer of spent fuel to the dry storage facility will continue until 2022. In parallel, dismantling activities will generate further amounts of materials. Meanwhile the facilities for managing legacy and new radioactive waste have entered into operations, so that an increased flow of materials is expected from the nuclear installations.

Meanwhile the facilities for managing legacy and new radioactive waste have entered into operations, so that an increased flow of materials is expected from the nuclear installations.

In September 2016, the European Court of Auditors published the performance audit report on the decommissioning assistance programmes. To date the Commission has implemented a number of actions to address the Court’s recommendations insofar they have been either accepted or partially accepted.

In 2017 the programmes were assessed in line with Article 9 of the relevant regulation, with the aim to prepare the mid-term evaluation report to the European Parliament and the Council. Lithuania has progressed effectively and efficiently in the decommissioning of the reactors in line with expectations set for the current Multiannual Financial Framework; there have been challenges and setbacks due to the programmes’ complexity, but the management system has proven increasing ability to anticipate emerging issues and cope with them as needed.

The transfer of spent fuel to the dry storage facility will continue until 2022. In parallel, dismantling activities will generate further amounts of materials. Meanwhile the facilities for managing legacy and new radioactive waste have entered into operations, so that an increased flow of materials is expected from the nuclear installations.

The complete decommissioning programme goes beyond the timeframe of the current MFF. It is planned to end in 2038 with the complete removal of the reactor buildings.

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is managed through the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Member State national agency.

**LEGAL BASIS**

**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**
2014 - 2020

**MORE INFORMATION**
http://europa.eu/jw46Rk

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>69.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>71.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>72.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>74.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>75.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>76.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>78.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>518.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**
The mid-term evaluation was launched in 2017. The report to the European Parliament and the Council will be prepared in 2018.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- To assist Lithuania towards the decommissioning end state of units 1 and 2 of the Ignalina nuclear power plant

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Defueling of the reactor core of unit 2 and the reactor fuel ponds of units 1 and 2 into the dry spent fuel storage facility.
- Safely maintaining the reactor units.
- Performing dismantling in the turbine hall and other auxiliary buildings and safely managing the decommissioning waste in accordance with a detailed waste management plan.

Examples of achievements so far

- The most important accomplishment was the removal of spent nuclear fuel from the reactor-buildings. This process started in last quarter 2016 and has progressed in 2017 in line with plans and with a potential to shorten the schedule without prejudice to the operational safety. The reactor unit 2 will be fully empty of spent fuel in March 2018.
- Dismantling & Decontamination works in the turbine halls and auxiliary buildings progressed noticeably. Large volumes of equipment were dismantled maximising any possible options for reuse and recycling. From 2014 to June 2017, 26 129 tons of equipment were dismantled and decontaminated.
What the programme is about

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU research and innovation programme ever. It aims at leading to more breakthroughs, discoveries and world-firsts by taking great ideas from the lab to the market. Europe’s leaders and the Members of the European Parliament agreed that investment in research and innovation is essential for Europe’s future and so put it at the heart of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The goal is to ensure Europe produces world-class science and technology, removes barriers to innovation and makes it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering solutions to big challenges facing our society.

Benefits for EU citizens

R&I are public goods with a strong European dimension. EU investments in R&I leverage additional funds at national level (without evidence of substitution). Due to their scale, speed and scope, EU-funded projects would not have gone ahead with national funding alone. The main benefits of EU investments relative to the national and regional level are:

• boosting EU competitiveness through the creation of trans-national and multidisciplinary networks and markets, with positive knowledge spillovers and technology transfer across the Union to prepare deployment of new products and services;

• pooling public and private resources and knowledge to achieve critical mass for tackling global challenges and for taking leadership;

• strengthening scientific excellence through EU-wide competition and cooperation (in the world’s top 1 % most cited publications, four times more publications derive from Horizon 2020 projects than from any other source of funding; EU-funded peer-reviewed publications are cited more than twice the world average);

• increasing the EU’s attractiveness as a place for education, research, innovation and business (EU funding supports over 500 000 researchers and innovators; the research impact of internationally mobile researchers, is up to 20 % higher; EU-funded teams grow faster and attract twice as many collaborations from outside the EU);

• leveraging private investment (EU R&I projects induce the private sector to invest more of their own funds than they would under national funding schemes);

• having a positive structuring effect on national R&I ecosystems.

Implementation status

The budget for the first four years (2014-2017) of the programme – around EUR 30 billion, which represents around 40 % of the total budget for 2014-2020 – was fully implemented.

At the end of 2017, more than 450 calls have been concluded. Around 150 000 eligible proposals have been received, requesting a total EU financial contribution of EUR 232 billion. After the selection process, over 15 000 grant agreements with in total around 80 000 participations had been signed. Thus, the proposal success rate is only at about 12 % (which is low compared to FP7, where it was 19 %). This demonstrates the great interest in the programme and the competitiveness of the selection process.

The last Work Programme for Horizon 2020, covering the budget years 2018-2020, was adopted in October 2017. It has a budget of around EUR 30 billion. It builds on the success of Horizon 2020 so far, while also taking account of the interim evaluation of the programme. It responds to the European Commission’s political priorities and paves the way for its successor programme.

The new features in this Work Programme include measures to support market-created innovation, most notably the introduction of the European Innovation Council (EIC) pilot with a budget of EUR 2.7 billion. There are also a number of highly integrated activities called ‘focus areas’, an emphasis on better dissemination of results and a focus on open access to data.

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. Horizon 2020 is implemented through direct grants, procurements, prizes, direct actions of the JRC, delegation agreements (Private-Public Partnerships, Public-Public Partnerships) and financial instruments.

---

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 - 2020

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!pm48VY

---

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

| 2014 | 9 023.13 |
| 2015 | 9 539.42 |
| 2016 | 9 542.48 |
| 2017 | 10 423.88 |
| 2018 | 11 212.37 |
| 2019 | 12 161.50 |
| 2020 | 13 186.75 |
| **Total programming** | **75 089.56** |

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

The interim evaluation of Horizon 2020 was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/!gW68pY

**% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS**

| 2016 | 100 % |
| 2017 | 99.99 % |

**% EXECUTED PAYMENTS**

| 2016 | 99.01 % |
| 2017 | 99.13 % |
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

• To build a society and an economy based on knowledge and innovation across the whole Union, while contributing to sustainable development

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES / STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

- Excellent science
- Industrial leadership
- Societal challenges
- Spreading excellence and widening
- Science with and for Society
- Non-Nuclear Direct Actions of the Joint Research
- The European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Examples of achievements so far

• Horizon 2020 is providing more support to industry than any other Research framework programme ever before. Nine out of ten of the collaborative projects include at least one private sector partner. 24.9 % of the combined budgets for ‘Societal Challenges’ and ‘Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies’ – over EUR 4 billion – went to SMEs exceeding the target by more than 4 %. The budget allocated for highly innovative companies, has reached 6.9 %, while the target of 7 % was set for the entire Programme duration. The national/regional innovation is supported through projects such as cluster facilitated projects for new industrial value chains and projects facilitating the constant peer-learning of innovation agencies and their experimentation with new support measures with higher impact. The Enterprise Europe Network helps to raise the innovation management capacity of prospective innovating SMEs and also ensures Key Account Management for the SME-Instrument beneficiaries.

• The share of the overall “Energy” funds allocated to research in the fields of renewable energy, end-user energy-efficiency, smart grids and energy storage is 87.9 %, exceeding the target of 85 %.

• Horizon 2020 has invested about EUR 8 billion on climate change. Attaining the target will remain a challenge, and particular attention and budget have been devoted to climate action in the Work Programme 2018-2020.

• Horizon 2020 has funded 36 000 researchers at all stages of their career, regardless of their age and nationality - 2017 celebrated the 20th anniversary of the MSCA and the 150th birthday of its namesake, the Polish-French double Nobel Prize winner Marie Skłodowska-Curie, with events around Europe and beyond. Two of the three 2017 Nobel laureates in Chemistry, for optimising electron microscopes, have participated in MSCA and other EU-funded research projects.

• Setting up a Pan-European Venture Capital Fund-of-Funds, will significantly boost levels of investment in new generations of highly innovative European firms and help them achieve their global ambitions had an excellent response from promoters demonstrating the timeliness of the initiative and the expectation of the market. In total, the EU funds available for this initiative amount to EUR 400 million pooling effort of H2020, COSME and EFSI. The VC Fund(s) of Funds will invest in a combination of Venture Capital funds. A capital of at least EUR 500 million (EU contribution of max 25 % and the rest coming from private investors). Investigations have also been launched into how crowdfunding and other forms of alternative finance could support research and innovation.

• The European Research Council (ERC) supports the best researchers from all over the world, tackling the major challenges of today. In 2017, Prof. S. Mangard led the team that discovered the security flaws in computer processors, named Meltdown and Spectre, opening new paths for an increased security in the design of modern computer systems. Prof. G. Courtine works on personalised neuroprosthetics. After restoring supraspinal control of leg movement in paralysed rats, he is now developing safer and more effective therapies to improve the quality of life for spinal cord injured individuals.
EURATOM RESEARCH AND TRAINING PROGRAMME

What the programme is about
The Euratom Research and Training Programme objectives are to pursue and support research on all aspects of nuclear safety and security, reducing risks associated with radiation exposures from medical or industrial applications, and supporting emergency preparedness and response in relation to accidents involving radiation. The Programme also aims to sustain the development of fusion energy, a potentially inexhaustible and climate-friendly energy source in view of its potential major impact in contributing to the decarbonisation of the energy mix. The Programme will be advancing solutions for the management and disposal of spent fuel and radioactive waste, and for nuclear decommissioning. The Euratom programme provides scientific and technical support for the implementation of EU policy in the field of nuclear safeguards, non-proliferation, and nuclear security. Funding is also provided for the basic research necessary for the development of reference measurements, materials and data.

Benefits for EU citizens
The Euratom programme’s main added value is the mobilisation of a wider pool of excellence, competencies and multi-disciplinarity in the nuclear field than is available at the level of individual Member States. Nuclear and ionising radiation technologies continue to play an important role in the lives of European citizens, whether this concerns energy and its security of supply or the use of radiation and radionuclides in medical and industrial applications. Safe and secure use of these technologies is of paramount importance and research programmes help maintaining the highest safety, security and safeguards standards in this field. The direct actions of the Euratom programme complement national research programmes; provide essential scientific and technical support to the Commission in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the EU policies and to fulfil its legal obligations and competences; support the standardization, and provide training in the fields of its objectives.

Implementation status
Indirect Actions: During 2014-2018, an amount of EUR 1 041 million was allocated to indirect actions of the Euratom programme. 70 % was assigned to fusion research, while 30 % was assigned to fission research. For fusion research, the Commission awarded in 2014, following an independent evaluation, a 5-year grant to the EUROfusion consortium of national fusion laboratories and institutes to implement a European Joint Programme based on the fusion roadmap.

Regarding grants for fission research, following 3 calls for proposals, 2 000 applicants submitted 139 proposals requesting a Euratom contribution of EUR 501 million. On this basis, the Commission selected 48 projects with an Euratom contribution of EUR 199 million. The projects selected are in all areas that concern nuclear safety, waste management and radiation protection.

Direct actions: The Work Programme of the Joint Research Center, which implements the direct actions of the Euratom programme (EUR 559.5 million), is currently distributed in 20 projects, related to nuclear safety and emergency preparedness (31 %), nuclear security, safeguards and non-proliferation (28 %), nuclear waste disposal and decommissioning (13 %), reference materials and measurements (13 %), knowledge management, education and training (12 %) and non-energy applications of nuclear science (3 %).

A proposal for extension of the current programme for 2019-2020 has been recently adopted to ensure the continuation and coherence of Euratom actions throughout the full seven-year period 2014-2020 taking into account the conclusions of the interim evaluation and the opinion of the Euratom Scientific and Technical Committee.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The Euratom programme is implemented through grants and direct actions of the Joint Research Center (JRC).

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The interim evaluation of the 2014-2018 Euratom programme was carried out in 2017 (COM(2017)697). For further information please consult:
http://europa.eu/!nj69xp
http://europa.eu/!HW64Gy

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2018 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!nj69xp
http://europa.eu/!HW64Gy

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>28480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>30208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>31710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>34079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>35567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>37357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>39705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2 371,06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The interim evaluation of the 2014-2018 Euratom programme was carried out in 2017 (COM(2017)697). For further information please consult:
http://europa.eu/!nj69xp
http://europa.eu/!HW64Gy

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS % EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>92.55 %</td>
<td>94.13 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- To pursue nuclear research and training activities with an emphasis on continuous improvement of nuclear safety, security and radiation protection, notably to potentially contribute to the long-term decarbonisation of the energy system in a safe, efficient and secure way.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

**FOR INDIRECT ACTIONS:**

1. To support safety of nuclear systems.
2. To contribute to the development of solutions for the management of ultimate nuclear waste.
3. To support the development and sustainability of nuclear competences at Union level.
4. To support radiation protection and development of medical applications of radiation, including the secure and safe supply and use of radioisotopes.
5. To move towards demonstration of feasibility of fusion as a power source by exploiting existing and future fusion facilities.
6. To lay the foundations for future fusion power plants by developing materials, technologies and conceptual design.
7. To promote innovation and industrial competitiveness.
8. To ensure availability and use of research infrastructures of pan-European relevance.

**FOR DIRECT ACTIONS:**

1. To improve nuclear safety including: nuclear reactor and fuel safety, waste management, decommissioning, and emergency preparedness.
2. To improve nuclear security including: nuclear safeguards, non-proliferation, combating illicit trafficking, and nuclear forensics.
3. To increase excellence in the nuclear science base for standardisation.
4. To foster knowledge management, education and training.
5. To support the policy of the Union on nuclear safety and security.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- By confirming appropriate ITER design options and/or investigating relevant plasma scenarios and optimising plasma operation and control measures, Euratom research reduces costs and associated ITER construction and operational risks.
- Tangible progress was made on the implementation of the Fusion Roadmap: the EUROfusion consortium achieved 96 % of the research milestones for 2014-16. The EUROfusion consortium’s researchers have published more than 1 000 peer-reviewed publications up to 2016. Half of the 100 most cited publications in magnetic confinement fusion research worldwide were published by EUROfusion. In 2016, the consortium supported 756 PhD students and awarded 76 grants to highly skilled engineers and post-doc fellows.
- Euratom supports a joint exploitation of the fusion research facilities in Europe by funding the mobility of researchers (2 869 between 2014 and 2016).
- A bibliographic study of JRC publications shows that 15 % of the JRC publications are among the top 10 % most cited articles in the nuclear field. The JRC thus ranks highly amongst peer organisation in Europe and worldwide.
- JRC contributed to the assessment of the Member States’ Reports on the progress of implementation of their National Programmes for the safe and responsible management of radioactive waste and spent fuel that contributes to the Council Directive 2011/70/EURATOM.
- The EU High Level Scenario-Based Exercise on Nuclear Security was held in November 2016 at the JRC’s facilities in Karlsruhe (Germany) to improve preparations for a possible nuclear security event. The exercise focused on the unique characteristics of the European Union and its Member States. A follow up workshop took place in November 2017 with the participation of 15 Member States to identify nuclear security training priorities for participating countries and to define possible actions to address existing gaps.
COSME

PROGRAMME FOR THE COMPETITIVENESS OF ENTERPRISES AND SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

What the programme is about
COSME is the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs. COSME will support SMEs in the following areas:
- facilitating access to finance;
- supporting internationalisation and access to markets;
- creating an environment favourable to competitiveness;
- encouraging an entrepreneurial culture.

Benefits for EU citizens
The additional value for action at the Union level relies on the following four main sources:
- Strengthening the Single Market, by overcoming market fragmentation in areas such as venture capital investment, cross-border financing and credit enhancement as well as informational and organizational constraints which prevent SMEs from taking advantage of the opportunities that the Single Market offers.
- Demonstration and catalytic effects through the dissemination of industrial and policy best practices.
- Economies of scale in areas where it would be difficult for individual Member States to achieve the required critical mass. For instance, in the field of support to SMEs abroad, European added value is created by the bundling of national efforts and, by establishing services that would lack critical mass if provided at national level (for example, through support to Intellectual Property Rights enforcement). Union intervention can also contribute to avoid duplication of effort, promote cooperation between Member States and coordination with relevant non-Member States.
- Coherence and consistency in national measures through the exchange of best practices at European level and benchmarking.

Implementation status
Financial instruments: The calls for expressions of interest launched by EIF in 2014 in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the COSME Delegation Agreement attracted great interest from financial intermediaries across the EU and non-EU countries participating in COSME, especially for the Loan Guarantee Facility (LGF). At the end of 2017, the EIF signed 87 agreements for loan guarantees for a total volume of EUR 859 million, out of which 72 agreements were backed by the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI). Under these agreements, more than 237 000 SMEs already got more than EUR 10 billion of financing by the end of September 2017.

Signing agreements for the Equity Facility for Growth (EFG) took longer, as equity entails more complex due diligence and fund-raising processes. At the end of 2017, the EIF has invested through the EFG in 12 funds (out of which 2 conditional signatures at this stage), for a total amount of EUR 151.7 million. Of these, four are multi-stage funds combined with the Innofin Equity Facility for Early Stage set up under Horizon 2020.

The total budget foreseen under the 2017 work programme (224 million) was fully implemented and even exceeded (238 million), mainly due to the commitment in favour of the EFG of EUR 14 million of GIF2 repayments received in 2017.

The Enterprise Europe Network. About two thirds of the COSME budget for access to markets is devoted to the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), which helps SMEs to internationalise. The Enterprise Europe Network services are available to SME in all regions of the EU with 479 organisations in the EU, 105 in the ten COSME participating countries and about 100 in third countries (not funded).

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE) - In 2017 the EYE scheme has already reached the level of 5 800 mentoring exchanges between new and experiences entrepreneurs since the start of the programme, and proved to be successful in addressing the needs of entrepreneurs in the European market. Currently there are 194 local contact points in countries (27 EU Member States and 10 other COSME countries). In order to strengthen the scheme a longer term Framework partnership agreement (2016-2021) was signed with experienced intermediary organisations of the programme.

The programme continued to support transnational cooperation projects in the tourism sector. Through enhanced socio-economic and market intelligence and exchange of best practices, these actions helped improving the business environment for tourism enterprises and contributed to diversifying and increasing the visibility of Europe’s transnational tourism offer.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (grants and procurement) and indirect management with European Investment Fund.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- To strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of the Union’s enterprises, particularly SMEs.
- To encourage entrepreneurial culture and to promote the creation and growth of SMEs.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To improve framework conditions for the competitiveness and sustainability of Union enterprises, particularly SMEs, including in the tourism sector.
- To promote entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial culture.
- To improve access to markets, particularly inside the Union but also at global level.
- To encourage entrepreneurial culture and to promote the creation and growth of SMEs.
- To improve access to finance for SMEs in the form of equity and debt.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- In 2017, more than 237,000 SMEs in 25 countries have already received financing for over EUR 10 billion. The enhancement of the Loan Guarantee Facility (LGF) through additional risk-bearing capacity made available under EFSI enabled a much quicker roll-out of the LGF, providing a much bigger amount of financing for riskier SME transactions than would have been the case without the EFSI guarantee. Especially start-ups and smaller SMEs which find it hardest to access finance due to their perceived higher risk or lack of sufficient collateral benefit from the enhanced LGF with 89% of SMEs financed having less than 10 employees and almost 50% being start-ups with an operational history of less than 5 years.

- The Enterprise Europe Network’s services range from information on EU matters, awareness-raising campaigns to specialised advisory services, advice on obtaining EU financing and participation in Horizon2020, company missions and matchmaking and technology brokerage events. On a yearly basis, some 3,000 network staff have been active in local events involving more than 200,000 SMEs. They have provided specialised advisory services to 70,000 SMEs, and about 25,000 SMEs participated in matchmaking events resulting in about 2,500 international partnerships signed between SMEs. In 2017, the Network expanded its advisory services with dedicated Scale-up Advisors helping young innovative SMEs develop their activities outside their home country.

- For Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs exchanges, the mid-term COSME evaluation of the programme performed in 2017 concluded that the overall concept of the programme proved to be successful. New entrepreneurs participating (2014-2016) have created 241 new companies so far, and over 1,000 new jobs. Host entrepreneurs also confirmed positive effects, 58% of experienced entrepreneurs have seen an increase in turnover and 41% increased employment.

- The European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) is a leading hub for facilitating cluster collaboration at European and global level. It gathers more than 720 cluster organisations with an average of 100 SMEs per cluster, and is seen as a key EU instrument supporting SME internationalisation. The “Cluster Go international” Initiative enabled the establishment of 23 new EU cluster partnerships in 2017, over 120 clusters in Europe. This initiative encourages clusters and the participating SMEs, to access global value chains and find strategic partners.
**What the programme is about**

Erasmus+ is the EU’s flagship programme to support and strengthen education, training, youth and sport in Europe. For three decades, Erasmus+ and its predecessors have been offering opportunities to young people, students and adults to study, train, gain experience, and volunteer abroad, in Europe or beyond. At the same time the programme promotes the understanding of European values and awareness, in particular solidarity and tolerance.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The Erasmus programme is recognized for developing a European dimension to education, notably in the area of higher education, where it has stimulated mobility of students and teachers. In the last three decades, major progress has also been made in harmonizing university degree structures and increasing the compatibility of higher education systems. Transparency of qualifications and skills for both learners and workers throughout Europe has improved as well.

The Erasmus programme guarantees that all Member States benefit from mobility and exchange of good practices in the area while ensuring optimal dissemination of results. Hence, EU action on the ground is a way of filling in the missing links, avoiding fragmentation and realising the potential of a border-free Europe.

**Implementation status**

While maintaining a high level of continuity, in 2017, the Programme demonstrated its flexibility in addressing specific policy priorities through different actions. In particular, greater emphasis was put across all actions of the Programme on activities that support social inclusion and equity in education, training, youth and sport. This is in line with the March 2015 Paris Declaration on promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education, and with the Action Plan on integration of third country nationals and strengthening education, training, youth and sport.

In the field of higher education, in 2017, priority was given to enhancing the quality and relevance of students’ knowledge and skills, better use of ICT, better links between higher education institutions and employers or social enterprises. More than 287,000 higher education student mobilities took place in 2017 reaching over 1 million mobilities since 2014.

With regard to the international dimension, Erasmus+ continued to provide mobility opportunities for higher education staff, students, young people and youth workers between Europe and the rest of the world. Youth cooperation with Partner Countries Neighbouring the EU was further intensified through relevant capacity building projects. In 2017, in addition to the existing Western Balkans Youth Window, an Eastern Partnership Youth Window with a focus on youth participation and youth entrepreneurship was set up and a new Youth Window for Tunisia was established.

In the field of school education, priority was given to strengthening the profiles of the teaching professions, promoting the acquisition of key competences e.g. by addressing underachievement in the basic skills of maths, science and literacy and supporting multilingual classrooms.

As regards vocational education and training (VET), the Erasmus+ programme gave priority to developing VET business partnerships aimed at promoting work-based learning in all its forms, with special attention to apprenticeship training, by involving social partners, companies and VET providers.

Furthermore, in the field of adult education, in 2017, priority was given to improving and extending the supply of high quality learning opportunities tailored to the needs of individual low-skilled or low-qualified adults so they acquire literacy, numeracy or digital skills, including through the validation of skills acquired through informal and non-formal learning.

In 2017, the Jean Monnet activities supported modules, university chairs, networks, projects, centres of excellence and associations taking place in 30 European Programme Countries and 69 countries inside and outside Europe.

Implementation of the Student Loan Guarantee Facility scheme is under constant review by the Commission and European Investment Fund, including on the long-term disbursement schedule and the future implementation of the instrument.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (grants and procurement) management and financial instruments.
Performance framework

General Objectives

• The Programme shall contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy, including the headline education target; the objectives of the strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training ("ET 2020"), including the corresponding benchmarks; the sustainable development of partner countries in the field of higher education; the overall objectives of the renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018); the objective of developing the European dimension in sport, in particular grassroots sport, in line with the Union work plan for sport; and the promotion of European values in accordance with Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union.

Programme structure

• By funding transnational learning mobility activities, Key Action 1 aims to enhance the skills, employability and intercultural awareness of the participants. It also provides support for young people to engage in democratic life, promotes the inclusion of learners with fewer opportunities, and reinforces the professional development of staff working in education, training and youth. This action supports learners and staff mobilities, Erasmus Mundus Joint Degrees, and the Erasmus+ Loans scheme.

• Promoting the cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practices in the fields of education, training and youth, aiming at a long-lasting impact on organisations, individuals and policy systems, Key Action 2 supports Transnational Strategic Partnerships, capacity-building transnational cooperation, as well as knowledge and sector skills alliances

• Key Action 3 supports policy reforms in line with the overall European policy agenda, the Strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training (ET 2020) and the European Youth Strategy. It aims to enhance the quality and modernisation of education and training systems and the development of European youth policy, through policy cooperation between Member States, in particular through the Open Method of Coordination and structured dialogue with young people.

• The Jean Monnet Activities aim at promoting excellence in teaching and research in the field of European Union studies worldwide. They consist of actions (teaching and research, supporting associations and institutions, fostering the dialogue between the academic world and policy-makers) and operating grants to specified institutions.

• The Erasmus+ Sport chapter aims at promoting the European dimension in sport, supporting collaborative partnerships, not-for-profit European sport events, initiatives strengthening the evidence base for policy-making in sport (studies and networks), and the dialogue with relevant European stakeholders.

Examples of achievements so far

Throughout 2017, the ‘From Erasmus to Erasmus+’ campaign celebrated the 30th Anniversary of Erasmus+ across the EU and beyond. The anniversary was an excellent occasion to showcase the impact of Erasmus+ and the previous programmes in the field of education, training, youth and sport and to reflect about its future. The campaign achieved impressive results: more than 750 000 people took part in over 1 900 events in 44 countries to celebrate, discuss the impact of the activities supported by Erasmus+, such as mobility and cooperation projects, and debate on its future. 65 000 articles on the programme were published and shared over two million times on social media and reached over 90 million people. In a celebration event in the Parliament (Strasbourg) in June 2017, President Juncker called on EU leaders to ensure the number of individuals participating in Erasmus+ should be doubled.
EUROPEAN UNION PROGRAMME FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL INNOVATION  

What the programme is about  
The Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) programme is a financing instrument at EU level to promote a high level of quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions. The three axes of EaSI support the modernisation of employment and social policies (PROGRESS axis), job mobility (EURES axis), and access to micro-finance and social entrepreneurship (MFiSE axis).

It focuses on key actions with high European added value such as:

- supporting the EU policy-making;
- focusing on the transnational dimension of employment, social, working conditions and health and safety at work policy;
- ensuring development and proper application of EU laws in the field of employment, working conditions, health and safety at work and social protection;
- promoting workers’ EU geographical mobility by developing services for the recruitment and placing of workers;
- increasing the availability and accessibility of microfinance, as additional funding is more likely to be attracted from third-party investors such as the European Investment Bank.

Benefits for EU citizens  
The EaSI programme provides EU funds to coordinate, implement and lead initiatives for employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions. The programme is a financing instrument at EU level.

As shown by the results of the EaSI mid-term evaluation, the EaSI programme added value is widely acknowledged at the EU-level; for instance with regards to the exchange of good practices, the social policy innovations, the cross-border partnerships, the support provided to social enterprises as well as regarding the provision of loans to vulnerable people.

Implementation status  
In 2017 the PROGRESS axis concentrated on gathering evidence through studies, analysis and EU statistics to shape policy developments. It also fostered shared understanding of policy options and solutions by providing for high quality, inclusive, and participatory policy debates. It also promoted the involvement of civil society through financial support for key Union level NGOs and implementation of the Social Investment Package.

The EURES axis continued its support of the European job mobility portal, training courses on EURES services, as well as horizontal support to the member organisations of the EURES network. It also financed cross-border partnerships supporting mobility for frontier workers in the cross-border regions along with targeted mobility schemes, following the preparatory action “Your First EURES job”.

Concerning the MFiSE axis, after the signature of the Delegation Agreement with the EIF in 2015, the implementation of the EaSI Guarantee continued in 2017. By the end of 2017, 62 operations (49 for Microfinance and 13 for Social Entrepreneurship) have already been signed in 24 countries for a total amount of EUR 105.1 million, (75.7 million for Microfinance and 29.4 million for Social Entrepreneurship). The full absorption of the initial EaSI budget of EUR 56 million for microfinance by late 2016, coupled with the strong pipeline for social entrepreneurship, consequently led to a EUR 100 million top-up from the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI). In light of this, the initial total EU budget earmarked for the EaSI Guarantee instrument over 2014-2020 has been increased from EUR 96 million to EUR 196 million for both microfinance and social entrepreneurship.

With regard to EaSI Technical Assistance (TA) which offers a range of support activities to European microfinance institutions (MFIs), so far 37 MFIs have benefited from capacity-building tailored trainings and 41 MFIs from training courses on the implementation of the European Code of Good Conduct for microcredit provision under the programme. The EaSI TA programme was launched in 2015 and is currently managed by the European Investment Bank.

Who is in charge  
Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (grants and procurement) and indirect management (EFSI equity instrument and delegation to financial intermediaries).
Performance framework

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Support the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Union’s instruments, policies (promoting a high level of quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions*) and relevant law and promote evidence-based policy-making, social innovation and social progress, in partnership with the social partners, civil society organisations and public and private bodies (PROGRESS Axis).

Promote workers’ voluntary geographical mobility on a fair basis and boost employment opportunities by developing high-quality and inclusive Union labour markets that are open and accessible to all, while respecting workers’ rights throughout the Union, including freedom of movement (EURES Axis).

Promote employment and social inclusion by increasing the availability and accessibility of microfinance for vulnerable people who wish to start up a micro-enterprise as well as for existing micro-enterprises, and by increasing access to finance for social enterprises (Microfinance Axis).

Examples of achievements so far

According to the 2nd EaSI performance monitoring report, the latest key programme achievements are the following:

• The use of the EURES Job Mobility Portal kept expanding in 2015-2016. According to the latest data, the EURES online platform attracts 1.76 million users each month. This number has increased from 0.85 million monthly users in 2013 and 1.2 million users in 2014.
• In 2017, there were 7 349 job placements resulting from consultations with jobseekers as a result of the Preparatory Action Your First EURES Job (YfEJ) and Targeted Mobility Schemes
• The 62 signed transactions under the Microfinance/Social enterprise axis for a total amount of EUR 105.1 million are expected to unlock more than EUR 1.3 billion of financing for micro- and social enterprises thanks to a leverage effect, already surpassing the initial target of EUR 528 million of financing set for the EUR 96 million initially earmarked for the EaSI Guarantee instrument over the whole programming period.

EaSI-Progress

ENACTING: “Enable cooperation & mutual learning for the fair posting of workers contributed to national and EU policies for the mobility of workers and decent work related to posting of workers, specifically by enhancing administrative cooperation, social dialogue and tripartite dialogue. This tripartite type of relationship between national authorities with their labour inspectorates, workers’ representatives and employers’ associations provided a transnational dialogue and exchange which contributed to a decision-making process related to ‘governance’ of the issues connected to fair transposition and the effective administration of participating countries (i.e. BE, DE, IT, RO).

EURES axis

YOUR FIRST EURES JOB (YfEJ) is an intra-EU job mobility scheme which aims to help young nationals in the 18-35 age brackets of any of the EU countries, Iceland and Norway to find a work placement - job, traineeship or apprenticeship - in another country than their country of residence. YfEJ is being implemented in the framework of EaSI as a ‘targeted mobility scheme’ (TMS). Since the start date of the YfEJ activities in February 2015, in total 3 098 placements were made.

MF/SE axis

EaSI financial instruments, in particular the Guarantee part of the scheme has started successfully in 2015 and continued in 2017. More specifically, the latest figures regarding transactions notified by EIF the end of December 2017 suggest an expected leverage effect of EU contribution within the range of 5.5-30.5 with an estimated average leveraging value of 12.4. This leverage effect is more than twice the Minimum Leverage Effect set in the Delegation Agreement (5.5) and suggests important gains in terms of effectiveness (improved results compared to initially foreseen) and in terms of efficiency gains (higher leverage effect and more efficient use of EU contribution). Furthermore, the full absorption of the EUR 56 million initial EaSI budget earmarked for the microfinance guarantees, coupled with the positive evolution of the pipeline of deals for social entrepreneurship and subsequently the additional EUR 100 million top-up from the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) bears testimony to the increased market demand and the successful take-up of the instrument.
**What the programme is about**

The European Solidarity Corps, offers young people between the ages of 18 and 30 the opportunity to take part in a wide range of solidarity activities across the EU, with the aim of having 100,000 young people taking part by the end of 2020. Since December 2016, eight different programmes have been mobilised to give young people the chance to take part in a range of solidarity activities addressing challenging situations across the EU. Participation not only benefits young people's personal development, active involvement in society and employability, but also assists non-governmental organisations, public bodies and companies in their efforts to cope with societal and other challenges. As well as offering volunteering, traineeships and job placements, in the future the European Solidarity Corps would also offer participants the opportunity to set up their own solidarity projects or to volunteer as a group. On 30 May 2017, the Commission presented a proposal to put the European Solidarity Corps on a firm footing, with a budget of EUR 341.5 million for the years 2018-2020 and a dedicated legal base. In addition, the Commission proposed to extend opportunities for young people.

**Benefits for EU citizens.**

The European Solidarity Corps will enhance the European dimension of solidarity, complementing existing public and private policies, programmes and activities without creating competition or substitution effects. The Corps will address unmet societal needs, which cannot be addressed by the labour market, existing volunteering activities or by other types of solidarity programmes.

While actions to tackle socio-economic problem areas are primarily the responsibility of the Member States and regions and have to be taken closest to the citizen at national and sub-national levels, the EU has a role to play in identifying shared challenges, stimulating cooperation and transnational mobility, encouraging synergies, and promoting the sharing of good practices and mutual learning, and supporting a Europe-wide approach to social innovation, where there is clear value added for European solutions.

**Implementation status**

The European Solidarity Corps legal base is not expected to enter into force before the summer of 2018. Regarding the implementation of volunteering activities, appropriate transitional measures for the first half of 2018 have been put in place in the context of the Erasmus+ Programme. These measures should be sufficient to guarantee continuity of volunteering activities in 2018, i.e. to avoid any disruption in the flow of volunteering placements, before the implementation of the Corps under the new legal base can start.

It's expected that 2019 will be the first year of the full-fledged implementation of the European Solidarity Corps. Without prejudice to the outcome of the negotiation of the legislative proposal, the envisaged indicative share of costs is 80% for volunteering placements and solidarity projects and 20% to traineeships and jobs.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) will be the lead DG for the programme implementation. European Solidarity Corps funding may be provided in grants, procurement and prizes.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- To enhance the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high quality solidarity activities as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion and solidarity in Europe, supporting communities and responding to societal challenges.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To provide young people, with the support of organisations, with easily accessible opportunities for engagement in solidarity activities while improving their skills and competences for personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, as well as their employability and facilitating transition to regular employment.

- To ensure that the solidarity activities that are offered to the European Solidarity Corps participants contribute to addressing concrete societal challenges and strengthening communities, and are of high quality and properly validated.

The European Commission proposed to closely monitor the European Solidarity Corps to the extent to which the general and specific objectives have been achieved. To that end, a minimum framework of indicators was proposed, to serve as a basis and to be further developed into a common detailed programme of monitoring enabling the evaluation of the European Solidarity Corps.

- number of participants in volunteering (in-country and cross-border);
- number of participants in traineeships (in-country and cross-border);
- number of participants in jobs (in-country and cross-border);
- number of participants in solidarity projects;
- number of organisations holding a European Solidarity Corps quality label.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- It’s expected that 2019 will be the first year of the full-fledged implementation of the European Solidarity Corps.
**What the programme is about**

Customs 2020 aims to improve functioning and modernisation of the customs union. It focuses on supporting customs authorities in protecting the financial and economic interests of the union and of the Member States, including the fight against fraud and the protection of intellectual property rights, to increase safety and security, to protect citizens and the environment, to improve the administrative capacity of the customs authorities and to strengthen the competitiveness of European businesses.

Many of the activities in the customs area are of a cross-border nature, involving and affecting all 28 Member States, and therefore they cannot be effectively and efficiently delivered by individual Member States. The Customs 2020 programme offers Member States a Union framework to develop activities through cooperation amongst national customs officials, on the one hand, and IT cooperation, on the other hand. This set-up is more cost efficient than if each Member State would set up its individual cooperation framework on a bilateral or multilateral basis.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The customs union is an exclusive competence of the Union. The implementation of Union legislation is however a national competence. The Union legal framework in itself does not ensure sufficiently the proper functioning of the customs union. It should be complemented by supporting measures as provided by the Customs programme in order to ensure that EU customs legislation is applied in a convergent and harmonised way at national level.

From an economic point of view, action at EU level is much more efficient. The backbone of the customs cooperation is a highly secured dedicated communication network. It interconnects national customs administrations in approximately 5,000 connection points. This common IT network ensures that every national administration only needs to connect once to this common infrastructure to be able to exchange any kind of information. If such an infrastructure were not available, Member States would have to link 28 times to the national systems of each of the other Member States.

**Implementation status**

The data collected in the performance measurement of the programme in 2014, 2015 and 2016 shows that the Customs 2020 programme progressed towards obtaining its objectives and towards achieving the expected results of the projects planned. In 2014, a score of 3.2 was achieved on the extent to which programme activities achieved their expected results, on a scale from 0 to 4 (fully). In 2015 and 2016, this value was 3.3, testifying to the gradual increase in the achievement of results over the course of the programme’s implementation. The data for 2017 is still in the process of collection at the time of writing. All the major centralised IT systems, as well as the underlying infrastructure (Common Communications Network/Common Systems Interface CCN/CSI) – developed, managed and maintained by the Commission – were available as scheduled during the period 2014-2017, with more than 99 % of the time meeting the expected targets.

The majority of programme funding (approx. 80 %) goes into the development and operation of European Information Systems, followed by the organisation of the joint actions, the cooperation and collaboration side (around 15 %), and the training activities (around 5 %).

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD) is the lead DG for the programme implementation through direct management.
Examples of achievements so far

- The European Information Systems supported by Customs 2020 play a vital role in interconnecting customs authorities. The functioning of these IT systems is enabled by a closed and secure Common Communication Network/Common Systems Interface (CCN/CSI). The number of exchanged messages on the network (for both Customs and Fiscalis) has been rising: 2.7 billion (2014), 3.2 billion (2015), 4.5 billion (2016) and 4.8 billion (2017). If we look at only messages exchanges on the Customs systems on the network, the numbers are also indicating a rise: 440 million (2014), 450 million (2015), 520 million (2016) and 540 million (2017).
- The correct calculation of tariffs and the fight against fraud are crucial to the protection of EU’s financial interests. IT systems like NCTS (new computerised transit system) allowed monitoring the movement of goods within the EU territory and identifying cases of fraud or non-payment of customs duties. It has created traceable records for each transit transaction reducing the deviation from standard procedures. In 2014 only, more than 10 million movements were recorded via the system. The system maintains a high availability rate, which in 2016 stood at 99.23%.
- Across the programme, over 1 000 guidelines and recommendations were issued in the national administrations following participation in programme activities (according to data available in February 2017). In the same period, more than 98% of the responding participants in these joint actions declared that from a professional point of view, the activities were very useful or useful.
- Expert Teams represent a new tool from the programme tool-box supporting enhanced operational collaboration. This tool allows willing Member States to bring their cooperation to a next dimension of European integration at the policy implementation level. The expert teams approach allows customs experts of Member States to have in-depth cooperation on operational issues which go beyond the traditional means of cooperation to realise the pre-identified objectives of a common long-term project. The 3 Expert Teams that were created for customs in 2016 have started to produce their outputs (on laboratories, Binding Tariff Information, operational cooperation at the EU Eastern and South-Eastern land border).
- Some of the most relevant deliverables were produced by the CELBET Expert Team for border management between 11 Member States of the Eastern and South-Eastern land border (a mapping and analysis of border crossing points (BCPs); development of instructions and methodology for evaluating the level of smuggling (random controls)).
- The CLET Expert Team, in the area of customs laboratories, pools expertise and equipment in a network (Meta-laboratory) to analyse samples and to share analytical results. One Member State - not having analytical capacity in a specialised area - can submit a request for analysis to another Member State who will provide the analytical result for free.
- TAXUD’s eLearning portfolio amounts to 46 customs & taxation courses in 390 national language modules by end 2017. The existing 30 eLearning courses on the customs area, all of which support customs professionals from both public and private sector to understand the changes and prepare themselves for the modernisation wave that the UCC. The number of officials trained by using common training material has risen substantially, from 4 776 in 2014 to 19 234 in 2017. The number of downloads of eLearning courses from EUROPA website has risen significantly, from 3 219 (2014) to 12 291 (2017). In addition to eLearning, new efficient EU training tools were introduced in form of an EU eBook (on EU AEO Guidelines).
FISCALIS 2020
ACTION PROGRAMME FOR TAXATION
IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

What the programme is about
Fiscalis 2020 is an EU cooperation programme enabling national tax administrations to create and exchange information and expertise. It allows developing and operating major trans-European IT systems in partnership, as well as establishing various person to person networks by bringing together national officials from across Europe.

It focuses on improving the proper functioning of the taxation systems in the internal market by enhancing cooperation between participating countries, their tax authorities and their officials. This includes the fight against tax fraud, tax evasion and aggressive tax planning and the implementation of Union law in the field of taxation by ensuring exchange of information, supporting administrative cooperation and, where necessary and appropriate enhancing the administrative capacity of participating countries with a view to assisting in reducing the administrative burden on tax authorities and the compliance costs for taxpayers.

The programme as such interconnects national tax administrations in approximately 5 000 (customs and taxation) connection points. This common IT network ensures that every national administration only needs to connect once to this common infrastructure to be able to exchange any kind of information. If such an infrastructure were not available Member States would have to link 28 times to the national systems of each of the other Member States.

Benefits for EU citizens
Without intense cooperation and coordination between Member States, unfair tax competition and tax shopping would increase, while fraudsters would exploit the lack of cooperation between national authorities. The added value of the Fiscalis programme, including to the protection of the financial interests of Member States of the Union and of taxpayers, has been recognised by the tax administrations of the participating countries. The challenges identified for the next decade cannot be tackled if Member States do not look beyond the borders of their administrative territories or cooperate intensively with their counterparts. The Fiscalis programme, implemented by the Commission in cooperation with the participating countries, offers Member States a Union framework to develop activities through cooperation amongst national tax officials, on the one hand, and IT cooperation, on the other hand. This setup is more cost-effective than if each Member State were to set up individual cooperation frameworks on a bilateral or multilateral basis.

The Fiscalis 2020 programme supports the highly secured dedicated communication network allowing the exchange of information in the framework of fight against fraud, both for direct and indirect taxation.

Implementation status
The data collected in the performance measurement of the programme in 2014 (first year of implementation), 2015 and 2016 shows that the Fiscalis 2020 programme progressed towards obtaining its objectives and towards achieving the expected results of the projects planned in the Annual work programmes for this period. The results measured within the programme’s performance measurement framework for 2014, 2015 and 2016 indicate that the overall implementation of the programmes is on track, without delays. In 2014, a score of 3.13 was achieved on the extent to which programme activities achieved their expected results across the programme, on a scale from 0 to 4 (fully). The same score was 3.2 for 2015 and 2016, testifying to gradual increase in the achievement of results. The data on the achievement of results for 2017 is still in the process of collection at the time of writing. All the centralised IT systems, as well as the underlying infrastructure (Common Communications Network/Common Systems Interface CCN/CSI) – developed, managed and maintained by the Commission – were available in the 2014-2017 period as scheduled, with more than 99 % of the time meeting the expected targets.

The majority of the programme funding (approx. 80 %) is devoted to the implementation, improvement, operation and support to the European Information Systems for taxation. The remaining part is used for funding the organisation of joint actions, the cooperation and collaboration side (around 15 %) and the training activities (around 5 %).

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>99.72 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**General Objective**

- To improve the proper functioning of the taxation systems in the internal market by enhancing cooperation between participating countries, their tax authorities and their officials.

**Specific Objective**

To support the fight against tax fraud, tax evasion and aggressive tax planning and the implementation of Union law in the field of taxation by ensuring exchange of information, by supporting administrative cooperation and, where necessary and appropriate, by enhancing the administrative capacity of participating countries with a view to assisting in reducing the administrative burden on tax authorities and the compliance costs for taxpayers.

### Examples of achievements so far

- The European Information Systems supported by Fiscalis 2020 interconnect tax authorities and thus facilitate the coexistence of 28 taxation systems in the Union. The systems allowed information to be exchanged rapidly and in a common format that can be recognized by all Member States. In the 2014-2017 period, the CCN/CSI had the required high availability and the number of exchanged messages on the network (for both Fiscalis and Customs) has been rising: 2.7 billion (2014), 3.2 billion (2015), 4.5 billion (2016) and 4.8 billion (2017). For Fiscalis, the numbers are confirming the rise: 2.2 billion (2014), 2.8 billion (2015), 4 billion (2016) and 4.2 billion (2017).

- In relation to the Union Law and Policy Application and Implementation, the related joint actions organised under this objective obtained very high levels of satisfaction by participants in terms of ‘meeting their expectations’. The number of officials participating to these activities who found them to be professionally ‘useful’ or ‘very useful’ has remained very high (close to 98%).

- Expert teams represent a new tool from the programme tool-box supporting enhanced operational collaboration. This tool allows willing Member States to bring their cooperation to a next dimension of European integration at the policy implementation level. The expert teams approach allows tax experts of Member States to have in depth cooperation on operational issues which go beyond the traditional means of cooperation to realise pre-identified objectives of a common long term project. The 2 Expert Teams that were created for taxation in 2016 started to produce their outputs in 2017 (on IT collaboration and exchange of information). The objective of the Expert Team on IT Collaboration was to group MS’s resources to strategically manage IT Collaboration initiatives in the field of taxation for the implementation of IT systems, e.g. the development of IT software, IT solutions (design, specifications etc.), IT components (Architecture, platforms etc.) or other things that support an IT solution (e.g. testing). The DAC Expert Team supported MSs in the implementation of Council Directive 2014/107/EU, which imposes through Art. 8(3a) on MS an automatic exchange of financial information (such as account numbers, beneficiary’s name, account balance or gross amount of interests paid) by collaboratively designing and developing some national software modules of DAC2. This allowed MSs to save costs on the phase of the development lifecycle and to ensure a cross-border orientation.

- TAXUD’s EU eLearning portfolio amounts to 46 customs & tax courses in 390 national language modules by end 2017. The 16 eLearning courses on taxation support the uniform implementation and application of tax policies (VAT competency/tax compliance building). In addition, new efficient EU training tools were introduced in form of an EU Training webinar (on passenger profiling for control purposes) and of an European Parliament Pilot Project on digital tax education for Young Europeans (TAXEDU) equipped with a multitude of commonly developed digital tax educational material (264 educational videos, 8 eLearning courses), an immersive 3-levelled tax educational game (TAXLANDIA) and further extensive support material for educators. Portal use monitoring measures reported for the month of December 2017 about 22 300 TAXEDU portal visitors and more than 7 800 Facebook followers.

### Performance framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>2017 Achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Communication Network for the European Information Systems</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network opportunity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lasting networking effect</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation (face to face meetings)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-line groups (for taxation and joint groups between taxation and customs)</td>
<td>87 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
HERCULE III
PROGRAMME TO PROMOTE ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF THE PROTECTION OF THE FINANCIAL INTERESTS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

What the programme is about
Hercule III is the latest EU anti-fraud programme, following Hercule II (2007-2013). It helps EU countries fight fraud, corruption and other illegal activities. It helps finance practical projects, such as the purchase by national authorities of x-ray scanners, sniffer dogs and other technical equipment, to stamp out smuggling and other criminal activities against the EU's financial interests.

The programme protects the EU’s financial interests by supporting action to combat irregularities, fraud and corruption affecting the EU budget. This includes combating tobacco smuggling which remains a major concern, accounting for estimated annual losses of at least EUR 10 billion to national and EU budgets. Helping to fund technical equipment in harbours and airports aims to boost national authorities’ capacity to fight smuggling. Hercule III also finances training activities. It helps national authorities share best practices through seminars and conferences on issues such as preventing corruption in procurement procedures. Another facet is training to boost and update the digital forensic skills of law enforcement staff.

The Programme contributes to:

- developing the activities at Union level and the Member States’ level to counter fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union, including the fight against cigarette smuggling and counterfeiting;
- an increased transnational cooperation and coordination at Union level, between Member States’ authorities, the Commission and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), and in particular to the effectiveness and efficiency of the cross-border operations;
- an effective prevention of fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union, by offering joint specialised training for staff of national and regional administrations, and to other stakeholders.

Benefits for EU citizens
From an EU perspective, the Programme significantly contributes to the development of activities at Union level to counter fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities, to the creation of an increased transnational cooperation and coordination between Member States’ authorities, the Commission and the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and to the establishment of an effective prevention system against fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union.

The programme creates in particular savings deriving from the collective procurement of specialised equipment and databases to be used by the stakeholders and those derived from the specialised training.

Implementation status
The Hercule III Programme is implemented on the basis of annual work programmes. The Commission received a substantially higher number of applications for grants under the calls for proposals in particular technical assistance (purchase technical equipment) as the result of the increase of the maximum co-funding percentage from 50 % under the previous Programme to 80 % (and even 90 % in exceptional and duly justified cases). The Commission awarded more than 160 grants to national and regional authorities as well as research institutes and NGOs for the purchase of technical equipment or for the organisation of training events, conferences and seminars.

The Commission will launch call for tenders in 2018 for the purchase of access to databases, training activities (including digital forensic training) and technical equipment. The Commission may launch in 2018 a public procurement procedure for a feasibility study to elaborate a methodology to quantify illicit tobacco trade.

Who is in charge
European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) is the lead service for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management.

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/ry89dk

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>104.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
Mid-term Evaluation of HERCULE III programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/!Jq37nB

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS % EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99.96 %</td>
<td>74.80 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>99.68 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

32
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- To protect the financial interest of the Union thus enhancing the competitiveness of the Union's economy and ensuring the protection of the taxpayers' money.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE**

- To prevent and combat fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the Union's financial interest.

![Hercule III Progress Towards the Target](image)

The "Progress towards the target" displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- E-grant management system
  - The implementation of the E-grant management system in 2017 brought significant qualitative benefits such as simplified and faster processing of applications, improved support and training services, a convenient user-interface for both internal and external users, more seamless integration with the established IT-assisted business processes, access to improved reporting as well as better organisational reputation.

- High level of participants' satisfaction
  - The mandatory surveys that the beneficiaries of training grants and contracts have to administer to the participants in order to assess the relevance of the conference, seminar or training and to measure their satisfaction levels reveal that a very large majority of users (more than 90 %) express a satisfactory or very satisfactory opinion on the event. The results of the surveys are transmitted in the final report of the event and show that the networking opportunities are in particular highly valued and that the participants perceive that the training event increased their skills.

- The Programme allows for a more efficient use of resources than national/regional interventions in the same field do, for instance by generating cost savings or striking better deals
  - For the beneficiaries of technical assistance grants, it is difficult to report on the achievements right after the purchase of the equipment. They are requested to submit a final implementation report one year after the closing date of the grant. This report has to contain information on the results achieved by using the equipment and shall also contain the beneficiary's assessment of the contributions made to the achievement of the Programme's objectives. The results reported suggest that the purchased technical equipment, such as scanners or sniffer dogs, helped the grant beneficiaries to seize substantial amounts of smuggled cigarettes, counterfeit goods and tobacco. In addition, grant beneficiaries reported that investigation support equipment, such as cameras, IT-tools and forensic soft- and hardware, facilitated the lawful gathering of (digital) evidence during operations in support of investigations aimed at protecting the Union's revenues, expenditures and assets.

- The Programme enabled long-lasting cooperation across borders
  - Hercule III allowed for better protection of EU external borders with positive spillover effects for all MS.
  - The Programme enabled cross-border cooperation, cross-border exchange of information and cross-border exchange of best practices. It also facilitated long-lasting cooperation across borders, especially among participants in events funded by the Programme.
PERICLES 2020

EXCHANGE, ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE EURO AGAINST COUNTERFEITING

What the programme is about
The Pericles 2020 programme promotes actions for the protection and safeguarding of the euro against counterfeiting and related fraud.

The Programme funds staff exchanges, seminars, trainings and studies for law enforcement and judicial authorities, banks and others involved in combating euro-counterfeiting. Actions can take place in the euro area, in EU countries outside the euro area and in third countries. Since 2015 applications by all 28 Member States’ competent authorities can be introduced to receive co-financing.

The Programme’s strategy focuses on four priority areas, namely:

• supporting EU Member States particularly affected by euro counterfeiting;
• fostering cooperation with third countries where there is evidence for or suspicion of counterfeit euro production;
• maintaining an efficient framework for the protection of the euro in South Eastern Europe; and
• addressing new developments and challenges.

Bodies eligible for funding under the Programme shall be the competent national authorities. Pericles 2020 primarily provides assistance to:

• national law enforcement agencies, national central banks and issuing institutions and judicial authorities in the public sector and
• commercial banks, money exchange offices and the cash-operated industry in the private sector.

Benefits for EU citizens
The Programme actively encourages and entails an increase in transnational cooperation for the protection of the euro inside and outside the Union and with the Union’s trading partners, with attention being paid to those Member States or third countries that have the highest rates of euro counterfeiting. This cooperation shall contribute to the greater effectiveness of these operations through the sharing of best practice, common standards and joint specialised training.

Implementation status
The annual budget for the implementation of the ‘Pericles 2020’ Programme 2017 was set at EUR 1 047 500. 99.9 %, a total of EUR 1 047 477.62 of the overall budget was committed in 2017. In 2017, the programme funded 13 projects; 10 originated from the competent authorities of euro area Member States, while 3 were initiatives of the Commission. Of the applications approved, 8 are seminar/conferences/workshops, 4 staff exchanges, and 1 purchase of equipment. 5 actions were implemented in 2017, while 8 actions will be implemented in 2018. An estimated total of 550 participants are foreseen to participate.

The annual distribution vary, but around 70 % of the annual budget is commonly allocated to grants and 30 % to direct actions. Grants are provided on the basis of Calls for Proposals, while direct actions are implemented via procurement contracts.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. Projects financed under the Programme are implemented either directly by the Commission (DG ECFIN) or in the form of grants awarded to national competent authorities in the EU (both in the euro area and non-euro area Member States).

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!Uu48PC

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The mid-term evaluation of Pericles 2020 programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/!kq94nP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99.12 %</td>
<td>2016 95.40 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>2017 79.13 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE
• To prevent and combat counterfeiting and related fraud thus enhancing the competitiveness of the Union’s economy and securing the sustainability of public finances

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

Examples of achievements so far
• The latest data for the defined programme indicators is as follows:
  • 694 000 counterfeit euro banknotes and 191 982 counterfeit euro coins detected (2017),
  • 29 illegal workshops (mints and print shops) dismantled (2016),
  • and 8 724 individuals arrested (2016).
• The Programme was successful in broadening its reach beyond the EU with two thirds of participants coming from non-euro countries, as well as beyond the ‘traditional constituency’ of law enforcement officers, with a significant increase in the participation of representatives of judiciary, but also monetary, authorities.
  • An estimated number of 528 experts participated in actions for which commitments were made in 2016.
  • In terms of origin, participants come from 60 countries. The majority of trainees (63 %) are European participants: 39 % come from the euro area Member States, while non-EU countries in Europe represents 14 % and Non-Euro Area Member States 10 %; 26 % of trainees are from Latin America, a significant increase compared to the previous year and now representing the second largest group of participants. The remaining participants come from the Middle East, North Africa and Asia.
  • With respect to the professional background of participants, members from police forces represent 37 % of the total. That prominent presence is due to the fact that police authorities represent the front line in the fight against euro counterfeiting, and police staff includes both investigators and technicians. Nevertheless, other categories of participants account for 63 % of the total, a significant increase from 47 % in the previous year. Particularly, the relative participation of central banks has increased significantly (23 %). Furthermore, there is a continuing high participation of members of the judiciary (11 %), and a growing participation of mints (8 %). Finally, the implementation of the Commission action “euro coin authentication conference” resulted in a high participation of representatives from the coin processing machine (CPM) industry (8 %), demonstrating the significant role of the private sector in the fight against counterfeiting.

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

PERICLES 2020
PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counterfeit euro banknotes detected in circulation</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counterfeit euro coins detected in circulation</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The latest data for the defined programme indicators is as follows:
• 694 000 counterfeit euro banknotes and 191 982 counterfeit euro coins detected (2017),
• 29 illegal workshops (mints and print shops) dismantled (2016),
• and 8 724 individuals arrested (2016).
• The Programme was successful in broadening its reach beyond the EU with two thirds of participants coming from non-euro countries, as well as beyond the ‘traditional constituency’ of law enforcement officers, with a significant increase in the participation of representatives of judiciary, but also monetary, authorities.
• An estimated number of 528 experts participated in actions for which commitments were made in 2016.
• In terms of origin, participants come from 60 countries. The majority of trainees (63 %) are European participants: 39 % come from the euro area Member States, while non-EU countries in Europe represents 14 % and Non-Euro Area Member States 10 %; 26 % of trainees are from Latin America, a significant increase compared to the previous year and now representing the second largest group of participants. The remaining participants come from the Middle East, North Africa and Asia.
• With respect to the professional background of participants, members from police forces represent 37 % of the total. That prominent presence is due to the fact that police authorities represent the front line in the fight against euro counterfeiting, and police staff includes both investigators and technicians. Nevertheless, other categories of participants account for 63 % of the total, a significant increase from 47 % in the previous year. Particularly, the relative participation of central banks has increased significantly (23 %). Furthermore, there is a continuing high participation of members of the judiciary (11 %), and a growing participation of mints (8 %). Finally, the implementation of the Commission action “euro coin authentication conference” resulted in a high participation of representatives from the coin processing machine (CPM) industry (8 %), demonstrating the significant role of the private sector in the fight against counterfeiting.
AFIS
ANTI-FRAUD INFORMATION SYSTEM

What the programme is about
The Anti-Fraud Information System (AFIS) is an umbrella term for a set of anti-fraud applications operated by the OLAF (European Anti-Fraud Office) under a common technical infrastructure aiming at the timely and secure exchange of fraud-related information between the competent national and EU administrations, as well as storage and analysis of relevant data. The AFIS Project encompasses two major areas, Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters and Irregularities Management.

AFIS supports Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters with collaboration tools such as V-GCU (Virtual Operations Coordination Unit) used for Joint Customs Operations; secure web mail (MAB-Mail), specific information exchange modules and databases like MAB (Mutual Assistance Broker), CIS (Customs Information System) and FIDE (Customs Investigation Files Identification Database), analysis tools like A-TIS (Anti-Fraud Transit Information System) and electronic workflow applications like ToSMA (Tobacco Seizures Management Application).

AFIS also provides the Irregularities Management System, a secure electronic tool which facilitates the Member States' obligation to report irregularities detected in agricultural, structural, cohesion and fisheries funds, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the instrument for financial support for police cooperation, preventing and combating crime, and crisis management and the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived as well as pre-accession aid, and which supports the management and analysis of irregularities.

Benefits for EU citizens
By the very nature of customs fraud, occurring by definition among at least two countries there is a continuing necessity for centralised action at the EU level. Effective sharing of information and wide-scale fight against breach of customs legislation cannot be conducted only by national customs authorities at a reasonable cost. Systemic collection of the data required to analyse customs risks which pose a threat to the EU and its Member States would constitute a disproportionate effort for 28 individual Member States and can be achieved more effectively and efficiently by action at the EU level.

Therefore, action at EU level enables a significant improvement in risk management and the fight against customs-related fraud, by increasing the available evidence, improving the possibilities for risk mitigation and detection and repression of fraud and rendering the action more efficient and effective.

Additionally, the AFIS Portal enables substantial economies of scale and synergies in the development, maintenance and operations of such a wide and diverse set of IT services and tools.

Implementation status
The work programmes for 2014-2017 have been mostly executed as foreseen.

The development of an interface between DG TAXUD’s COPIS (Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union’s Anti-Counterfeit and Piracy System) and AFIS, which was foreseen for 2014, was delayed due to the late go-live of COPIS and the need for a following stabilisation phase for this system. The conformance testing phase finished at the end of 2017, and the go-live is expected for the beginning of 2018.

The late adoption of the amendments to the Mutual Assistance Regulation led to a delay in changes to the Customs Information System, the extension of the Anti-Fraud Transit Information System and the development of an import, export and transit directory as well as a Container Status Message directory.

The new version of the Irregularities Management System (IMS), IMS5, which replaced IMS4, went live in April 2016.

The extension of A-TIS and a first version of the import, export and transit (IET) directory as well as the Container Status Message (CSM) directory went live on 1 September 2016, the application date of the amended Council Regulation.

Who is in charge
European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) is the lead service for the programme implementation. The programme is managed directly by OLAF through Investigations, platform development (IT systems).

LEGAL BASIS
Council Regulation (EC) No 515/97 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the Member States and cooperation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of the law on customs and agricultural matters, as lastly amended by Regulation (EU) No 2015/1525 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and Council Decision 2009/917/JHA on mutual assistance between the latter and the customs authorities of the Member States.

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!qh38yN

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commitments</th>
<th>Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>640%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>690%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>660%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>715%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>766%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>719%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>745%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4940%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>92.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>93.53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- To protect the financial interest of the Union thus enhancing the competitiveness of the European economy and ensuring the protection of the taxpayers’ money.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

To support Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters through the provision of secure information exchange tools for Joint Operations and specific Customs anti-fraud information exchange modules and databases such as the Customs Information System.

To facilitate secure electronic communication tools for the Member States to fulfil their obligation to report irregularities detected in agricultural, structural, cohesion and fisheries funds as well as pre-accession aid.

---

Examples of achievements so far

- The performance indicators of the programme have been achieved or even overachieved by 2017:
  - 16,324 active custom fraud cases were available in the Mutual Assistance databases in 2017.
  - 11 Joint Customs Operations, including EU wide and regional operations, were supported by 2017.

- A-TIS covered in 2016, since the application of the new legal base for transit declarations on 1 September 2016, 78.32% of the transit declarations. This represents nearly all transit declarations for which this legal base applies. Not covered are transit declarations for common transit countries which did not consent to their usage (11.28 %), declarations for transit within a Member State which did not consent (4.02 %), technically malformed declarations which could not be processed (3.84 %) and declarations for common transit countries which gave their consent only after 1 September 2016 (2.54 %).

- The AFIS Portal is a single and common infrastructure for the delivery of the above-mentioned services to more than 8,600 registered end-users in more than 1,800 competent services from Member States, partner third countries, international organizations, Commission services and other EU bodies. AFIS is increasingly being used by partner third countries, including China. The AFIS Portal enables substantial economies of scale and synergies in the development, maintenance and operations of such a wide and diverse set of IT services and tools.

---

The "Progress towards the target" displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

**AFIS PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

- Reporting of fraudulent irregularities: 68%
- Availability of new irregularities reporting modules (new version of Irregularities Management System): 100%
What the programme is about

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) is a key EU funding instrument to promote growth, jobs and competitiveness through targeted infrastructure investment at European level. It supports the development of high performing, sustainable and efficiently interconnected trans-European networks in the fields of transport, energy and digital services. CEF investments fill the missing links in Europe's energy, transport and digital backbone.

Benefits for EU citizens

The CEF benefits people across all Member States, as it makes travel easier and more sustainable, it enhances Europe’s energy security while enabling wider use of renewables, and it facilitates cross-border interaction between public administrations, businesses and citizens.

CEF Transport contributes to the decarbonisation of the European economy by investing heavily in environmentally friendly transport modes, including 236 railway projects across the EU. The investment in railway projects accounts for EUR 15.7 billion, 73 % of the total funding. Investments in road and air transport focus on cross-border and missing link projects as well as traffic management and alternative fuels and on Single European Sky ATM Research respectively, thus increasing safety and sustainability. Road transport becomes greener with the installation of 2 829 supply points for alternative fuel. CEF supports cybersecurity, enabling voluntary cooperation mechanisms to be used by Member States, by promoting actions that without CEF would have not been carried out.

CEF Energy currently supports projects under eight priority corridors, four in the electricity sector, four in the gas sector and one thematic area on smart grids. The Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan in electricity, whose goal is to end the isolation of the Baltic States and to foster market integration, receives the largest share of funding in the electricity sector with EUR 205 million (13 % of the total).

Implementation status

In addition, new activities will be started such as the eArchiving, the Context Broker, the cloud-based test infrastructure and the Support Centre for data-sharing Building Blocks and the Mobile Payment System DSI. As regards to connectivity actions, in 2018, the first call for the WiFi4EU will be launched to allow for the installation of free WiFi hotspots in public spaces. The Connecting Europe Broadband Fund will be commercially launched in 2018. We have already started investing the roll out of high capacity networks in underserved areas.

Also, the Commission, in cooperation with the EIB, established a risk mechanism, the Green Shipping Guarantee programme, to support the greening of the EU shipping fleet and the sustainable objectives of the Motorways of the Sea. To date two framework agreements have been signed with commercial banks and the first transaction was signed in 2017. The programme piloted under the CEF Debt Instrument will be rolled out under the European Fund for Strategic Investments and it is expected to mobilise up to EUR 3 billion of investments.

For the entire programming period, the CEF plans to finance projects in three sectors for a total of EUR 30.5 billion, out of which an indicative amount of EUR 28.6 billion is available in the form of grants. Over 80 % of this budget has already been allocated through the 2014-2016 calls for proposals – with a remaining budget of EUR 5.4 billion. For transport only, 92.2 % of the budget for grants and the entirety of the cohesion envelope have been allocated in the three first calls. For telecommunications EUR 115 million has been allocated to the deployment of 14 Core service Platforms and EUR 128.3 million have been awarded for Generic Services to 221 projects between 2014-2016. It should be noted that the demand for CEF funding considerably exceeds the available resources with an oversubscription rate of 2.1 times the available budget.

In 2017 CEF launched the first blending call which provides grants for transport projects aiming at attracting additional private financing. These instruments create significant leverage in their use of EU budget and act as a catalyst to attract further funding from the private sector and other public sector actors.

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management, mainly in the form of grants. In addition, the CEF offers financial support to projects through innovative financial instruments such as guarantees and project bonds.
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

• Developing modern and high performing trans-European networks and creating an environment more conducive to private, public or public-private investment
• To enable the Union to achieve its sustainable development targets of a minimum 20 % reduction of greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels, a 20 % increase in energy efficiency and raising the share of renewable energy to 20 % by 2020

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

CEF TRANSPORT
1. removing bottlenecks, enhancing rail interoperability, bridging missing links and, in particular, improving cross-border sections
2. ensuring sustainable and efficient transport systems in the long run, with a view to preparing for expected future transport flows, as well as enabling all modes of transport to be decarbonised through transition to innovative low-carbon and energy-efficient transport technologies, while optimising safety
3. optimising the integration and interconnection of transport modes and enhancing the interoperability of transport services, while ensuring the accessibility of transport infrastructures

CEF ENERGY
1. Increasing competitiveness by promoting the further integration of the internal energy market and the interoperability of electricity and gas networks across borders
2. Enhancing Union security of energy supply
3. Contributing to sustainable development and protection of the environment, by the integration of energy from renewable sources into the transmission network and by the development of smart energy networks and carbon dioxide networks

CEF TELECOMMUNICATIONS
1. To contribute to the interoperability, connectivity, sustainable deployment, operation and upgrading of trans-European digital service infrastructures (DSIs) and coordination at European level
2. To contribute to the efficient flow of private and public investments to stimulate the deployment and modernisation of broadband networks

Examples of achievements so far

• Among the projects removing 51 rail cross border bottlenecks, the Brenner Base Tunnel project between Austria and Italy is one of the largest. The 64 km-long rail tunnel that stretches between Austria and Italy removes a major cross-border bottleneck in an environmentally sensitive area. It is constructed to shift the heavy goods and passenger transport across the Alps from road to high-quality rail service. Once completed, the tunnel will slash travelling times from Innsbruck to Bolzano from two hours to 50 minutes.
• Rail Baltica will implement a double track, European nominal gauge railway line ensuring along the North Sea-Baltic Corridor, the integration of the three Baltic States into the European rail freight and passenger transport network and promoting the continuity of long distance and cross-border flows. CEF Transport funds four projects which contribute with studies and works to the implementation of Rail Baltica.
• The FAST-E (DE/BE) project foresees the deployment of 241 standard fast chargers in Germany and 37 in Belgium. As a result of this, vehicles will be able to travel 100 km with a 30 minute charge. The ULTRA-E project foresees the deployment of a pilot of 25 ultra-chargers on the TEN-T corridors connecting the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and Austria. Thanks to these technologically advanced chargers, vehicles will be able to travel 100 km with a 10 minute charge.
• Litpol Link Electricity line: The new 51 km electricity line between Alytus (Lithuania) and the Lithuanian border with Poland connected the grids of Baltic countries to those of Western Europe for the first time. The power link ended the energy isolation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. The project received funding under CEF energy of EUR 27.4 million and was completed in February 2016.

CEF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEF Transport - Building cross-border infrastructure and bridging missing links</td>
<td>24 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEF Transport - Deploying sustainable and efficient transport</td>
<td>36 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEF Transport - Interconnecting transport modes and enhancing interoperability</td>
<td>46 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEF Energy - Market integration</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEF Energy - Security of supply</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEF Energy - Sustainable development</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEF Telecom - Link national digital infrastructures to central hubs</td>
<td>26 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Given the specific long-term nature of the funds’ investments, the results should be read taking into consideration that projects have a long start-up phase (e.g. planning, programming, authorisations) and long implementation cycle.

1 The commitments considered in the telecom sector reflect the signed Grant Agreements for Generic Services (WP 2014-WP 2016) and the procured budget for the Core Service Platforms (2014-October 2017).

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
ISA²
INTEROPERABILITY SOLUTIONS AND COMMON FRAMEWORKS FOR EUROPEAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2016 - 2020

What the programme is about
The ISA² programme is aimed at further facilitating efficient and effective electronic interactions, cross-border or cross-sector, between European public administrations and between them and citizens and businesses, in order to enable the delivery of electronic public services and support the implementation of EU policies and activities. The Programme develops interoperability solutions autonomously or to complement and support other Union initiatives.

Implementation status
The programme has so far been implemented efficiently with 92.68% of the actions progressing very well (February 2018). The 2016 and 2017 work programmes were performed as envisaged without delays or unforeseen events impacting the objectives stated in the legal decision of the programme.

The intermediary targets have been met, with nine key interoperability enablers and nine supporting instruments for public administrations in use by European public administrations.

A new European interoperability framework was adopted in March 2017. It comes along with an interoperability action plan that includes focus areas and related actions to maximise interoperability impact at national and Union levels. The upcoming ISA² work programmes will be in support of the implementation of the action plan. In the period 2018-2019, special emphasis will be given to:

• putting in place an integrated mechanism to monitor and evaluate the programme’s actions and the new European interoperability framework;
• reuse of monitoring mechanism and information to support the follow-up of the Tallinn declaration, calling for the implementation of the European interoperability framework;
• identify means to engage interoperability stakeholders including capturing their needs;
• extend the catalogue of interoperable solutions;
• continue work on data management and their semantics;
• continue the support to the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive on the creation of a European Union spatial data infrastructure for the purposes of EU environmental policies and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment, through actions targeting interoperability of location data;
• support the implementation of the Single Digital Gateway;
• support initiatives related to making better legislation.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Informatics (DG DIGIT) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management mainly through public procurement.

MORE INFORMATION
https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/home_en

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commitments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13094</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The results of the interim evaluation of the programme will be available by 30 September 2019 as per the legal basis.

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS % EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99.98%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>88.40%</td>
<td>96.75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

To facilitate efficient and effective electronic cross-border or cross-sector interaction between European public administrations and between them and citizens and businesses, in order to enable the delivery of electronic public services supporting the implementation of Union policies and activities.

Examples of achievements so far

- By systematically supporting Member States in the implementation and monitoring of the European Interoperability Framework (EIF) and the state-of-the-art of Digital Public Administration, ISA² allows developing, maintaining and promoting a holistic approach to interoperability in the Union in order to eliminate fragmentation in the Union’s interoperability landscape.

- By developing common vocabularies and data models, ISA² facilitates efficient and effective electronic interaction between European public administrations, and between European public administrations and businesses and citizens.

- Contribution to the development of a more effective, simplified and user-friendly e-administration at the national, regional and local levels of public administration.

- Data models implemented under the ISA² programme have been used by Estonia and Finland to create a cross-border catalogue of public services, so that citizens and business can easily search and find valuable information when they move from one country to another, following a common and easy-to-understand format that groups public services in a more user-centric manner (life events and business events).

- Belgium is adopting the model to create a national catalogue linking up the regional and the federal ones. This will bring efficiency gains, on one side to the way public services are discovered and accessed by citizens and business; and the other side on how public services can be shared, reused and streamlined by national authorities. This format is available for any public service portal in Europe making much easier for citizens and businesses the search for information around life events (work; education; health matters) and their related formalities.

- Under another ISA² action, e-Trustex delivers a solution allowing the secure exchange documents in a cross-border and cross-sector way. It is offered in the form of a platform offered to Public Administrations at European, national and regional level to set up secure exchange of documents from system to system via standardised interfaces.

- In 2017, providing ICT impact assessments of new legislation, like for example of the e-Evidence proposal, allowed to achieve efficiency gains by identifying and deploying reusable components, saving the efforts linked to new developments, and ensuring thorough planning of IT implementation.
**What the programme is about**

Political decision-makers and actors in the market constantly need statistics in order to make their decisions and monitor and evaluate their implementation. Statistics provide an essential infrastructure for democracies and modern economies to function soundly and efficiently. The European Union needs a high-quality statistical information service in order to fulfil its mission. European statistics must be reliable, timely and independent of political influence and provided in a convenient form for users. Together with the national statistical authorities and other national authorities responsible in each Member State for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, Eurostat has created a partnership collectively called the European Statistical System (ESS). This partnership also includes the EEA countries. Member States collect data and compile statistics for national and EU purposes.

The EU’s strategic objectives like Europe 2020 rely on the European statistical data in order to provide evidence basis for EU policy definition, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. European statistical programme (ESP) is designed to provide quality statistical information in a timely manner while keeping a balance between economic, social and environmental fields and serve the needs of the wide range of users of European statistics, including other decision-makers, researchers, businesses and European citizens in general, in a cost-effective manner without unnecessary duplication of effort.

**Implementation status**

The ESP started in 2013, is in its sixth year of implementation. The intermediate evaluation showed that 17 of the 23 detailed objectives of the ESP were well on track for completion; limited difficulties were experienced in relation to the other six, related to economic governance, people’s Europe, geospatial, environmental, agricultural and other sectoral statistics, priority setting and simplification, and the enhancement of the ESS governance framework. However, in the meantime corrective actions have already been taken.

The preliminary results of a second mid-term evaluation of the programme, which is being carried out, show that the corrective actions have been successful and those detailed objectives are now back on track. Moreover, an execution of nearly 100 % in commitment appropriations was registered in the final budget of the ESP in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

**Who is in charge**

The programme is implemented by EUROSTAT, the statistical office of the European Union.

---

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2013-2017

2018-2020

---

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!PF77Td

---

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>56.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>57.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>59.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>61.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>61.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>76.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>78.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>481.76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

For further information on Evaluations of the Community Statistical Programmes please consult:

http://europa.eu/lu867Wp

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.60 %</td>
<td>98.92 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.13 %</td>
<td>98.57 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

• The European Statistical System to be the leading provider of high-quality statistics on Europe.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To provide statistical information, in a timely manner, to support the development, monitoring and evaluation of the policies of the Union properly reflecting priorities, while keeping a balance between economic, social and environmental fields and serving the needs of the wide range of users of European statistics, including other decision-makers, researchers, businesses and European citizens in general, in a cost-effective manner without unnecessary duplication of effort.

To implement new methods of production of European statistics aiming at efficiency gains and quality improvements.

To strengthen the partnership within the European Statistical System and beyond in order to further enhance its productivity and its leading role in official statistics worldwide.

To ensure that delivery of statistics is kept consistent throughout the whole duration of the programme, provided that this does not interfere with the priority-setting mechanisms of the ESS.

Examples of achievements so far

• Eurostat provided comparable, reliable and timely information supporting the evidence-based implementation of European Union policies, the Europe 2020 strategy and the 10 Commission Priorities;

• In the area of social statistics, with the implementation in 2016 of the new Commission Regulation on healthcare expenditure and financing, Eurostat provided new statistics to all EU Member States and support their health policies in the context of the European Semester and of the two-year initiative “State of Health in the EU”. Eurostat delivered new innovative statistical products for the reinforced role of social indicators as flash estimates of income distribution, new data on skills and labour mobility, and joint distribution of income, consumption and wealth at the household level for the analysis of inequalities.

• In relation to business statistics and in the framework of the Digital Single Market, Eurostat produced the first EU-wide statistics on the collaborative economy.

• The new regulation in integrated farm statistics proposed by Eurostat in December 2016 will create a more coherent, flexible and interlinked system of farm statistics and provide the legislative framework for a programme of farm surveys starting with an agricultural census to run in 2020.

• Eurostat coordinated the development of an indicator set to monitor progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in an EU context (EU SDG indicator set).

• In view of the implementation of new methods of production, Eurostat and 18 National Statistical Institutes of the EU have partnered into a collaborative network which launched a number of concrete big data pilots.

STATISTICAL PROGRAMME

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>2017 Achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Users that rate as “Very good” or “Good” the overall quality of European statistics</td>
<td></td>
<td>89 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of data extractions made by external users from Eurostat reference databases</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Users that rate as “Very good” or “Good” the timeliness of European statistics</td>
<td></td>
<td>94 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punctuality of statistics - Foreign trade with countries outside the EU - Data sent by MS to Eurostat</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
**What the programme is about**

The programme involves co-financing of activities of three organisations operating in the field of financial reporting and auditing, namely the International Financial Reporting Standards Foundation (IFRS Foundation), the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) and the Public Interest Oversight Board (PIOB). The IFRS Foundation develops international accounting standards via its International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), while EFRAG ensures that the EU is speaking with one voice and the interests of the Union are adequately taken into consideration in that process. In addition, EFRAG provides the European Commission with endorsement advice on new or modified standards. The PIOB is responsible for monitoring the due process of the international standard setting process in the areas of audit and assurance, education, and ethics. The funding programme contributes to having highly reliable financial reporting by companies. This in turn facilitates the optimal allocation of savings and the reduction of the cost of capital for companies in the EU and elsewhere.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

In a global economy, there is a need for a global accounting language. International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) developed by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) are adopted and used in many jurisdictions around the world. Such international accounting standards need to be developed under a transparent and democratically accountable process. To ensure that global standards are of high quality and compatible with Union law, it is essential that the interests of the Union are adequately taken into account in that international standard-setting process. Regarding auditing it is important to make sure that the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) standard setting activities are properly responsive to the public interest. The funding programme contributes to having highly reliable financial reporting by companies. This in turn facilitates the optimal allocation of savings and the reduction of the cost of capital for companies in the EU and elsewhere.

**Implementation status**

EFRAG was in a position to provide adequate assessment of whether draft, new or amended International Financial Reporting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) respond to the Union’s needs while taking into account the diversity of accounting and economic models and views in the EU.

In 2018, EFRAG will pursue its effort to further develop its capacities in impact analysis as a wider mandate has been given to it in the EFRAG reform following the Maystadt report, which requires substantially more effort than undertaken before EFRAG’s work will continue to depend on and strictly follow the IASB progress. The endorsement activity is expected to remain significant which includes the publication of draft endorsement advice and in particular the concluding of the endorsement process for IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts. This will be a substantial undertaking reflecting the significance of the standard and its impact on the insurance sector. Another major project envisaged in the forthcoming implementation of the programme include the endorsement of the remaining major standards, namely IFRS 16 Leases (currently EFRAG is working on its endorsement advice).

In addition, proactive work is required from EFRAG to encompass (i) impact analysis of standards including the assessment of whether the proposed standards are conducive to the European good, (ii) cost benefits and broader impacts, including relevant macro-economic analysis to support its conclusions laid down in the endorsement advice. IFRS Foundation in 2018 will continue its mission to assess and make sure that the developed IFRS Standards bring transparency, accountability and efficiency to financial markets around the world and serve the public interest.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union (DG FISMA) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (grants) management and co-financing of operations of organizations (their annual work programmes).
Performance framework

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To improve the conditions for the efficient functioning of the internal market by supporting the transparent and independent development of international financial reporting and auditing standards.

Examples of achievements so far

- Following the governance reform implemented in 2014, EFRAG continued to carry out endorsement assessments on whether IFRS were meeting all technical criteria of the International Accounting Standards Regulation, including the true and fair view principle, and also strengthened its assessment on whether new or proposed financial reporting requirements were conducive to the public good.

- In the beginning of 2017, EFRAG delivered its final endorsement advice on the IASB’s Amendments to IFRS 4 Applying IFRS 9 Financial Instruments with IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts.

- In March 2017, EFRAG delivered its final endorsement advice on IFRS 16 Leases. For the first time EFRAG’s advice was underpinned by a macro-economic impact analysis. EFRAG has also started its work on the endorsement advice on IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts of which an impact analysis will form a key part. EFRAG also delivered its endorsement advice on the amendments to IFRS 9 Prepayment Features with Negative Compensation.

- In 2017, EFRAG responded to a Commission ad hoc request for technical advice on the accounting treatment of Equity Instruments.

- The new IFRSs 9, 15, 16 and the amendment to IFRS 4 will have to be applied from 1 January 2018 onwards and are expected to considerably enhance the quality of financial reporting and will result in increased understandability, transparency and comparability of financial statements. Consequently, the users of financial statements, including investors, will be in a position to take more informed decisions.

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Countries using International Financial Reporting Standards</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>97 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standards endorsed in the EU compared to the number of standards issued by the IASB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) yearly positive trend
What the programme is about
A well-functioning and trustworthy financial services sector is a key component of the internal market and its cross-border capabilities. It requires a solid framework for regulation and supervision, which simultaneously ensures financial stability and supports a sustainable economy. At the same time, a well-functioning and trustworthy financial services sector should provide a high level of protection to consumers and other financial services end-users, including retail investors, savers, insurance policy holders, pension fund members and beneficiaries, individual shareholders, borrowers and SMEs.

The programme aims at involving consumers and other financial services end-users in Union and relevant multi-lateral policy-making in the area of financial services as well as informing them about issues at stake in the financial sector.

The following activities are co-financed by the Programme:

(a) research activities, including production of own research and data, and development of expertise;

(b) engaging with consumers and other financial services end-users by liaising with existing consumer networks and helplines in Member States in order to identify issues relevant for Union policy-making for the protection of the interests of consumers in the area of financial services;

(c) activities for raising awareness, dissemination activities, and the provision of financial education and training, directly or through their national members, including to a wide audience of consumers, other financial services end-users and non-experts;

(d) activities reinforcing the interactions between the members of the organisations referred to in Article 3(1) as well as advocacy and policy advice activities fostering the positions of those members at Union level and fostering the public and general interest in financial and Union regulation.

Benefits for EU citizens
The new regulation establishing a Union programme for the period 2017-2020 follows on a previous pilot project and preparatory action which were positively evaluated in 2015. In particular, the evaluation assessed positively the EU added value of the previous pilot project and preparatory action: national organisations dealing with all kinds of consumer issues lack technical expertise and cannot cover such a broad scope of policy areas related to financial services.

Since these policy areas tend to be highly technical and unintelligible to the general public, the broad expertise required to achieve the policy objectives is not available at national level so far. In addition, no other similar organisations have been identified at EU level.

The new regulation complies with the subsidiarity principle since, in accordance with Article 5 of the Treaty on the European Union, its objectives cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States and can, by virtue of the scale and the effect of the envisaged action, be better achieved at Union level.

Implementation status
The first grants under the programme have been awarded in summer 2017 and the Commission has made the first payments to both beneficiaries amounting to a total of EUR 0.7 million. The beneficiaries are implementing the activities planned for 2017.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union (DG FISMA) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is managed through grants and co-financing of actions proposed by the organisations.
Performance framework

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To further enhance the participation and involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union and relevant multi-lateral policy-making in the area of financial services

To contribute to the information of consumers and other financial services end-users about issues at stake in the financial sector

The programme implementation started in 2017. The Commission will monitor the implementation of the programme to the extent to which the specific objectives have been achieved. To that end, the following minimum framework of indicators was established:

- Number of position papers and responses to public consultations for both beneficiaries (both a tangible output of advocacy activities) – N.B. The Commission will adopt no legislative proposals after May 2018.
- Number of Twitter followers – Twitter is an efficient means to distribute information and to link followers to websites or Facebook pages where more material can be retrieved.

Examples of achievements so far

As the first grants under the programme were awarded only in summer 2017 at this stage only preliminary examples of achievements can be provided. The first factual achievements will be provided in 2018 after receipt of the final 2017 grant reports from the beneficiaries.

Better Finance

- Continues to assert itself as a specialised EU non-industry association with a primary focus on retail investments.
- Its annual report on the real returns of pension products is a respected source of information by industry, consumers and specialised media alike.
- Launched checkyourfund.eu website to help investors identify potentially falsely active investment funds (known as closet indexers).
- Stably participates in expert groups run by the European Commission or European Supervisory Authorities.

Finance Watch

- Continued to develop a comprehensive expertise in financial services policy.
- Gradual specialisation in sustainable finance – now with help of an external donor, the Mava Foundation (EUR 0.66 million for 2018).
- After the rebranding completed in 2017, Finance Watch’s advocacy and outreach are guided by a Strategic Plan and the focus is on targeted meetings (quality vs. quantity), more proactive engagement, more educational activities and a new channel for campaigning geared towards the promotion of sustainable finance.
**What the programme is about**

The European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP) is part of the capability window of the European Defence Fund launched in June 2017. It will provide co-financing for collaborative defence capabilities development projects in line with priorities commonly agreed by the EU Member States. The programme aims to foster the competitiveness and innovation capacity of the EU defence industry.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The defence sector is characterised by a long-term trend of raising costs of defence equipment and by high development costs. This implies that the development of innovative defence capabilities is increasingly beyond the capacity of single Member States. Moreover, the European defence sector is suffering from low levels of investment and is characterised by fragmentation along national borders leading to persistent duplications. Cross-border cooperation remains very limited, while it can help to better capture scale effects by reducing duplications and would enable the development of the needed products and technologies.

The lack of coherent EU support for defence development and the prevalence of non-coordinated national policies of Member States in this area have proven to impede the development of the defence industry. The lack of cooperation leads to competitive disadvantages for the European defence industry and endangers its capacity to respond to the security and defence needs of the EU Member States. It remains a major source of inefficiency in the use of scarce public resources and constitutes a significant impediment for the implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

Action at EU level will provide added-value by means of further stimulating industrial defence cooperation through positive incentives, targeting projects in the development phase of defence products and technologies. The support of the European Union will allow to unlock projects which are frequently beyond the means of a single country: the nature of these projects and their costs make a trans-national cooperation necessary. The projects supported will be based on common technical specifications leading to a better and more efficient collaboration and enabling further savings in the following stages of the life-cycle and improved levels of interoperability.

The increased cooperation is expected to reduce wasteful duplications, dispersions and create economies of scale. This will eventually lead to lower unit costs, benefiting the Member States and having a positive effect on exports.

The EU intervention will incentivise, but not replace, the efforts of Member States, whose importance remains crucial for the launch of defence development projects. The Union intervention does not undermine or prejudice in any manner the support of actions carried out at national level. It only provides additional incentives to accomplish the most challenging phase of certain of those actions by offering Union support, where most needed. It thus complies with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.

**Implementation status**

The EDIDP will complement the research window of the European Defence Fund thus enabling a better exploitation of the results of defence research. It will also build on strong synergies with EU defence cooperation initiatives such as the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The financial assistance can take the form of grants, financial instruments and public procurement.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- To enhance the competitiveness and innovation capabilities of the European defence industry

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To foster the competitiveness of the defence industry
- To support and leverage cooperation between undertakings in the development of defence products and technologies
- To cover the gap between research and innovation and promote all forms of innovation

The European Commission proposed to closely monitor the implementation of the programme to the extent to which the general and specific objectives have been achieved. To that end, a minimum framework of indicators was proposed, to serve as a basis for programme monitoring and later enabling the evaluation of the European Defence Industrial Development Programme.

- Number of funded cooperative projects
- Total value of funded cooperative projects
- Average number of Member States in which the undertakings participating in a consortium receiving funding are established
- Number of companies involved as consortium members in a funded cooperative project and their size
- Number of SMEs involved in projects funded
- Share of the projects funded that involve prototyping
- Share of the budget funding prototyping actions

**Examples of achievements so far**

- The proposed overall budget of the EDIDP is EUR 500 million for the 2019-2020 period (pending adoption by the co-legislator).
- To be eligible, projects would need to be undertaken by at least three undertakings which are established in at least two different Member States.
- The programme will help create a collaborative approach between defence industrial players of the Member States. The financial contribution of the EU should contribute to unlock a number of development projects which otherwise would not be started considering their financing needs or the technological risks involved and should lead to additional collaborative defence development projects.
- The programme will fund actions covering the full development cycle of defence capabilities including design, prototyping, testing, qualification and certification, as well as feasibility studies and other support activities.
- EU support for prototyping can reach up to 20% of the costs of the action, while for the other types of actions up to 100% of the costs may be covered.
- The Work Programme will ensure that a sufficient proportion of the budget will be dedicated to actions enabling the cross-border participation of SMEs.
- The Work Programme will be adopted by the end of 2018 and the first calls for participation will be published at the beginning of 2019.
List of programmes

- European Social Fund ...........................................52
- European Regional Development Fund ......................54
- Cohesion Fund .....................................................56
- Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived ...............58
**What the programme is about**

The European Social Fund (ESF) is Europe's main instrument for supporting jobs, helping people get better jobs and ensuring fairer job opportunities for all and supporting upskilling and reskilling. It works by investing in Europe's human capital – its workers, its young people and all those seeking a job. ESF financing of EUR 10 billion a year is improving job prospects for millions of Europeans, in particular those who find it difficult to get work.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The ESF is the EU's main financial instrument to support structural reforms in the fields of employment, education and training, with a direct link to the priorities and headline targets of the Europe 2020 strategy in terms of employment, education and poverty. It contributes to the promotion of economic and social cohesion and social inclusion within the EU and serves as an instrument for financial solidarity and economic integration.

Ample evidence demonstrates that EU policies supported by the ESF would not have been implemented or would have been realised to a significantly lesser extent had it not been for EU investment. At the same time, through European funding, Member States invest in areas and target groups (or pursue reforms) which they would have not pursued - even when national funding is available. As such, the ESF acts as an important instrument to support reform efforts of many Member States in areas of crucial importance for the European economy in line with recommendations issued in the context of the European Semester - reforms in labour market policies, youth employment, modernisation of vocational education and training, welfare system and administrative reforms. Member States often refer to the fact that even when national resources are available to fund areas of social expenditure, the ESF has in fact provided the necessary incentive framework to deliver on long term investments supporting structural reforms (often in a sustainable manner spanning more than one political cycle). In particular, Administrative capacity building financed by the ESF has supported the implementation of the structural reforms.

The ex-ante evaluation of ESF during the 2007-2013 programming period shows that the fund brings significant and lasting effects in terms of volume, scope, role and process effects.

**Implementation status**

The year 2017 has marked a strong acceleration of implementation for all operational programmes despite important disparities between Member States and programmes. During 2017 nearly EUR 11 billion has been paid for the 2014-2020 ESF programmes (including pre-financing) and by the end of 2017 the absorption rate (interim payments vs. 2014-2020 allocation) for the ESF was 8.25%. Despite a low level of certified expenditure of the ESF by November 2017, the average project selection rate had exceeded 42%, paving the way for a strong contribution of the European Structural Investment Funds to the Europe 2020 objectives in these areas.

In 2017, Member States reported on the fulfilment of ex-ante conditionalities, which are pre-conditions for efficient and effective spending. Out of all action plans for ex-ante conditionalities affecting ESF investments, 99% of them had been completed by end 2017.

Concerning the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), implementation in 2016 and 2017 sped up. By the end of December 2017 the total eligible cost of YEI operations selected for support was nearly EUR 7 billion and over EUR 3.2 billion had been declared by beneficiaries. By end 2017, the Commission had received around EUR 2.7 in YEI payment applications from the Member States (including interim payments and initial and annual pre-financing). By September 2017, around 1.7 million young people had been included in YEI-supported measures.

Following the adoption of Delegated Regulation 2015/2195 in July 2015, the Commission adopted four amendments of the regulation and should adopt two further amendments by end 2018. The forthcoming fifth amendment would extend to eighteen the number of Member States covered by unit costs set in the delegated regulation. These Member States will benefit from the legal certainty of having their simplified cost methodology and amount defined in advance and also from the consequent reduction in the administrative burden associated with reduced documentation that need to be retained for management verification. The total ESF expenditure expected to be covered by the unit costs under the regulation would be approximately EUR 9 billion.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) is the lead DG for the implementation of this shared management programme.

**EXECUTED PAYMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>82.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXECUTED COMMITMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.96%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!Xf89Qm

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 - 2020
Performance framework

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility.
- Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination.
- Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and life-long learning.
- Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration.
- Promoting specific support to young NEETs (15-24).

Examples of achievements so far

- While implementation greatly varies between Member States and operational programmes, in aggregate terms the ESF and YEI actions delivered by end 2016:
  - 7.8 million participants, including 4.2 million unemployed and 2.1 million inactive;
  - 1.6 million participants were long term unemployed;
  - Amongst those participants 787 000 were in employment following an ESF or YEI operation, 820 000 had gained a qualification upon leaving an ESF or YEI operation;
  - 276 000 participants were in education or training thanks to ESF or YEI support;
  - 458 000 disadvantaged participants, including people with a migrant background, in ESF or YEI-funded operations were engaged in job searching, education/training, gained a qualification or were in employment, including self-employment.

- By September 2017 Member States had already declared that 1.7 million young people had benefitted from the YEI.

- In terms of financial implementation, despite a still relatively low level of ESF certified expenditure by end of September 2017, the average project selection rate had exceeded 42 %, which shows that implementation on the ground in well under way.
ERDF

EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

**What the programme is about**
The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the EU by correcting imbalances between regions and supporting the full integration of less developed regions within the EU’s internal market. It is together with the Cohesion Fund and European Social Fund one of the three Cohesion policy funds in 2014-2020.

**Benefits for EU citizens**
Cohesion Policy mobilises different governance levels at European, national and regional level. The main advantages of Cohesion Policy as compared to resources being spent solely by Member States are the following:

- Aligning investment to EU priorities: results in a coordinated EU-wide action. One of the Cohesion Policy’s key strengths is the potential to address in an integrated way multiple themes in each specific geographic context.
- Contributing to economic governance: through the link to Country-Specific Recommendations in the framework of the European Semester. Moreover, empirical evidence suggests that the ex-ante conditionalities have played so far a significant role in improving application of EU legislation in Member States, as well as in fostering structural reforms.
- Multiannual programming provides stability, certainty and sustainability: to investment plans in Member States, reducing their vulnerability across economic and political cycles and improving prospects for implementation on the ground.
- The place-based approach: identifies needs specific to each territory, defines multithematic investment strategies and better conditions for sound implementation of those investments. In this way, European citizens can experience the positive effects of EU policy in a very direct way.
- Interregional cooperation and the exchange of experience: allows following good practice examples and following broader territorial, macro-regional strategies, such as the Baltic, Danube, Adriatic and Ionian or Alpine strategies.
- Concentration of resources on the less developed and transitional regions: enhances the potential for jobs and growth and contributes to a more harmonious development of the Union as a whole.
- Effective pooling of resources from different sources: This includes different EU and national sources and provides a clear added value compared to purely national resources.

**Legal basis**

**Period of application**
2014 - 2020

**Financial programming (EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total programming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>24 564.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>33 267.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>26 935.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>29 268.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>30 235.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>31 144.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>32 012.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Evaluations/studies conducted**
The studies and evaluations of EU Cohesion policy can be consulted on:

http://europa.eu/!uG97Fw

**More information**
http://europa.eu/!Qk99Fu

**Implementation status**
Project selection rates have increased significantly since 2016 reaching 52.2 % at end 2017, covering over 145 000 concrete projects. This corresponds to EUR 128.4 billion at the end of 2017 already allocated to specific projects supporting the EU 2020 objectives for jobs and growth. The selection rate of operations provides a more comprehensive and accurate picture of implementation. Because of the specific nature of the ERDF investments, the level of financial execution (EU payments) is not the most appropriate indicator to assess progress in implementation at the beginning of the programming period when it tends to be low, as it was the case during the years 2014-2016. This applies particularly when we consider Major Projects which, due to their nature of large infrastructure investments, have typically a long life cycle and a start-up phase (planning, programming, authorisations) without significant financial execution. Payments to programmes stand at 9.3 % at end-2017.

The ex-ante conditionalities and the designation process were among the new requirements for 2014-2020 to which some of the main implementation challenges could be partially attributed. Around 75 % of all ex-ante conditionalities were fulfilled by the time the programmes were approved. For the others, Member States prepared action plans with a deadline for completion end 2016. More than 70 % of ex ante conditionalities action plans have already been reported as completed by Member States.

**Who is in charge**
Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) is the lead DG for the implementation of this shared management programme. The ERDF is delivered via 290+ multi-thematic national, regional and Interreg programmes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.98 %</td>
<td>83.65 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.92 %</td>
<td>99.93 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

To reduce disparities between the levels of development of the various regions, in particular for rural areas, areas affected by industrial transition, and regions which suffer from severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps and to contribute to achieving the targets set out in the Europe 2020 strategy of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, and in particular towards the achievement of quantitative headline targets identified in that strategy.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Strengthening research, technological development and innovation.
- Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies.
- Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors.
- Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management.
- Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency.
- Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures.
- Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility.
- Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination.
- Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning.
- Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and an efficient public administration.

**Examples of achievements so far**

The Commission has agreed with MSs end-of-period (2023) achievements targets for ERDF common indicators and programme specific indicators and receives annual monitoring data on indicator achievements. The data from the second annual reporting exercise with the most recent data from the end of 2016 (transmitted by the Member States to the Commission at the end of June 2017) are presented in the performance table below:

- Support to 84,579 enterprises, of which more than 36,000 by financial instruments;
- More than EUR 410 million of Private investment leveraged, matching public support to enterprises (grants);
- More than EUR 183 million of Private investment leveraged, matching public support to enterprises (non-grants);
- 10,179,329 jobs created along with 636 new researchers employed; 5,812 researchers working in improved research infrastructures; 41,015 households with an improved energy consumption classification; 14,943,216 kWh/year of decrease of annual primary energy consumption of public buildings;
- 2.7 million people benefitting from improved health services; 106,476 Hectares of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status; 4.4 million people living in areas with integrated urban development strategies.

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about
The Cohesion Fund (CF) is aimed at those 15 beneficiary Member States whose Gross National Income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90% of the EU average. It aims to reduce economic and social disparities and to promote sustainable development. Together with the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Social Fund (ESF), it is one of the three Cohesion policy funds in 2014-2020.

Benefits for EU citizens
Cohesion Policy mobilises different governance levels at European, national and regional level. The main advantages of Cohesion Policy as compared to resources being spent solely by Member States are the following:

Aligning investment to EU priorities. Once EU priorities are agreed by all Member States, the Cohesion Fund can ensure that resources are aligned with such priorities and are not spread across too many issues having only local or regional importance. CF is investing a large share of its funds to encourage a shift towards a more sustainable mode of development in EU regions where it brings clear European added value.

Contributing to economic governance: Having in place specific provisions designed to establish a close relationship between the ESIF (European Structural and Investment Funds) and sound economic governance, Cohesion Policy incentivises (through in-built mechanisms to stimulate fiscal and macroeconomic governance) and provides concrete support for structural reforms through its link to Country-Specific Recommendations (CSRs) in the framework of the European Semester. Multiannual programming provides stability, certainty and sustainability to investment plans in Member States, reducing their vulnerability across economic and political cycles and improving prospects for implementation on the ground. The multiannual nature of Cohesion Policy enhances managerial and institutional capacity, inducing institutional and administrative change, promoting long-term planning, mobilising a wide range of partners, diffusing a culture of evaluation and monitoring of public policies, and reinforcing control and audit capacities. This strengthened administrative capacity also positively influences the management of domestic policies and improves in general governance in Member States.

Implementation status
In assessing the early performance of the 2014-2020 ERDF/CF programmes several elements need to be taken into account. In terms of tracking financial implementation, data on project selection rates and EU payment rates are available. Project selection rates have increased significantly since end 2016 reaching 64.3% at end 2017, covering more than 8,400 concrete projects. This corresponds to EUR 42.9 billion at the end of 2017 already allocated to specific projects supporting the EU 2020 objectives for jobs and growth. The selection rate of operations provides a more comprehensive and accurate picture of implementation. Because of the specific nature of the CF investments, the level of financial execution (EU payments) is not the most appropriate indicator to assess progress in implementation in the first years of the programming period when it tends to be low, as it was the case during the years 2014-2016. This applies particularly when we consider CF projects which, due to their nature of large infrastructure investments, have typically a long life cycle and a start-up phase (planning, programming, authorisations) without significant financial execution. For the above mentioned reasons, currently the selection rate of operations provides a more accurate picture of implementation. Payments to programmes stand at 15.6% at end 2017.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) for the implementation of this shared management programme. The CF is delivered via 20+ multi-thematic national and regional programmes in the 15 beneficiary Member States.
**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

To reduce disparities between the levels of development of the various regions, in particular for rural areas, areas affected by industrial transition, and regions which suffer from severe and permanent natural or demographic handicaps and to contribute to achieving the targets set out in the Europe 2020 strategy.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in all sectors.
- Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency.
- Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management.
- Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures.

**Examples of achievements so far**

The Commission has agreed with Member States end-of-period (2023) achievements targets for common indicators and programme specific indicators and receives annual monitoring data on indicator achievements. The data from the second annual reporting exercise with the most recent data from the end of 2016 (transmitted by the Member States to the Commission at the end of June 2017) are presented in the performance table below:

- Estimated annual decrease of greenhouse gas emissions of 1 004 tonnes of CO2eq;
- Improved energy consumption classification for 833 households;
- Additional population of 135 032 served by improved water supply;
- Additional population of 8 840 served by improved waste water treatment;
- Increase of waste recycling capacity of 2 187 tonnes/year;
- 625 Hectares of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status;
- 54 km of new TEN-T roads and 217 km of reconstructed or upgraded roads;
- 92 km of reconstructed or upgraded TEN-T railway line.

*Given the specific long-term nature of the funds' investments, the results should be read taking into consideration that projects have a long start-up phase (e.g. planning, programming, authorisations) and long implementation cycle.

The "Progress towards the target" displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
**FEAD**

**FUND FOR EUROPEAN AID TO THE MOST DEPRIVED**

**What the programme is about**

The Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) supports EU countries’ actions to provide assistance to the most deprived. This includes food, clothing and other essential items for personal use, e.g. shoes, soap and shampoo. Material assistance needs to go hand in hand with social inclusion measures, such as guidance and support to help people out of poverty. National authorities may also support stand-alone social inclusion measures that help the most deprived people integrate better into society.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth is based on a balanced vision of economic growth and social progress based on ambitious targets for employment, education and for poverty reduction. Poverty and social exclusion are major obstacles to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives.

The FEAD complements existing Cohesion Policy instruments, in particular the European Social Fund (ESF), by providing assistance to those who are too excluded, too far from the labour market to benefit from the activation measures of the ESF.

By addressing basic needs, the instrument helps moderate the effects of poverty and social exclusion of people who find themselves in situations of severe deprivation. By enabling the most deprived members of the society to maintain their dignity and human capital it should contribute to strengthening of social capital and social cohesion within their communities.

The interim results of the ongoing mid-term evaluation of FEAD show that there are clear effects in a number of Member States where the FEAD fills a gap in national coverage. In Finland, Italy, Lithuania and Slovakia, FEAD is the only source of food aid. Even in Member States with established channels for food aid, FEAD is an additional source of funding and can bring additional products to the end recipients (volume effect). Moreover, there is evidence of process effects in improved partnerships between NGOs and central administrations in the delivery of food and material aid. The additional volume of food to be distributed also means that partner organisations have expanded their capacity and increased their range of skills to include accompanying measures.

**Implementation status**

In 2016-2017 the rollout of FEAD operational programmes started on the ground. By the end of 2017 FEAD was achieving results in the vast majority of Member States both in terms of provision of material assistance, as well as social inclusion activities for the most deprived persons. In June 2017 Member States submitted their annual implementation reports for 2016, which show continuous progress in the implementation of programmes.

These reports show that in 2016 it is estimated that 15.3 million persons benefited from food support operations, over 660 000 persons received basic material assistance and close to 23 000 people were involved in social inclusion activities under the dedicated social inclusion operational programmes. Over 377 000 tonnes of food co-financed by FEAD were distributed to the most deprived.

The implementation on the ground of the FEAD is also reflected in the financial indicators: by end-2017 the Commission had made payments in the amount of EUR 1.02 billion, out of which EUR 620.8 million in the form of interim payments and EUR 419.5 million in the form of pre-financing.

The results described above indicate that FEAD objectives are on track to be achieved and that, in spite of having a relatively small budget, the FEAD complements national efforts to eradicate poverty and promote social inclusion. It is furthermore a key tool to intercept situation of extreme poverty as well as build-up partnership and networks, raise awareness and share knowledge among operators.

In 2018-2019 it is expected that implementation of the FEAD in Member States will continue to increase. The Commission plans to adopt the summary of the 2016 FEAD annual implementation reports in 2018. The document will contain information about the implementation of FEAD programmes at the end of 2016. A number of events have been planned as part of the FEAD Network as to facilitate the exchange of practices and knowledge sharing between Member States.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) is the lead DG for the implementation of this shared management programme.

---

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 - 2020

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!gr99HB

---

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Programming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3 824.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>536.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>546.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>556.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>567.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>579.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>599.92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXECUTED COMMITMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.92 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.91 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXECUTED PAYMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>60.28 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.87 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- To promote social cohesion, enhance social inclusion and therefore ultimately contribute to the objective of eradicating poverty in the Union in accordance with the Europe 2020 Strategy

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To alleviate the worst forms of poverty in the Union by providing non-financial assistance to the most deprived persons

---

### FEAD PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2023)

Persons receiving assistance from the Fund*  
*2016 data

- *2016 data

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

---

**Examples of achievements so far**

- It is estimated that in 2014-16 there were 37.1 million cases of participation in food support operations, 0.7 million cases of provision of basic material assistance and close to 23 000 participants in social inclusion activities. 50% of the end recipients are estimated to be women, close to 30% children aged 15 or below and more than 11% are migrants, participants with a foreign background or minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma).

- Almost 940 000 tonnes of food were distributed cumulatively until end of 2016.

- By the end of 2017, 8 FEAD Network meetings had taken place, dedicated to different aspects of FEAD, including social inclusion, outreach to the most deprived, and preventing food waste. The meetings allowed participants to present case studies, share challenges and solutions on issues of common interest in the delivery of FEAD activities
SUSTAINABLE GROWTH: NATURAL RESOURCES

List of programmes

- European Agricultural Guarantee Fund .......................62
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development ........64
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund ......................66
- Programme for the Environment and Climate Action ......68
- Compulsory contributions to Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and other international organisations and Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements .............70
### What the programme is about

The European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) provides a basic protection of farm income against the particular shocks (e.g. price- and weather-related) to which agriculture is exposed. Cross-compliance links direct payments to standards concerning the environment, food safety, animal and plant health and animal welfare throughout the EU, while the “greening” layer of payments rewards farmers for additional environmental care as crop diversity, permanent grassland and ecologically beneficial zones or landscape features. Finally, the common market organisation provides a framework of rules on issues such as market support measures, product standards and labelling.

### Benefits for EU citizens

The EAGF responds more effectively and efficiently to cross-border challenges – such as underpinning food security, mitigating and adapting to climate change, caring for natural resources such as soil and water, restoring biodiversity and strengthening economic and social cohesion. It preserves a level playing field in the single market and enables a stronger common position in trade negotiations.

The EAGF supports balanced territorial development and encourages smart, sustainable and inclusive growth: analysis shows that less or no EAGF would result in a higher concentration of agricultural production, i.e. small farmers and farmers in less profitable areas would go out of business and larger farms would become even bigger and more intensive. This would have a negative effect on jobs in rural areas (especially in those where job creation is difficult), and on the environment and climate due to intensification.

### Implementation status

For direct payments, financial years 2014 and 2015 covered pre-reform schemes. As of financial year 2016 the new structure of direct payments has been financed.

On the administrative level, the Commission services have since 2014 assisted Member States in the challenge of preparing and implementing direct payments through, for example, guidance documents or discussions in expert group meetings. In financial year 2016 payments to farmers were in certain cases made later than usual as it was the first year of implementing the reform. However, already in financial year 2017, the implementation was closer to normal rhythm and it is expected that Member States implementation will further improve in the following years.

Within the Common Market Organisation (CMO) sector-specific support programmes are operating at various points in their respective life cycles (e.g. multiannual schemes: wine national support programmes concentrated in restructuring of vineyards and wine promotion, the apiculture programmes, inter-branch organisations in the olive oil and table olives sector). Support for producer organisations in the fruit and vegetables sector is implemented on the basis of annual plans. The school fruit and vegetables scheme and of the school milk scheme are brought together under a single legal framework for greater efficiency, more focused support and an enhanced educational dimension applicable as of 1 August 2017.

Market support measures in the fruit and vegetables and livestock sector, have continuously helped rebalance the sectors concerned. In 2017 adjustment aid and aid for milk production reduction for dairy farmers was introduced, providing a smart way to manage the market imbalance resulting from several macro-economic factors like the expiration of the production quotas or the collapse of certain important marketing destinations outlets outside the EU. They effectively helped to increase prices for farmers, providing much-needed support to affected producers in the Member States.

Following the Russian import embargo on certain EU agricultural products exceptional support measures for certain producers of fruit and vegetables were in place since the second half of 2014. In view of the difficulty in finding alternative markets and the critical situation of the peach and nectarine sector, support for fruits trees was rolled over until 30 June 2018.

### Who is in charge

Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) is the lead DG for the programme implementation through shared management with Member States.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- To increase agricultural factor income
- To increase agricultural productivity
- To promote a balanced territorial development
- To promote a viable food production
- To promote a sustainable management of natural resources and climate action

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To improve the competitiveness of the agricultural sector and enhance its value share in the food chain.
- To foster market stability.
- To better reflect consumer expectations.
- To sustain farmers’ income stability by providing direct income support.
- To promote a more market oriented agriculture, by ensuring a significant level of decoupled income support.
- Contribute to the enhancement of the environmental performance of the CAP.
- To promote local agricultural production and to ensure a fair level of prices for commodities for direct consumption and for processing by local industries in the Outermost Regions.
- To provide the Commission with reasonable assurance that Member States have put in place management and control systems in conformity with EU rules.
- To inform and increase awareness of the CAP by maintaining an effective and regular dialogue with stakeholders, civil society, and specific target audiences.
- To facilitate decision making on strategic choices for the CAP and to support other activities of the DG by means of economic and policy analyses and studies.

Examples of achievements so far

**Direct payments**

- In claim year 2016 about 6.6 million farmers benefited from direct payments. The total area paid covered 85 % of the EU Utilised Agriculture Area (153.9 million ha).
- The re-balancing of the distribution of payments between and within Member States continues: data confirm that the average direct payments per hectare are converging at both Member State and farmer levels. The various schemes allowing further targeting of the needs of certain categories of beneficiaries, in particular young farmers, small farmers and certain specific sectors or regions with structural problems are fully in place. Where necessary, Member States have revised their decisions within the limits of the flexibility given by the new system in order to adjust the modalities of implementation building on the experience gained in the first year.
- The ‘greening’ layer of direct payments, accounts for 30 % of Member States’ annual direct payment ceilings and covers annual obligations beneficial for the environment and climate such as crop diversification, maintenance of permanent grassland, and the dedication of 5 % of arable land to ecologically beneficial areas.
- 79 % of the total EU agricultural area is subject to at least one ‘greening’ obligation, increasing the environmental impact of the measure.

**Market related expenditure**

- Total export values over the last year reflect in particular the recovery in pig meat exports (EUR +1.3 billion; +34 % year-on-year), meat offal, other meat and fat (EUR +0.5 billion; +21 %), olive oil (EUR +483 million; +22 %).
- High increases in export values were also seen for oilseeds (+31 %) and butter (+25 %), and slight decrease of fresh fruits and vegetables (EUR -30 million; -4 %).
- The success of wine national support programmes is witnessed by the long-term development of EU wine exports which, between 2012 and 2016, continued to increase in value from EUR 8.9 billion to EUR 10.1 billion and brought a net contribution of EUR 7.5 billion to the EU trade surplus.
- In 2017 wine exports increased EUR +1.1 billion compared to 2016 with a net contribution to trade surplus which increased to EUR 8.6 billion.

---

No targets and milestones have been set for the EAGF programme. It is monitored on annual basis.

---

**EAGF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (ANNUAL)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To increase agricultural factor income</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To increase agricultural productivity</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To maintain share of direct support in agricultural entrepreneurial income (family farm income)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To increase % of CAP payments covered by cross compliance</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EAFRD
EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

What the programme is about
The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) finances the EU's contribution to Rural Development Programmes (RDPs). The RDPs contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the EU by supporting farms, food and forestry sectors and other entities operating in rural areas such as non-agricultural businesses, non-governmental organisations and local authorities. They enhance the economic viability and sustainability of farms and rural businesses by fostering knowledge transfer and innovation, investing in green technologies, skills and training as well as promoting entrepreneurship and networking. The RDPs also help farmers develop their businesses in a sustainable manner by supporting the preservation of natural resources, promoting environmentally sustainable land management, enhancing ecosystems and maintaining landscapes attractive for tourism.

The EAFRD is also an important tool to mitigate climate change and support the shift towards a low carbon and a climate resilient economy, as it helps farmers and rural businesses reduce Green House Gas and ammonia emissions and adapt to climate change consequences. It also supports farmers in managing renewable resources and managing waste, thus making a direct contribution to the Energy Union.

The EAFRD contributes to the job creation and income diversification and provides the potential to integrate migrants. It also makes an important contribution to the Digital Single Market by supporting broadband infrastructure and various ICT solutions in rural areas. This has a positive effect on the quality of life of EU citizens. Moreover, support for interactive innovation projects under the European Innovation Partnership for Agriculture (EIP) helps contribute towards the Europe 2020 objectives by encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship, promoting inclusiveness and increasing the impact of EU-funded research on the economy.

Benefits for EU citizens
Under the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy, rural development programmes make a vital contribution to the economic, social and environmental performance of EU in rural areas.

RDPs take into account national and regional specificities and ensure a consistent, coherent and result-oriented approach to a number of cross-border issues.

The EAFRD performance and results are enhanced by the European Network for Rural Development which allows for exchange of experience and best practices amongst national and regional authorities.

Implementation status
In 2017, the Member States submitted their second Annual Implementation Reports (AIRs) on the implementation of the European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds covering the implementation until 31 December 2016. Despite the late adoption of certain programmes, mainly due to the late adoption of the legislative framework, the implementation is on cruising speed. In fact, a smooth transition from the 2007-2013 to the current programming period was ensured through the establishment of transitional rules, the presence of already established paying agencies (i.e. no need for new designation of authorities) and the wide use of multi-annual commitments, including area-based payments.

EAFRD is well on track to meet the target of doubling the use of financial instruments as compared to 2007-2013. They are fully programmed in 27 RDPs in eight Member States with a total public budget of EUR 669 million (EAFRD EUR 465 million, national co-financing EUR 204 million).

As part of the ESI funds, the EAFRD is also under the scope of the activities of the High Level Group on simplification, grouping together senior experts on structural funds to discuss simplification possibilities for the implementation of Funds.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) is the lead DG for the programme implementation through shared management with Member States.

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/lu6F64XX

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EURO MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>13 990.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>18 169.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>18 676.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>14 364.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>14 381.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>14 687.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>14 709.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>108 977.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.92 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.96 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.97 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.96 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
A complete overview of the evaluations related to the rural development can be found:
http://europa.eu/uni63Mm
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- To promote a viable food production
- To promote a sustainable management of natural resources and climate action
- To promote a balanced territorial development

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture forestry and rural areas
- Enhancing farm viability and competitiveness of all types of agriculture in all regions and promoting innovative farm technologies and sustainable management of forests
- Promoting food chain organisation, including processing and marketing of agricultural products, animal welfare and risk management in agriculture
- Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry
- Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors
- Promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas

Examples of achievements so far

As a result of the implementation of rural development programmes the following targets, among others, are expected to be achieved at the level of the Union at the end of the programming period:

- 31 million hectares of agricultural land concerned by management contracts targeting biodiversity;
- 53.4 % of the total rural population (153 million inhabitants) living in areas for which local development strategies are implemented;
- investments in improved energy efficiency for over 17 000 farms;
- support for 177 700 young farmers to set up their businesses and for 331 300 farmers to modernise and improve production facilities;
- support for 61 000 rural entrepreneurs to develop their rural businesses outside the farms gate.

A number of initiatives have been launched which are expected to improve efficiency and effectiveness of EAFRD expenditure for example:

- the Omnibus Regulation will improve risk management tools for farmers, reduce administrative burden for beneficiaries and simplify conditions for financial instruments;
- the use of the Simplified Cost Options (SCOs) in 64 % of the RDPs is improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the EAFRD expenditure and reducing the administrative burden;
- the use of Financial instruments is leveraging and revolving the rural development budget

EAFRD

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New or improved services / infrastructures</td>
<td>67 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local development strategies</td>
<td>96 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efficient irrigation systems</td>
<td>14 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventing soil erosion and improving soil management - Forest land</td>
<td>8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventing soil erosion and improving soil management - Agricultural land</td>
<td>63 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving water management - Forest land</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving water management - Agricultural land</td>
<td>58 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributing to biodiversity and/or landscapes - Agricultural land</td>
<td>73 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business development plan for young farmers</td>
<td>4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to investment in restructuring</td>
<td>22 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information on the EAFRD socio economic indicators will be available and reported on later.

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about
The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) is the fund for the EU’s maritime and fisheries policies for 2014-2020. It is one of the five European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds which complement each other and seek to promote a growth and job based recovery in Europe. The fund:

• helps fishermen in the transition to sustainable fishing;
• supports coastal communities in diversifying their economies;
• finances projects that create new jobs and improve quality of life along European coasts;
• makes it easier for applicants to access financing.

Benefits for EU citizens
The EU has exclusive competence for the conservation of marine biological resources, both in EU waters and in relation to the international obligations deriving from UNCLOS and from other UN agreements to which the EU is a Party. The exclusive competence equally applies to the bilateral fisheries agreements signed with third countries. All these areas are regulated by the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).

The CFP also includes areas of shared competences between the EU and its Member States, where the subsidiarity principle applies. For aquaculture, the EU’s added value resides in finding solutions to the sector’s most common problems; in market policy, Member States and economic actors maintain a high degree of autonomy in applying the various market policy instruments at their disposal.

The Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) provides a coherent approach to all other maritime issues through close coordination and cooperation across sectors and between international, national, regional and local decision makers. Similarly, the Blue Economy policy encourages EU governments, industry and stakeholders to develop joint approaches to drive growth, while safeguarding the marine environment and Europe’s unique maritime assets.

The EMFF is not only directed to fisheries and innovation in fisheries, aquaculture and processing, but also to support diversification and promote the economic development of fisheries dependent areas.

Implementation status
Expenditure supporting the Fisheries and Maritime Policies is financed through a single fund, the EMFF, either directly or in the context of shared management with Member States. Shared management with Member States applies to measures to support fisheries, aquaculture and community-led local development, processing and marketing, compensation for the outermost regions, control and data collection activities as well as the IMP.

Direct management is used to implement scientific advice, specific control and enforcement measures, voluntary contributions to regional fisheries management organisations, Advisory Councils, market intelligence, operations for the implementation of the IMP and communication activities.

Shared management: As of February 2018, 24 Member States have notified to the Commission the designation of authorities for the management of the fund, which is a prerequisite for the submission of interim payments;

Direct management: From 2014 Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) has taken over implementation of part of the actions in the area of IMP, scientific advice and knowledge and fisheries control. A slightly smaller share of the work programmes, including actions relating to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, is implemented by the Commission. The implementation of work programmes was globally satisfactory in the years 2014 – 2016 with the exception of the action for chartering/purchase of joint fisheries control means. In order to maximise the use of available funds (for the remaining period of 2017-2020, resources were directed away mostly from the ‘control and enforcement’ area and reallocated to areas where resources can be successfully implemented (e.g. IMP, voluntary contributions to international organisations), by the Commission.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is managed through shared management with Member States and direct management.

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!Yd49Cf

LEGAL BASIS
Performance framework

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Promoting competitive, environmentally sustainable, economically viable and socially responsible fisheries and aquaculture.

Fostering the development and implementation of the Union’s Integrated Maritime Policy in a complementary manner to Cohesion policy and to the Common Fisheries Policy.

Promoting a balanced and inclusive territorial development of fisheries and aquaculture areas.

Fostering the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Examples of achievements so far

Shared management

EMFF implementation is still at a comparatively early stage. Nevertheless, over 3 600 fishing vessels benefited from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (‘EMFF’). 57 % of which belonged to the small-scale coastal fishing fleet. The provided support promotes sustainable balance between fishing fleets and resources and the protection of the marine ecosystems. The EMFF has also supported better management of more than 60 000 km² of Natura 2000 areas, and almost 1.5 million km² of other marine protected areas.

By the end of 2016 the Managing Authorities selected:

• 50 operations supporting innovation and new technologies with an EMFF contribution of around EUR 19.8 million;
• 4 540 operations addressing SMEs or private persons;
• 34 operations supporting the promotion of human capital and social dialogue - training, networking and social dialogue with an EMFF contribution of around EUR 4.2 million (excluding CLLD actions);
• 48 operations supporting energy efficiency with an EMFF contribution of around EUR 0.4 million;
• 2 200 projects addressing environment and resources efficiency with an EMFF contribution of EUR 82.9 million.

Direct management

The Commission is further improving marine knowledge, building on EMODnet which groups together more than 100 organisations working to observe the sea, process the data according to international standards and make that information freely available. There are several pertinent examples of value added, such as an improved data flow, leading to increased productivity, innovation and development of new commercial products. In the same vein as EMODNet, support is continuing to be given to the work to achieve full interoperability between maritime surveillance and inspection systems across national borders (CISE – Common Information Sharing Environment), a key part of the European maritime safety and security strategy EUMSS. The adoption of the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive in 2014 is being followed up by actions to exchange experience and best practice between Member States and stakeholders, to help the former implement the Directive by producing national plans by April 2021. Grants are provided to pilot projects tackling various aspects of maritime spatial planning and laying the groundwork for the future national plans. More and more emphasis is laid on the blue economy with actions targeting blue careers, finding original solutions to marine challenges (‘blue labs’), concrete projects implementing sea-basin strategies and action plans, and blue technology and business innovation projects (with increasing attention to getting new products and processes ready for market). In addition, International Ocean Governance is being strengthened including raising awareness (e.g. Our Ocean 2017 conference in Malta).

In the current context, contributions to develop Integrated Maritime Surveillance (development of CISE) and enhancement of European coastguards’ co-operation and development of sectoral qualifications and training are particularly worth mentioning.

The Commission has continued supporting the functioning of the Advisory Councils (ACs) that are stakeholders organisations intended to promote a balanced representation of all stakeholders interested in the CFP. In addition to the 7 Regional Advisory Councils, created by the Council in 2004, 4 new Advisory Councils were created (2 covering the whole Union and 2 covering regional aspects). The Markets Advisory Council and the Aquaculture Advisory Council, covering the whole Union were both created in 2016. Regarding the 2 regional Advisory Councils, the Black Sea AC (created in 2017) is already operational, while the AC for Outermost Regions is still not in place as the Commission has still not received a proposal from stakeholders for its set-up.
LIFE
PROGRAMME FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

What the programme is about
LIFE is the only EU programme exclusively dedicated to the environment, nature conservation and climate action, all areas of citizens’ growing concern. It finances a wide range of activities, ranging from the protection of biodiversity to the support to circular economy, from the demonstration of new emission reduction technologies and process to the preparatory work for international negotiations, from the enforcement of environment and climate legislation to the reduction of negative impacts. The LIFE programme serves as an important catalyst for developing and exchanging best practices and knowledge. The programme's role is to build up and improve capacity, speed up the implementation of EU legislation, and help private players, in particular businesses, to test small-scale technologies and solutions, and leverage other funds. The LIFE Programme for the period 2014-2020 finances action grants (about 75 % of the overall amount) and financial instruments (6 %), procurement (17 %) and operating grants (2 %). New activities - such as two financial instruments and new types of grants (integrated projects, technical assistance projects and capacity building projects) were introduced in 2014 to respond to specific needs identified in the past.

Benefits for EU citizens
The LIFE programme helps ensuring that the application of EU environmental and climate legislation and policies is consistent across the EU. It also encourages cross-border responses to common challenges which any single Member State acting alone would be unable to address. It allows a better sharing of responsibility for the protection of natural resources and promotes solidarity for the management and conservation of EU environmental assets, which are unevenly distributed among Member States. It represents an EU-level platform for sharing best practices and know-how.

Implementation status
Following the calls for proposals launched in 2014-2017 for traditional projects, about 3,860 proposals were received leading to the financing of 435 grants. Under the environment sub-programme, more than 3,300 project applications were received and 338 financed. Under the climate action sub-programme, more than 560 applications were received and 97 projects financed. Beneficiaries range from small to large enterprises (40 % in total, out of which 35 % are SMEs), to private non-commercial organisations (25 %) and public bodies (35 %).

For integrated projects, following the calls for proposals 2014 and 2016, out of the 100 concept notes, 23 projects were financed in 14 Member States. With a LIFE co-financing of EUR 252 million, the integrated projects should leverage EUR 5.7 billion EUR in total, leveraged from other EU, public and private sources.

For the capacity building projects, which aim to enable countries that have been traditionally under-represented in the LIFE programme to participate more effectively, 14 out of the 15 countries eligible for support - under the first Multi Annual Work Programme - received a grant.

Two pilot financial instruments have been introduced to test innovative approaches:

Private Finance for Energy Efficiency (PF4EE) supports investments to implement Member States’ energy efficiency action plans through financial intermediaries. At the outset, the European Investment Bank (EIB) expected there would be support for up to EUR 540 million in total investment. However, on the basis of the nine agreements signed since 2015 with local intermediary banks and in view of the pipeline, the EIB now expects EUR 1 billion in investments in energy efficiency (EUR 430 million from EIB and EUR 570 million from financial intermediaries) in 10 Member States, almost twice the initial leverage target.

Natural Capital Financing Facility supports the financing of loans and equity. It is designed to demonstrate that natural capital projects can generate revenues or save costs. It intends to establish a pipeline of replicable, bankable operations that will serve as a ‘proof of concept’ and demonstrate to potential investors that such operations directly addressing biodiversity and climate adaptation objectives are attractive. The first operation was signed in April 2017. Two new agreements were signed in March 2018.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (grants and procurement) and indirect (financial instruments) management with EIB.

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 – 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!wN47nW
http://europa.eu/!DR84mQ

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount (EUR Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>403.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>435.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>462.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>483.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>522.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>554.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>579.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,451.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The independent mid-term Evaluation of the Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/DR84mQ

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS % EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>99.96</td>
<td>99.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>90.76%</td>
<td>97.77%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The LIFE programme helps ensuring that the application of EU environmental and climate legislation and policies is consistent across the EU. It also encourages cross-border responses to common challenges which any single Member State acting alone would be unable to address. It allows a better sharing of responsibility for the protection of natural resources and promotes solidarity for the management and conservation of EU environmental assets, which are unevenly distributed among Member States. It represents an EU-level platform for sharing best practices and know-how.
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

• To contribute to the shift towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon and climate-resilient economy, to the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment and to halting and reversing biodiversity loss, including the support of the Natura 2000 network and tackling the degradation of ecosystems

• To improve the development, implementation and enforcement of Union environmental and climate policy and legislation, and to act as a catalyst for, and promote, the integration and mainstreaming of environmental and climate objectives into other Union policies and public and private sector practice, including by increasing the public and private sector's capacity

• To support better environmental and climate governance at all levels, including better involvement of civil society, NGOs and local actors

• To support the implementation of the 7th Environment Action Programme

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Contribute to a greener and more resource-efficient economy and to the development and implementation of EU environmental policy and legislation (Environment and Resource Efficiency priority area)

Halt and reverse the biodiversity loss, support to the Natura 2000 network and tackling the degradation of ecosystems (Biodiversity priority area)

Support better environmental governance and information at all levels (Environmental Governance and Information priority area)

Reduction of EU greenhouse gas emissions and development and implementation of EU climate policy and legislation (Climate Change Mitigation priority area)

Increased resilience of the EU to climate change (Climate Change Adaptation priority area)

Support better climate governance and information at all levels (Climate Governance and Information priority area)

Examples of achievements so far

• According to the mid-term evaluation, the on-going LIFE projects awarded in 2014 contribute to these objectives by improving the conservation status of 59 habitats, 114 species and 85 Natura 2000 sites (the largest network of protected areas in the world) spread over 17 million hectares; reducing adverse effects of chemicals on health and environment for about 1.6 million people over 5 years; reducing energy consumption (600 000 MWh/year), increasing renewable energy production (500 000 MWh/year from different sources); equipping 35 million hectares with climate adaptation measures.

• A study estimated the societal benefits of the 2014 LIFE funds to EUR 1.7 billion, four times the 2014 LIFE budget (EUR 405 million): EUR 1.5 billion for Natura 2000 sites conservation, EUR 0.2 billion from CO2 reduction.

• Thanks to a LIFE integrated project, one of the strictest regulations for solid fuel boilers in the EU was adopted in January 2017 in the Malopolska region, where benzopyrene concentration is 100 times greater than in London. Other regions announced plans to adopt similar regulations.

• LIFE has supported the definition, agreement and development of some very valuable policies, which will shape the EU economy, such as Circular Economy Package and the Waste legislation with ambitious long-term vision or the Plastics Strategy that aims to tackle marine litter, plastic waste or current low recycling rates of plastics.

• The 2015 UN climate conference (COP 21) led to the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal, the Paris Agreement, setting out a global action plan to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and aiming for 1.5 °C. Its implementation, to which LIFE contributes, marks the EU leadership in the global transition to a low-carbon future.

• The 2030 climate and energy framework sets three key targets for 2030: at least 40 % cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, 27 % share for renewable energy, 27 % improvement in energy efficiency. Progress towards a low-carbon intensive economy and an energy system with affordable energy to all consumers increases the EU’s energy security, reduces dependence on imports and creates job opportunities. Reduced air pollution is an additional environmental and health benefit.

The "Progress towards the target" displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

Examples of achievements so far

• According to the mid-term evaluation, the on-going LIFE projects awarded in 2014 contribute to these objectives by improving the conservation status of 59 habitats, 114 species and 85 Natura 2000 sites (the largest network of protected areas in the world) spread over 17 million hectares; reducing adverse effects of chemicals on health and environment for about 1.6 million people over 5 years; reducing energy consumption (600 000 MWh/year), increasing renewable energy production (500 000 MWh/year from different sources); equipping 35 million hectares with climate adaptation measures.

• A study estimated the societal benefits of the 2014 LIFE funds to EUR 1.7 billion, four times the 2014 LIFE budget (EUR 405 million): EUR 1.5 billion for Natura 2000 sites conservation, EUR 0.2 billion from CO2 reduction.

• Thanks to a LIFE integrated project, one of the strictest regulations for solid fuel boilers in the EU was adopted in January 2017 in the Malopolska region, where benzopyrene concentration is 100 times greater than in London. Other regions announced plans to adopt similar regulations.

• LIFE has supported the definition, agreement and development of some very valuable policies, which will shape the EU economy, such as Circular Economy Package and the Waste legislation with ambitious long-term vision or the Plastics Strategy that aims to tackle marine litter, plastic waste or current low recycling rates of plastics.

• The 2015 UN climate conference (COP 21) led to the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal, the Paris Agreement, setting out a global action plan to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and aiming for 1.5 °C. Its implementation, to which LIFE contributes, marks the EU leadership in the global transition to a low-carbon future.

• The 2030 climate and energy framework sets three key targets for 2030: at least 40 % cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, 27 % share for renewable energy, 27 % improvement in energy efficiency. Progress towards a low-carbon intensive economy and an energy system with affordable energy to all consumers increases the EU’s energy security, reduces dependence on imports and creates job opportunities. Reduced air pollution is an additional environmental and health benefit.

The "Progress towards the target" displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

Examples of achievements so far

• According to the mid-term evaluation, the on-going LIFE projects awarded in 2014 contribute to these objectives by improving the conservation status of 59 habitats, 114 species and 85 Natura 2000 sites (the largest network of protected areas in the world) spread over 17 million hectares; reducing adverse effects of chemicals on health and environment for about 1.6 million people over 5 years; reducing energy consumption (600 000 MWh/year), increasing renewable energy production (500 000 MWh/year from different sources); equipping 35 million hectares with climate adaptation measures.

• A study estimated the societal benefits of the 2014 LIFE funds to EUR 1.7 billion, four times the 2014 LIFE budget (EUR 405 million): EUR 1.5 billion for Natura 2000 sites conservation, EUR 0.2 billion from CO2 reduction.

• Thanks to a LIFE integrated project, one of the strictest regulations for solid fuel boilers in the EU was adopted in January 2017 in the Malopolska region, where benzopyrene concentration is 100 times greater than in London. Other regions announced plans to adopt similar regulations.

• LIFE has supported the definition, agreement and development of some very valuable policies, which will shape the EU economy, such as Circular Economy Package and the Waste legislation with ambitious long-term vision or the Plastics Strategy that aims to tackle marine litter, plastic waste or current low recycling rates of plastics.

• The 2015 UN climate conference (COP 21) led to the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal, the Paris Agreement, setting out a global action plan to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and aiming for 1.5 °C. Its implementation, to which LIFE contributes, marks the EU leadership in the global transition to a low-carbon future.

• The 2030 climate and energy framework sets three key targets for 2030: at least 40 % cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, 27 % share for renewable energy, 27 % improvement in energy efficiency. Progress towards a low-carbon intensive economy and an energy system with affordable energy to all consumers increases the EU’s energy security, reduces dependence on imports and creates job opportunities. Reduced air pollution is an additional environmental and health benefit.
FISHERIES AGREEMENTS

COMPULSORY CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

What the programme is about
The EU negotiates, concludes and implements bilateral Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements (SFPAs) between the European Union and third countries and pays compulsory annual contributions deriving from EU membership in international bodies, including various Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs).

RFMOs are international bodies set up to ensure the conservation and sustainability of straddling and highly migratory fish stocks. The EU has a strong presence in all of the world’s oceans through its fleets and is obliged under The Convention on the Law of the Sea to co-operate with other parties by participating in these Organisations. The RFMOs are the main vehicle for multilateral cooperation, providing a legal framework that can take into account the specific features and characteristics of each zone and species concerned.

Within the framework of the SFPAs, the Commission maintains a political dialogue on fisheries related policies with third countries concerned, in coherence with the principles governing the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the commitments under other relevant European policies. In addition the aim is to improve scientific and technical knowledge of relevant fisheries, contribute to the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and foster better global governance of fisheries at financial and political level.

Benefits for EU citizens
SFPAs: Under its exclusive competence of negotiating fisheries agreements, the Commission negotiates, concludes and implements bilateral SFPAs between the European Union and third countries with the objective of contributing to a regulated framework for EU long-distance fishing fleet while ensuring a suitable exploitation of the third countries’ relevant fisheries resources and supporting the Union’s fishing fleet.

RFMOs and international organisations: Given the exclusive competence of the EU for the conservation of marine living resources and international obligations deriving from the United Nations Convention for the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the implementing UN Fish Stocks Agreement, to which the EU is a Party, the Commission pays compulsory annual contributions deriving from EU membership in international bodies. This includes various RFMOs where the EU has an interest and bodies set up by the UNCLOS, namely the International Seabed Authority and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. In line with the External Dimension of the CFP, the EU will promote better international fisheries and ocean governance and the sustainable management of international fish stocks and defend EU economic and social interests within these organisations.

Implementation status
At the end of 2017, a total number of 12 SFPAs were in force, compared to 13 in 2014 and 14 in 2015 and 2016.

In 2017, negotiations have been successfully completed for the renewal of the SFPA protocol with Mauritius, started with Guinea-Bissau and continued with Mozambique and Kiribati.

In addition, recommendations for negotiation mandates for new protocols with Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome e Principe and Ivory Coast have been adopted by the Commission, and preliminary steps taken in view of obtaining a negotiation mandate with Morocco. Ex-post and ex-ante evaluations were finalised for each Protocol renewal, and in addition, related Staff Working Documents have been adopted. Finally, a proposal to denounce the Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Union of the Comoros was adopted by the Council in December following a proposal made by the Commission in September. This follows a Council Decision to add the Union of the Comoros to the list of non-cooperating third countries in fighting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

The EU is paying membership contributions to 13 RFMOs and 3 other International Bodies in view of the EU’s membership to them (i.e. CMS, ITLOS, ISBA).

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management.

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total programming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>8000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>13560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>13570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>12700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>14110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>14090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>14260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>903.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
For further information on the studies and evaluations of Fisheries Partnership Agreements, please consult:http://europa.eu/!mH87VG

LEGAL BASIS
Bilateral Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements (SFPAs) between the European Union and third countries

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014-2020

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>98.36 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>98.73 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>92.70 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.12 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Performance framework**

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

1. To promote, through active involvement in international organisations, sustainable development for fisheries management and maritime governance in line with the CFP objectives, and ensure that fishery resources are maintained above or restored above levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield.

2. To establish, through Sustainable Fisheries Agreements, a legal, economic and environmental governance framework for fishing activities carried out by Union fishing vessels in third country waters, in coherence with other EU policies.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- A total of 200 EU vessels flagged in one of the EU Member States currently benefit from a fishing authorisation granted under an SFPA protocol, providing them the access they need in a fully transparent environment. SFPA
des have also been contributing to the development of the fisheries sector in the 12 partner countries and to better governance of their fisheries sector. A significant part of the total EU budget for SFPA
des has been devoted to the concrete projects funded under sectoral support and related mostly to control and surveillance capacities, small port infrastructures, landing facilities and laboratories, equipment for small scale fishermen. At the same time, they contribute to eliminating illegal fishing and providing good framework conditions for local fishermen. SFPA
des therefore also contribute to ensuring food security to local coastal communities.

- In ensuring the sustainable exploitation of surplus marine biological resources, SFPA
des contributed to providing jobs and growth in the third countries and in the EU (estimated 6 000 direct jobs and 9 000 indirect jobs are created through SFPA
des, as 70 % of the catches made in the context of SFPA
des are processed in the partner country).
HEADING 3
SECURITY AND CITIZENSHIP

List of programmes

- Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund .................. 74
- Internal Security Fund ........................................ 76
- Justice Programme ........................................... 78
- Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme .............. 80
- Europe for Citizens ............................................ 82
- Union Civil Protection Mechanism—Heading 3 ........... 84
- Food and feed .................................................. 86
- Union Action in the Field of Health ......................... 88
- Consumer Programme ........................................ 90
- Creative Europe Programme .................................. 92
- Statement on Financial Intervention of the Communication Policy Area ........................................ 94
AMIF
ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND

What the programme is about
AMIF promotes the efficient management of migration flows and the implementation, strengthening and development of a common Union approach to asylum and migration. This Fund contributes to the achievement of four specific objectives:

- Asylum: strengthening and developing the Common European Asylum System by ensuring that EU legislation in this field is efficiently and uniformly applied;
- Legal migration and integration: supporting legal migration to EU States in line with the labour market needs and promoting the effective integration of non-EU nationals;
- Return: enhancing fair and effective return strategies, which contribute to combating irregular migration, with an emphasis on sustainability and effectiveness of the return process;
- Solidarity: support EU States which are most affected by migration and asylum flows.

Benefits for EU citizens
Some Member States experience particular pressure due to their specific geographic situation and the length of the external borders of the Union that they have to manage. The principle of solidarity and the fair sharing of responsibilities between Member States is therefore at the heart of the common policies on asylum and immigration. The EU budget provides the means to address the financial implications of this principle.

In relation to the external dimension of home affairs, it is clear that the adoption of measures and the pooling of resources at EU level will increase significantly the EU leverage necessary to convince third countries to engage with the EU on those migration related issues which are primarily in the interest of the EU and the Member States.

Implementation status
In 2017, 36 revisions of AMIF national programmes (NP) were made. The purpose of these revisions was to increase the allocation under the NPs to support:

- measures implementing the EU Action Plan on the integration of third- country nationals, in particular those carried out by civil society organisations and local authorities in the context of Member States’ Migrant Integration Strategy;
- actions in line with the note AMIF-ISF/2017/09 (sent to AMIF-ISF Committee on 7 April 2017) clarifying the allocation of the additional amount on return, where the Commission has suggested a number of concrete actions to be developed under this priority
- pledges for resettlement (in December 2017 10 AMIF national programmes (BE, BG, CY, FR, HR, IE, IT, LU, SE, SI) were revised to include resettlement pledges; a further 9 national programmes (EE, ES, FI, LT, MT, NL, PT, RO, UK) were in the carry-forward and were revised in March 2018 to include resettlement pledges).

The legal basis prescribes that the Responsible Authority in the Member State needs to be ‘designated’ (provisional or full) in order to be able to disburse funding that is charged to AMIF. In 2017, the notifications of the full designation of the Responsible Authorities for AMIF and ISF of Croatia were received. At the end of 2017, there were no pending full designations.

As of 16 January 2018, under AMIF Emergency Assistance, EUR 630 million out of EUR 973 million allocated has been awarded to Member States under migratory pressure for addressing the migration and refugee crisis.

With regard to Union actions, actions under the 2014 and 2015 annual work programmes were implemented in 2017 and 2018. Grant agreements were concluded for actions under the 2016 annual work programmes and their implementation has started. The AMIF 2017 work programme for Union actions was adopted. The calls for proposals foreseen under the work programme (on integration of third country nationals and on information and awareness-raising campaigns about the risks of irregular migration) were published and beneficiaries of direct award of grants foreseen under the work programme were invited to submit their grant applications. AMIF continued to support the European Migration Network (EMN) and the grants related to the EMN 2017-2018 work programme were adopted.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented mainly through shared management (75 %), direct and indirect (through UNHCR, IOM, EASO, EUROPOL and others) management.

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!vg89RF

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>230.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>623.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1 798.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1 614.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>719.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1 120.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>956.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7 063.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>87.18 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.75 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>98.94 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED

The studies and evaluations carried out by the Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs can be consulted on the website: http://europa.eu/!Bq97ft
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

• To contribute to the efficient management of migration flows and to the implementation, strengthening and development of the common policy on asylum, subsidiary protection and temporary protection and the common immigration policy, while fully respecting the rights and principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To strengthen and develop all aspects of the Common European Asylum System, including its external dimension

To support legal migration to the Member States in accordance with their economic and social needs, such as labour market needs, while safeguarding the integrity of the immigration systems of Member States, and to promote the effective integration of third-country nationals

To enhance fair and effective return strategies in the Member States which contribute to combating illegal immigration, with an emphasis on sustainability of return and effective readmission in the countries of origin and transit

To enhance solidarity and responsibility-sharing between the Member States, in particular with those most affected by migration and asylum flows, including through practical cooperation

Examples of achievements so far

• In the annual accounts covering the financial year 2017, 1 401 projects have been declared under AMIF (372 projects in the area of asylum, 853 projects in the area of legal migration and integration and 176 projects in the area of return).

• Member States have resettled (*) 24 844 people, have relocated (*) 24 523 persons and have granted legal admission from Turkey to (**) 17 562 persons with the support of AMIF.

• Under AMIF Emergency Assistance, EUR 973 million have been allocated since the beginning of 2014. As of 16 January 2018, 14 Member States (AT, BG, BE, HR, CY, FI, FR, DE, GR, HU, IT, NL, SI, SE) most affected by the migration and refugee crisis have received EUR 630 million via AMIF Emergency Assistance representing a total of 50 projects. In 2017, the support was given mainly to Bulgaria, Greece, Italy.

• In the area of the Common European Asylum System, an amount of EUR 75.3 million was spent in 2017 by the Member States. This amounted to a total (2014-2017) of EUR 144.3 million which represented an increase of 109 % of the amount spent in 2014, 2015 and 2016 together (EUR 69 million). In 2017, 297 083 asylum seekers were provided with assistance through various projects in the field of reception and asylum systems (e.g. legal aid and representation, social counselling, targeted services to vulnerable groups, etc.).

• In the area of legal migration and integration an amount of EUR 82.1 million was spent by the Member States in 2017 which amounted to a total (2014-2017) of EUR 140.6 million. This represents an increase of 140.3 % when compared to the EUR 58.5 million in 2014, 2015 and 2016 together. In 2017, 1.3 million third-country nationals were assisted through integration measures in the framework of national, local and regional strategies. A wide range of actions were undertaken such as education and training, including language training and preparatory actions to facilitate access to the labour market, advice and assistance in the area of housing, means of subsistence and administrative and legal guidance, medical and psychological care.

• By 2017, an amount of EUR 100.2 million was spent by the Member States for projects in the area of return. This amounted to a total (2014-2017) of EUR 233.6 million which represents an increase of 75 % of the amount spent in 2014, 2015 and 2016 together (EUR 133.4 million).

(*) Source: AMIF Annual Accounts 2017
(**) Source: AMIF Annual Implementation Reports 2017

The "Progress towards the target" displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about

The Internal Security Fund (ISF) promotes the implementation of the Internal Security Strategy, law enforcement cooperation and the management of the Union’s external borders. The ISF is composed of two instruments, ISF Borders and Visa and ISF Police. ISF Borders and Visa’s main objective is to contribute to ensuring a high level of security in the Union while facilitating legitimate travel. This includes effective processing of Schengen visas by supporting a common visa policy and achieving a uniform and high level of control of the external borders in order to prevent irregular migration and ensure the smooth crossing of the borders. The ISF Police component focuses on the fight against crime as well as managing internal security risks and crisis.

Benefits for EU citizens

Some Member States are under particular pressure due to their specific geographic situation and the length of the external borders of the Union that they have to manage. The abolition of internal border controls must be accompanied by common measures for the effective control and surveillance of the Union’s external borders. The principle of solidarity and the fair sharing of responsibilities between Member States is therefore at the heart of the common policies on asylum, immigration and external borders. The EU budget provides the means to address the financial implications of this principle. In the area of security, serious and organised crime, terrorism and other security-related threats are increasingly cross-border in nature. Transnational cooperation and coordination between law enforcement authorities is essential to successfully prevent and fight these crimes, for example through the exchange of information, joint investigations, interoperable technologies and common threat and risk assessments.

Dealing with migration flows, the management of the EU’s external borders and the security of the EU requires substantial resources and capabilities from the Member States. Improved operational cooperation and coordination involving the pooling of resources in areas like training and equipment creates economies of scale and synergies thereby ensuring a more efficient use of public funds and reinforcing solidarity, mutual trust and responsibility sharing for common EU policies among Member States.

Implementation status

The four Schengen Associated Countries (SAC) Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein also participate in the ISF-Borders and Visa instrument of the fund. Before their ISF-B national programmes can be adopted, they need to notify the Commission and the Council of the acceptance of the ISF Borders and Visa Regulation into their national legal order and a bilateral association agreement with the EU on supplementary rules in relation to this instrument needs to be concluded. All SAC have already notified the Commission and the Council of the acceptance of the ISF-B regulation into their national legal order, and the supplementary agreements for Norway and Liechtenstein have been signed and provisionally entered into force. The ISF National Programme for Norway was adopted on 25 September 2017 while the adoption of the programmes of Liechtenstein, Iceland and Switzerland are expected to take place in 2018.

In 2017, substantial progress was achieved towards the effective border management as the Commission proposed new legislation and implemented measures to save lives at sea, to better manage the external borders and to implement the hotspot approach.

To support border management policies, EUR 206.6 million was spent by Member States in 2017 with the support of the Fund. Amounting to a total EUR 390.6 million (2014 to 2017), which represented an increase of 112 % when compared with 2014, 2015 and 2016 cumulative expenditure. MS increased significantly their investments in national capacity, through the acquisition of high-value assets essential in the effective management of the external borders in the current context of high migratory pressure.

The support provided in 2017 through the ISF Police instrument for Union actions targeted the areas of counter terrorism, organised crime, cybercrime, operational cooperation and information exchange, with EUR 108 million allocated to these priority areas.

Under ISF Emergency Assistance, EUR 309 million (53 grant agreements) were awarded to Member States for addressing the migration and refugee crisis and EUR 6.3 million (5 projects) under police emergency assistance. In particular, in 2017, DG HOME awarded EUR 57.8 million to two Member States facing the most urgent pressure on their external borders - Greece (EUR 3.8 million) and Italy (EUR 54 million), notably at the hotspots.

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) is the lead DG for the programme implementation via shared and direct management.
**Performance framework**

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

To contribute to ensuring an efficient protection of the EU’s external borders and a high level of security in the Union

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Supporting a common visa policy to facilitate legitimate travel, provide a high quality of service to visa applicants, ensure equal treatment of third-country nationals and tackle illegal immigration
- Supporting integrated border management to ensure a uniform and high level of control and protection of the external borders while guaranteeing the smooth crossing for bona fide travellers
- Crime prevention, combating cross-border, serious and organised crime including terrorism, and reinforcing coordination and cooperation between law enforcement authorities and other national authorities of Member States
- Enhancing the capacity of Member States and the Union for managing effectively security-related risks and crises, and preparing for and protecting people and critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks and other security-related incidents

**Examples of achievements so far**

- Together with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (EBCGA) – and the Member States (MS) work continued towards an effective and strengthened management of the EU’s external borders. In 2017 the EBCGA carried out 15 joint operations at the EU’s sea, land and air external borders in which approximately 1,500 members of the EBCGA teams were deployed. The Agency was present on a permanent basis at the external borders exposed to the highest pressure, with its Triton joint operation at the Central Mediterranean and its Poseidon joint operation at the Eastern Mediterranean.

- Five hotspots (Lesvos, Leros, Kos, Chios and Samos) are operational in Greece; all migrants are screened, identified, fingerprinted, registered and informed about their rights. As of 31 December 2017, the hotspots had a combined capacity of approximately 5,576 places. Continuous efforts have been made to improve the living conditions of migrants staying for longer periods on the islands pending a decision on their situation as a consequence of the requirements of the EU-Turkey Statement.

- With the opening of the hotspot of Messina in September 2017, five hotspots (Lampedusa, Messina, Trapani, Taranto and Pozzallo) with a combined declared capacity of 1,850 places were operational in Italy at the end of 2017. In addition, Italy applies the Hotspot Standard Operating Procedures in further ports of disembarkation. Despite the continuous high inflow of migrant arrivals in the first half of 2017, Italy managed to keep the overall fingerprinting rate close to 100%.

---

**INTERNAL SECURITY FUND**

**PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication &amp; knowledge exchange on critical infrastructure protection &amp; crisis and risk management</td>
<td>22.90%</td>
<td>59.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal security - assessment and management of risks</td>
<td>52.56%</td>
<td>87.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of critical infrastructure by Member States</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
<td>78.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law enforcement information exchange (Europol data systems, repositories, communication tools)</td>
<td>13.61%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint investigation teams &amp; European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats (incl. Member States &amp; authorities)</td>
<td>42.39%</td>
<td>56.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidents (reg. illegal immigration) reported by Member States to the European Situational Picture</td>
<td>41.67%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National border surveillance infrastructure established/ further developed in the framework of EUROSUR</td>
<td>42.39%</td>
<td>56.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulates developed/upgraded</td>
<td>41.67%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialised posts in third countries</td>
<td>41.67%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consular cooperation activities</td>
<td>41.67%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

% of target achieved by 2017
LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

What the programme is about
The Justice programme contributes to the further development of a European area of justice based on mutual recognition and mutual trust. The programme promotes:

- Judicial cooperation in civil matters, including civil and commercial matters, insolvencies, family matters and successions, etc.
- Judicial cooperation in criminal matters
- Judicial training, including language training on legal terminology, with a view to fostering a common legal and judicial culture
- Effective access to justice in Europe, including rights of victims of crime and procedural rights in criminal proceedings
- Initiatives in the field of drugs policy (judicial cooperation and crime prevention aspects)

Benefits for EU citizens
The Justice programme promotes judicial cooperation between Member States’ authorities and contributes to the effective and coherent application and enforcement of EU law in the areas of civil law and criminal law, civil law and criminal procedural law, the rights of persons suspected or accused of crime and the rights of victims of crime.

The activities funded by the Programme result in better implementation of EU justice instruments (e.g. European Investigation Order, European Arrest warrant and surrender procedures, European Protection Order, European Account Preservation Order, Family law) and faster proceedings through cooperation, dialogue, sharing of experience, exchange of information, training activities and harmonisation of practices. Analytical activities also help monitor the correct implementation of existing EU legislation, prepare or accompany new legislation or respond to policy changes in the areas covered by the programme.

Implementation status
All calls for proposals and tenders under the 2014, 2015 and 2016 work programmes are finalised. The implementation of related projects and contracts is ongoing. The 2017 work programme was adopted on 13 March 2017. Calls for proposals were published and are currently being evaluated. The 2018 work programme was adopted on 19 December 2017.

85 action grants and 14 operating grants were awarded under the 2014 Work Programme, 65 action grants and 14 operating grants were awarded under the 2015 Work Programme. 76 action grants and 14 operating grants were awarded under the 2016 Work Programme.

In 2017, compliance assessment studies have been launched with the programme support in relation to the European Arrest Warrant and the detention related EU Framework Decisions. The programme’s funding and framework has also helped Member States to implement new instruments and practitioners to become familiar with them, notably the European Investigation Order that had to be transposed by May 2017.

In 2017, the new legislative package on New Psychoactive Substances was adopted. The objective is to reduce the availability of those substances that pose the most serious risks through swifter, more effective action at Union level compared to the currently applicable system (effective from November 2018).

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>47.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>48.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>51.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>53.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>47.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>44.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>46.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>338.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/#!fC96MV

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The mid-term Evaluation of Justice programme was launched in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/#!yR69ND

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS % EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.35 %</td>
<td>89.39 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.67 %</td>
<td>97.35 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

78
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- To contribute to the further development of a European area of justice based on mutual recognition and mutual trust, in particular by promoting judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To facilitate and support judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters.
- To support and promote judicial training, including language training on legal terminology, with a view to fostering a common legal and judicial culture.
- To facilitate effective access to justice for all, including promoting and supporting the rights of victims of crime, while respecting the rights of the defence.
- To support initiatives in the field of drugs policy as regards judicial cooperation and crime prevention aspects closely linked to the general objective of the Programme, insofar as they are not covered by the Internal Security Fund or by the Health for Growth Programme.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- ECRIS, the Electronic Criminal Records Information System, a decentralised IT system operated by the central authorities of the EU Member States, is extended under the Justice programme. The number of exchanges of information increases continuously. In 2017, the increase was more than eight fold compared to the 2012 baseline.

- The Justice Programme has contributed to the effective and coherent application of EU criminal law in the Member States, e.g. the Victim's Rights Directive (establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime) and the development and implementation of the measures related to the 2009 Roadmap on strengthening the procedural rights of suspects and accused persons in criminal proceedings. The programme has financed activities aiming at capacity-building of professionals, multi-disciplinary cooperation, exchanges of good practices, dissemination and awareness-raising, etc.

- The Justice Programme has also funded projects in the area of fight against radicalisation in prisons. Improving prison conditions has become a political priority at EU level because they affect the efficient operation of EU mutual recognition instruments such as the European Arrest Warrant (EAW), and because of the risk of radicalisation in prisons.

- The Justice programme funds the extension of the e-Justice Portal. The portal gives access to documents on cross-border proceedings, case law, the information on judicial systems in the EU and training material. The e-justice portal facilitates access to Justice for citizens and businesses and contributes to mutual trust and judicial cooperation. Close to 2.7 million hits were registered in 2017.

- By end 2016, 37 650 members of the judiciary and judicial staff had participated in training activities, staff exchanges, study visits, workshops and seminars funded by the Programme.

- In parallel to the legislative work on the new EU legal framework on New Psychoactive Substances, in 2014 and 2015 the key focus within the drugs-related objective has been on expanding the knowledge base on the phenomenon of New Psychoactive Substance (NPS), and in particular on identification methods and protocols, enhancing cross-border cooperation within the EU in this area and exploring the area of epidemiology of use of new psychoactive substances. In addition, emphasis was put on strengthening the capacity of civil society organisations to contribute to the implementation of the EU Drug Strategy 2013-2020 and the Action Plans 2013-2016 and 2017-2020 the funding supports the application of many EU legal instruments in judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters, such as the European Arrest Warrant, which with over 10 000 cases per year is the most successful EU instrument in criminal matters.
**What the programme is about**

The Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme aims to contribute to the further development of an area where equality and the rights of persons are promoted and protected. Its specific objectives include promoting non-discrimination, rights of persons with disabilities, equality between women and men, gender mainstreaming, the rights of the child, as well as the rights deriving from Union citizenship. Furthermore, it aims to combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance, prevent violence against children, young people, women and other groups at risk, and to ensure the highest level of data protection as well as consumer rights.

In the non-discrimination and Roma integration policy area, the REC Programme supports actions to ensure that discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, age, disability and sexual orientation is prohibited whenever possible in the same way it is on grounds of sex and race or ethnic origin.

Important projects are also supported in the area of the fight against racism focusing, among others, on the specific problems of anti-Semitism or anti-Muslim hatred and fostering tolerance as well as to support Member States authorities and civil society organisations. Projects should contribute to better implementation of existing EU legislation in the Member States, but also to assist the victims of hate crime and hate speech incidents as well as to prevent and counter online hate speech. A particular priority is also set up on projects aimed at preventing and countering the spread of illegal hate speech online and the development of counter-narratives.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The EU actions funded by the REC programme have contributed to bring tangible benefits to EU citizens. In many areas, such as consumer law, equality and non-discrimination or citizenship, data protection, individuals are protected by European legislation, but are not sufficiently aware about their rights. Awareness raising actions at EU-level are necessary to fill this national gap. Due to EU funding, the political debate on gender equality has improved and several countries took measures to implement new legislation to increase the number of women in decision making positions or to reduce the gender pay gap. The EU level intervention has been particularly relevant also to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance as well as to promote the exercise of rights deriving from the EU citizenship in view of the lack of significant investment in those fields at national levels. The funding of the European Disability Card which aims at promoting the enjoyment of equal rights of disable people across all the EU is another example of concrete EU added value.

The activities under the REC Programme contribute to the Juncker Priorities of Justice and Fundamental Rights, Delivering a Union of Democratic Change, to the European Security Agenda and to the Digital Single Market. The activities pertaining to equality will also contribute to boosting jobs, growth and investment and a deeper and fairer internal market.

**Implementation status**

The REC continues to support the legislative and policy process in this field and has focused on supporting the signature and ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. The EU signed the Convention in June 2017 and the ratification is expected by 2018. The REC supported awareness-raising activities, including by co-funding on February 2017 the Maltese Presidency conference on gender-based violence as well as a web tool for professionals in contact with women affected by female genital mutilation.

The Programme is also financing the development of an EU-wide prevalence survey, to get EU-wide and comparable data on violence against women with a pilot phase to be implemented in 2018 involving 11 national statistics authorities with other Member States to follow.

The REC supports the implementation of the Strategic engagement for gender equality 2016-2019 to increase gender balance in economic decision-making positions at all levels which accompanied the Commission’s proposal for the Women on Board directive. Funds have also contributed to promote work-life balance in view of the legislative proposals on work-life balance.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (mainly grants).

---

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 - 2020

**More Information**

http://europa.eu/!M83JW

**Financial Programming (EUR Million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commitments</th>
<th>Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>55.25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>57.36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>59.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>63.61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>63.38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>65.72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>68.45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>433.75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Evaluations/Studies Conducted**

The mid-term evaluation of Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme was launched in 2017.

For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/!CV66Th

**% Executed Commitments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>97.71 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.99 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**% Executed Payments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>98.24 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>98.05 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

• To contribute, to the further development of an area where equality and the rights of persons as enshrined in the Treaty on European Union, in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and in the international human rights conventions to which the Union has acceded, are promoted, protected and effectively implemented.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To promote the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination on grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and to respect the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds provided for in Article 21 of the Charter.

To promote and protect the rights of the child.

To contribute to ensuring the highest level of protection of privacy and personal data.

To promote and enhance the exercise of rights deriving from citizenship of the Union.

To prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance.

To enable individuals in their capacity as consumers or entrepreneurs in the internal market to enforce their rights deriving from Union law, having regard to the projects funded under the Consumer Programme.

Examples of achievements so far

• Preventing and combating all forms of violence against women, young people and children – the most funded specific objective (known by the stakeholders as 'Daphne') – has been a success for twenty years now, both in terms of its popularity and effectiveness of the funded actions. The protection and support standards for victims have improved. This is observed indirectly through the higher reporting of violence in the Member States, the lower acceptance of violence in the society and better victims’ services in place.

• The Programme supports actions to promote non-discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, age, disability and sexual orientation, funding transnational activities and civil society organisations. The creation of Roma National Platforms in 21 EU Member States was supported.

• The programme supports the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020. Actions to protect the rights of persons with disabilities comprise training judges and prosecutors on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, launching the European Disability Card, organising the European Day of Persons with Disabilities and the Access City Award.

• In September 2017 the Commission presented guidelines and principles for online platforms to increase the proactive prevention, detection and removal of illegal content inciting hatred, violence and terrorism online. To complement and make this policy action operational, the Programme funded projects implemented by national authorities with specific priorities set on anti-semitism, anti-muslim hatred and countering online hate speech.

• Actions in the area of the rights of the child have supported the promotion of child-friendly justice and, given the emergency of migration, fund have been re-focused on actions to protect children in vulnerable situations.

• Several projects supported the inclusion of mobile EU citizens and their political and societal participation. In addition, an e-learning tool on free movement was established in order to help front desk officers in local administrations to better understand the rights and obligations associated with EU citizens’ rights free movement and thus to improve the practical application of EU rules.

• The data protection reform which aims at strengthening citizen’s rights and cutting costs and red tape for European business was adopted and entered into force in 2016.
**What the programme is about**

The Europe for Citizens aims to contribute to citizens’ understanding of the EU, its history and diversity to foster European citizenship and improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at EU level.

The financed projects:

- Raise awareness of remembrance, the common history and values of the EU and the EU’s aim – namely to promote peace, the values of the EU and the well-being of its peoples.
- Encourage the democratic and civic participation of citizens at EU level, by developing their understanding of the EU policy-making process, and stimulate interest and involvement in EU policy making.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The Programme demonstrates a clear European added value as all activities funded under Europe for Citizens have either a cross-border dimension, involving citizens and organisations from several participating countries, or are related to the European Union itself. Remembrance activities, town-twinning or pan-European networks are intended to broaden perspectives and to develop a sense of European belonging and European identity. The programme also provides European added value in the aggregate effect of its impact on participants and its complementarity with other EU initiatives. The positive impacts achieved by the Programme would not be attained without EU funding as no similar funding schemes are available at national, regional or local level.

The “European remembrance” supports activities that encourage reflection on European cultural diversity and on common values in the broadest sense. This strand also encompasses activities concerning other defining moments and reference points in recent European history. In particular, it gives preference to actions which encourage tolerance, mutual understanding, intercultural dialogue and reconciliation as a means of moving beyond the past and building the future, in particular with a view to reaching the younger generation.

The “Democratic engagement and civic participation” supports activities that cover civic participation in the broadest sense, and focuses in particular on structuring methods to ensure that funded activities have a lasting effect to increase the democratic participation of young people and the participation of women in political and economic decision-making.

“Valorisation” covers horizontal dimension of the programme as a whole. It focuses on the analysis, dissemination, communication and valorisation of the project results. Common tools are needed to collect best practices and ideas about how to strengthen remembrance, European citizenship and civic participation and facilitate the transnational exchange.

The European Citizens’ Initiative (ECI) aims to increase the contribution of the European citizens to the development of EU policies, by calling on the European Commission to submit proposals for legal acts fostering democratic participation. The objective is to emphasize its European (and transnational) dimension. Initiatives are prepared by committees of seven EU citizens residing in seven different Member States. A need has been identified to increase awareness across the Union about the ECI as a tool for participatory democracy at EU level and also to influence EU agenda setting. The support provided also enables citizens in all Member States to support initiatives through common online collection systems.

**Implementation status**

The Programme is implemented through the two strands “European remembrance” and “Democratic engagement and civic participation”, which offer co-funding for European remembrance projects, town-twinning activities, networks of towns and civil society projects. The two strands are complemented by horizontal actions for dissemination and use of project results.

10 calls for proposals of action grants were launched in 2017 and 8 were closed. 3 calls for operating grants to support the framework partners were closed.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants).

---

**Legal Basis**


**Period of Application**

2014 - 2020

---

**More Information**

http://europa.eu/C47pQ

---

**Financial Programming (EUR Million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Programming</strong></td>
<td><strong>187.71</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Evaluations/Studies Conducted**

The mid-term evaluation of Europe for Citizens programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/pJ44xP

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>99.18 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99.63 %</td>
<td>98.63 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- To contribute to citizens’ understanding of the Union, its history and diversity, to foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To raise awareness of remembrance, the common history and values of the Union and the Union’s aim, namely to promote peace, the values of the Union and the well-being of its peoples, by stimulating debate, reflection and the development of networks.

- To encourage the democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level, by developing citizens’ understanding of the Union policy making-process and promoting opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement and volunteering at Union level.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- The Europe for Citizens programme plays a positive overall role in encouraging civic participation and democratic engagement, while strengthening the sense of belonging together and supporting mutual understanding and identification with Europe, thereby helping to support the European integration process in the longer term. By working directly with citizens, the programme offers a forum for involving European citizens through a grassroots approach. In the area of European remembrance, the Europe for Citizens programme adds value to the debates by encouraging exchange beyond national boundaries and promoting a European vision of history. Europe for Citizens offers a new approach through the development of activities linking remembrance with civic participation and democracy.

- Between 2014 and 2016, grants were awarded to support more than 1,000 projects in the 33 participating countries. Altogether, 3.3 million citizens were directly involved in activities supported by the programme and a further 3.9 million were indirectly involved (for example as users of online material produced as part of the programme or readers of studies produced by think tanks). The total number of partners participating in each project also increased considerably. In total, more than 2,500 organisations were involved, split into approximately 700 remembrance organisations and 1,800 civil society organisations.

- In 2017, the Programme was implemented all together in 33 eligible participating countries: 28 Member States and 5 other participating countries, i.e. Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

- Out of 1,942 applications received, 412 projects were selected, and around 1,100,000 participants were expected to be involved in the activities of the programme.
  - **Project Title:** “Bagages à main” – One example of a town twinning project
    By presenting 22 video-testimonials/interviews with migrants living currently in Italy and by organising an exhibition where migrants shared their stories and journeys, the project promoted a strong message of tolerance.
  - **Project Title:** “1968-2018 Do it yourself – Create your own society” – One example of a remembrance project

- In this project around 500 direct visitors to the travelling exhibition and events are expected with an indirect outreach to around 75,000 citizens.

**EUROPE FOR CITIZENS**

**PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants who are directly involved</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First time applicants</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons indirectly reached by the Programme</td>
<td>89 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transnational partnerships including different types of stakeholders</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical coverage of the activities</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about
The aim of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism is to support, coordinate and supplement the actions of the Member States in the field of civil protection with a view to improving the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters. The programme focuses on reducing loss of human life, environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters through a comprehensive approach covering disaster prevention, preparedness and response; improving the understanding in Member States of disaster risks through cooperation on risk assessment and planning, and the gradual development of a European culture of disaster prevention; as well as on improving the preparedness for disasters through training, exercises, exchange of best practices and similar activities. Projects’ primary beneficiaries are the 34 Participating States: the 28 EU Member States and Iceland, Norway, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia, and Turkey.

Benefits for EU citizens
Reduction of loss of human life and of environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters through a comprehensive approach covering disaster prevention, preparedness and response. Improved understanding in Member States of disaster risks through cooperation on risk assessment and planning, and the gradual development of a European culture of disaster prevention. Improved preparedness for disasters through training, exercises, exchange of best practices and similar activities; Improved coordination of the response to disaster by bringing together and facilitating Member States’ offers of assistance; increased cost-effectiveness through the pooling of assistance, the sharing of transport capacities, the identification of complementarities and the avoidance of duplication; and a more coherent, predictable and visible response to disasters through the set-up of a European Response Capacity ready to help everywhere in the EU and in third countries when needed.

Implementation status
The activities in the area of civil protection were implemented as planned in all areas: disaster prevention, preparedness and response. The development of the voluntary pool progressed well with more assets than targeted registered in the pool (92 modules available for deployments), as well as the European Medical Corps where several Member States committed some of their medical assets. Certifications to ensure quality and interoperability of the teams in the voluntary pool are ongoing. Other activities such as prevention and preparedness projects, exercises or the training programme for Member States’ experts were implemented successfully.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

LEGAL BASIS
Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!vF44kU

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The mid-term evaluation of the current Union Civil Protection Mechanism legislation was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:
http://europa.eu/!gD68jG

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>3324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>14955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>15846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>45884</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>96.55 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>97.40 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>78.32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>79.58 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

• To strengthen the cooperation between the Union and the Member States and to facilitate coordination in the field of civil protection in order to improve the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To achieve a high level of protection against disasters by preventing or reducing their effects by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection and other relevant services.

To facilitate rapid and efficient response in the event of disasters or imminent disasters.

To increase public awareness and preparedness for disasters.

To enhance preparedness at Member State and Union level to respond to disasters.

Examples of achievements so far

• In 2017, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism was activated to respond to a total of 32 emergencies. It responded nine times to forest fires inside the EU (in France, Greece, Italy and Portugal).

• The voluntary pool of the European Emergency Response Capacity continued to be developed, bringing together a range of civil protection modules, other response capacities, and experts, which Member States keep on standby for EU civil protection missions. The teams need to meet minimum quality criteria and undergo a certification process to ensure quality and interoperability.

• Trained and certified modules, response capacities and experts guarantee an effective response to disasters inside and outside the EU.

• The voluntary pool will also enable a shorter time until deployment, and should reach 12 hours or less by 2020 in comparison to more than 30 hours before 2013.

• Capacities from the voluntary pool were deployed on several occasions in 2017.

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

Member States that have made available a summary of their risk assessments

Projects financed for prevention within the Union

Standard response units registered in the EU’s Common Emergency Communication and Information System

Projects financed for preparedness

% of target achieved by 2017

100 %

54 %

96 %

50 %
What the programme is about
The Food and feed programme ensures that there is a well-functioning and safe food chain in place which is a key public health and economic priority. Outbreaks of serious animal and plant diseases may cause major direct losses to agriculture and potentially enormous indirect losses to the European economy.

In support of this objective, the Food and feed programme includes:

- national veterinary programmes for the eradication, control, and surveillance of transmissible, often epidemic animal diseases and zoonoses.
- national survey programs for organisms harmful to plants ensuring early detection and eradication of pests.
- training in the field of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health through the Better Training for Safer Food programme (BTSF).
- the funding of European Reference Laboratories (EURLs) which help ensuring the proper functioning of the internal market, the protection of human health, and the maintenance of consumers’ confidence. The EURLs ensure high-quality and uniform testing in the EU and provide trainings to hundreds of National Reference Laboratories (NRL) in a number of food safety priority areas. This ensures that all Member States work within a consistent and uniform regulatory framework. The activities performed by the EURLs have contributed, inter-alia, to the continuous update of diagnostic tools for the timely identification of pathogens.
- financial support to emergency measures in order to contain animal diseases and pest outbreaks. These measures act as a fire-extinguisher to put down or contain the outbreak and avoid further spread of the disease.

Benefits for EU citizens
The achievement of a higher animal and plant health status in the EU was possible due to both the technical and financial support provided by the EU to the Member States. Members States alone, especially of those struggling with economic crisis or other constraints, have difficulties to secure appropriate financial resources to respond to the combination of present and potential challenges. The variety of measures to put in place to tackle pests and diseases requires a centralised management system in order to properly coordinate and organise the implementation of specific actions in the Member States. Member States which might not have a direct interest in combatting a particular disease or pest also have to be reminded of their obligation to look to the overall EU interest.

Diseases can rapidly spread between Member States and involve the entire EU market. The EU intervention is needed in order to minimise the impact on human, animal and plant health, as well as on the industry and the markets with a view to reducing risks and bringing improvement.

Outbreaks can come at a huge cost for the EU budget, the national budgets, and the farming community if not treated immediately and released out of control. For example, the foot and mouth disease outbreak of 2001 which started in the UK but spread to other countries, is estimated to have cost up to 12 billion euro.

Regarding the EURLs activities and the BTSF programmes, the network of laboratories ensures that all Member States work within a consistent and uniform regulatory framework, while the training programme promotes a common approach towards the implementation and enforcement of EU legislation. This contribution towards the harmonisation of rules at Union level and the sharing of knowledge and expertise in the food chain and related areas is a concrete example of positive interaction within the EU, which could not be achieved through isolated efforts at national level and without the EU financial support.

Implementation status
All work programmes have been adopted and implemented as foreseen. These include national programmes for the eradication, control, and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses; national survey programmes for pests; training in the field of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health; IT tools in the field of food safety, animal health, animal welfare, and plant health; the European Union Reference Laboratories.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.51 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.13 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

To contribute to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and in related areas, by preventing and eradicating diseases and pests and by ensuring a high level of protection for consumers and the environment, while enhancing the competitiveness of the Union food and feed industry and favouring the creation of jobs.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To contribute to a high level of safety of food and food production systems and of other products which may affect the safety of food, while improving the sustainability of food production.

To contribute to achieving a higher animal health status for the Union and to support the improvement of the welfare of animals.

Examples of achievements so far

Rabies: a dramatic decrease in the number of cases in wild life, with 216 rabies cases in wild life in 2014, 100 cases in 2015, 18 cases in 2016 and only 2 cases in 2017. Taking into account the baseline of 679 cases in 2013, this result has been achieved through Union targeted technical and financial support for the implementation of vaccination against rabies in the Member States. As a consequence, no cases of rabies in humans in the EU have been reported since 2015.

Bovine brucellosis: whereas in 2013 16 Member States were officially free from bovine brucellosis this number has reached 20 Member States in 2017. In addition as an indirect effect, the number of human cases decreased from 357 in 2013 to 347 in 2014.


Lumpy skin disease (LSD): in 2016 and 2017 these emergency measures were put in action to contain the outbreaks in Greece and Bulgaria. The EU took additional action within the emergency measures framework to fund the prompt purchase of LSD vaccines in a number of Balkan third countries (Serbia, Kosovo, Montenegro, and Albania) where rapid mass vaccination prevented the spread of the disease deep onto Union territory. EU-funded emergency measures blocked the spread of the disease. The EU also established an LSD vaccine bank to assist Member States with a quick supply of vaccines for current and future outbreaks in anticipation of future risks.

The EU territory is today a safer place, where the prevention and protection system have proven to work properly and where the safety and quality of food respect the highest international standards. The human cases due to zoonotic diseases have been progressively reducing over the years, and both the frequency and the severity of animal, plant, and food crises have decreased. No large scale outbreaks have occurred for a decade, and all emergencies have been successfully contained and put under control. In the plant health areas, EU funded programmes on surveys have permitted the early detection of new pests on the Union territory, allowing to actively contain some pests to the original outbreak areas (e.g. Pinewood nematode in Portugal) while minimising the risk of further spread into the Union territory.
HEALTH PROGRAMME
UNION ACTION IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

What the programme is about
Good health is a major concern of European citizens. The European Union (EU) works for better health protection through its policies and activities, in accordance with Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The EU does not define health policies, nor the organisation and provision of health services and medical care. Instead, its action serves to complement national policies and to support cooperation between member countries in the field of public health.

The third Programme for the Union’s action in the field of health (2014-2020) is a financial instrument for policy coordination at EU level. It aims to complement, support and add value to the policies of Member States in improving the health of EU citizens and reducing health inequalities, encouraging innovation in health and increasing the sustainability of health systems. The Programme has four specific objectives:

1) promote health and healthy living and prevent diseases;
2) protect Europeans from serious cross-border health threats;
3) contribute to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems; and
4) facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for Europeans.

Benefits for EU citizens
The programme focuses on fostering best practice exchange between Member States and supporting networks for knowledge sharing or mutual learning. Moreover actions are undertaken addressing cross-border health threats to reduce risks and mitigate consequences. The Health programme addresses issues relating to the internal market where the EU has substantial legitimacy to ensure high-quality solutions across Member States and targets actions unlocking the potential of innovation in health. It promotes actions that could lead to a system of benchmarking or improving economies of scale by avoiding waste due to duplication and optimising the use of financial resources.

Implementation status
The Health Programme is implemented through annual work programmes (AWP) focusing on major Commission priorities, such as: (a) jobs, growth and investment (health of population and health care services as a productive factor for growth and jobs), (b) internal market (for pharmaceuticals, medical devices, cross-border health care directive, and Health Technology Assessment), (c) single digital market (including eHealth), (d) justice and fundamental rights (fighting against health inequalities), (e) migration policy, and (f) security (preparedness and management of serious cross border health threats).

The third health programme has been implemented as foreseen in the financial programming. The AWP 2015 and 2016 considered in addition to the President Juncker’s priorities, the policy priorities specified in the Commissioner’s mandate letter. AWPs 2015, 2016 and 2017 were adopted to make it possible to fund actions that address refugees’ health as an immediate response to the Commission’s action to manage the high influx of refugees into EU Member States.

Following the ex post evaluation of the 2nd Health Programme, an action plan was detailed and adopted in March 2016. It includes actions to provide a more interactive database with the actions’ results, to prepare a dissemination strategy and request more input from beneficiaries for monitoring purposes. More emphasis should be also given to link clearly the actions in the AWP with the policy initiatives. The mid-term review of the 3rd Health Programme provided that in 2014-2016 almost 65 % of the funding for Joint actions is concentrated in 7 countries and the remaining 35 % is spread across 23 other countries. It concluded that the Programme is still attracting a similar level of participation from low GNI countries as in the previous programme.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management.

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The mid-term evaluation of the 3rd Health Programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/pc44qn

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>97.45 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>97.85 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/DT69HF

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

What the programme is about
Good health is a major concern of European citizens. The European Union (EU) works for better health protection through its policies and activities, in accordance with Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The EU does not define health policies, nor the organisation and provision of health services and medical care. Instead, its action serves to complement national policies and to support cooperation between member countries in the field of public health.

The third Programme for the Union’s action in the field of health (2014-2020) is a financial instrument for policy coordination at EU level. It aims to complement, support and add value to the policies of Member States in improving the health of EU citizens and reducing health inequalities, encouraging innovation in health and increasing the sustainability of health systems. The Programme has four specific objectives:

1) promote health and healthy living and prevent diseases;
2) protect Europeans from serious cross-border health threats;
3) contribute to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems; and
4) facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for Europeans.

Benefits for EU citizens
The programme focuses on fostering best practice exchange between Member States and supporting networks for knowledge sharing or mutual learning. Moreover actions are undertaken addressing cross-border health threats to reduce risks and mitigate consequences. The Health programme addresses issues relating to the internal market where the EU has substantial legitimacy to ensure high-quality solutions across Member States and targets actions unlocking the potential of innovation in health. It promotes actions that could lead to a system of benchmarking or improving economies of scale by avoiding waste due to duplication and optimising the use of financial resources.

Implementation status
The Health Programme is implemented through annual work programmes (AWP) focusing on major Commission priorities, such as: (a) jobs, growth and investment (health of population and health care services as a productive factor for growth and jobs), (b) internal market (for pharmaceuticals, medical devices, cross-border health care directive, and Health Technology Assessment), (c) single digital market (including eHealth), (d) justice and fundamental rights (fighting against health inequalities), (e) migration policy, and (f) security (preparedness and management of serious cross border health threats).

The third health programme has been implemented as foreseen in the financial programming. The AWP 2015 and 2016 considered in addition to the President Juncker’s priorities, the policy priorities specified in the Commissioner’s mandate letter. AWPs 2015, 2016 and 2017 were adopted to make it possible to fund actions that address refugees’ health as an immediate response to the Commission’s action to manage the high influx of refugees into EU Member States.

Following the ex post evaluation of the 2nd Health Programme, an action plan was detailed and adopted in March 2016. It includes actions to provide a more interactive database with the actions’ results, to prepare a dissemination strategy and request more input from beneficiaries for monitoring purposes. More emphasis should be also given to link clearly the actions in the AWP with the policy initiatives. The mid-term review of the 3rd Health Programme provided that in 2014-2016 almost 65 % of the funding for Joint actions is concentrated in 7 countries and the remaining 35 % is spread across 23 other countries. It concluded that the Programme is still attracting a similar level of participation from low GNI countries as in the previous programme.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management.

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The mid-term evaluation of the 3rd Health Programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/pc44qn

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>97.45 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>97.85 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

• To complement, support and add value to the policies of the Member States to improve the health of Union citizens and reduce health inequalities by promoting health, encouraging innovation in health, increasing the sustainability of health systems and protecting Union citizens from serious cross-border health threats.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Identify, disseminate and promote the uptake of evidence-based and good practices for cost-effective health promotion and disease prevention measures by addressing in particular the key lifestyle related risk factors with a focus on the Union added value.

Identify and develop tools and mechanisms at Union level to address shortages of resources, both human and financial, and to facilitate the voluntary uptake of innovations in public health intervention and prevention strategies.

Increase access to medical expertise and information for specific conditions beyond national borders, facilitate the application of the results of research and develop tools for the improvement of healthcare quality and patient safety.

Examples of achievements so far

• Establishing 24 European Reference Networks (ERNs). The first ERNs were launched in March 2017, involving more than 900 highly-specialised healthcare units from over 300 hospitals in 26 EU countries. The ERNs are virtual networks and work on a range of thematic issues, such as bone disorders, childhood cancer and immunodeficiency.

• Supported Member States to increase their capacity-building to respond to outbreaks (e.g. Ebola and Zika viruses);

• Contributed to the EU’s migration policy by supporting Member States to respond to the health needs of high influx of migrants and refugees; and training health professionals and other front-line staff. Protocols for age assessment into hotspots were developed, as well as a syndromic surveillance system.

• Health programme exchanges of good practice in areas as diverse as alcohol reduction, cancer screening, HIV/AIDS and TB prevention, additional support for EU health legislation on medicinal products and medical devices, the eHealth Network activities and Health Technology Assessment.

• Progress is also being made on important joint work with the OECD and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. This collaboration brings together internationally renowned expertise in the State of Health in the EU cycle to strengthen country-specific and EU-wide knowledge on health issues. Major achievements of this collaboration are the publication of the ‘Health at a glance: Europe 2016’ report in November 2016, as well as EU-28 country profiles and a Companion Report by November 2017. The reports provide an in-depth analysis of EU Member States’ health systems. They look at the health of the population and important risk factors, as well as at the effectiveness, accessibility and resilience of health systems in each EU member state. The reports clearly reflect shared objectives across the Member States, and reveal potential areas where the Commission can encourage mutual learning and exchange of good practices.

• A key achievement was the piloting of the EU cooperation on Health Technology Assessment. This has proven successful and lead to the drafting of a legislative proposal to strengthen the EU cooperation on Health Technology Assessment which was adopted by the European Commission on 31 January 2018. The impact assessment and other documents are available on: http://europa.eu/!pF63Pb.

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS in which the European accreditation scheme for breast cancer services is implemented</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS having a national initiative on reduction of saturated fat</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member States integrating coherent approaches of their preparedness plans</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient summaries data/ePrescription in lines with the EU guidelines - Member States</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European reference networks established</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European reference networks</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “% of target achieved by 2017” indicates the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path.
What the programme is about

The Programme supports the EU consumer policy. It aims to help citizens fully enjoy their consumer rights and actively participate in the Single Market, thus supporting growth, innovation and meeting the objectives of Europe 2020. The Consumer Programme 2014-2020 focuses on four key areas:

- a single market of safe products for the benefit of citizens and as a component of competitive businesses and traders;
- a single market where citizens are well represented by professional consumer organisations whose capacity is built to meet the challenges of today’s economic environment;
- a market where citizens are aware and exercise their rights as consumers so that they contribute to the growth of competitive markets; citizens must enjoy access to redress mechanisms in case of problems without needing to resort to court procedures which are lengthy and costly for them and the governments;
- a concrete and effective collaboration between national bodies to support the enforcement of consumer rights, and support the consumers with advice.

Benefits for EU citizens

Ensuring that products circulating on the internal market, including online, are safe for consumers is a basic objective of EU consumer policy and contributes to the Juncker Commission’s priority for a Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base. Consumers need to be confident that unsafe products have no place on the EU market and that the relevant rules are effectively and efficiently enforced, both domestically and cross-border. This is why the EU supports a coordinated and coherent approach to the enforcement of safety and market surveillance rules across the EU.

Developing modern evidence on how markets work for consumers and businesses – notably through the Consumer Markets and Consumer Conditions Scoreboards – helps Member States to identify areas where the EU is not delivering fully for the internal market, and contributes to better policy making. Collecting such evidence at EU level ensures methodological consistency and comparability across time and countries, allowing Member States to benchmark the consumer outcomes of their policies.

Enhancing knowledge also entails making sure that consumers are informed of their rights, supporting consumer education, and building the capacity of consumer organisations, especially in Member States with weaker consumer cultures. Both the capacity building and the consumer education actions target EU-wide audiences (consumer organisations in all Member States and teachers all over Europe) with a view of sharing best EU wide practices.

Implementation status

The Programme implementation is well on track to meet its multiannual objectives. Most of the related performance indicators expected for by 2017 have been achieved.

The 2014 and 2015 annual work programmes, with a budget of respectively EUR 21.9 million and EUR 22.5 million, were executed according to the planning, with a final rate of implementation respectively 98.3 % and 99 %.

By the end of 2017, 99 % of the operational budget of EUR 23.7 million allocated for the implementation of the 2016 annual work programme had been committed.

In March 2018 the implementation of the 2017 annual work programme (EUR 24.7 million) reached 61 %. Global commitments for the remaining already-defined actions (legal commitments to be concluded during the first half of 2018) were done at the end of 2017.

Compared with its predecessor, the 2014-2020 programme brought important improvements, in particular the simplification of grants for the European Consumer Centres (based on multiannual strategic partnerships), and of the system for exchange of enforcement officials (indemnities instead of grants).

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants).
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

To ensure a high level of consumer protection, to empower consumers and to place the consumer at the heart of the internal market, within the framework of an overall strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Safety: to consolidate and enhance product safety through effective market surveillance throughout the Union.
- Consumer information and education, and support to consumer organisations: to improve consumers’ education, information and awareness of their rights, to develop the evidence base for consumer policy and to provide support to consumer organisations, including taking into account the specific needs of vulnerable consumers.
- Rights and redress: to develop and reinforce consumer rights in particular through smart regulatory action and improving access to simple, efficient, expedient and low-cost redress including alternative dispute resolution.
- Enforcement: to support enforcement of consumer rights by strengthening cooperation between national enforcement bodies and by supporting consumers with advice.

Examples of achievements so far

- The Programme supports the enforcement of consumer legislation, in particular through actions aiming at strengthening the knowledge base and review process of the Consumer Protection Cooperation Regulation (the CPC Regulation), as well as through joint actions aiming at enhancing administrative cooperation for the application and enforcement of product safety legislation (General Product Safety Directive – GPSD) across the internal market.
- Interactive knowledge-exchange platforms were set-up for national CPC and product safety authorities to foster rapid exchange of information, support collective working on joint enforcement actions and disseminate training and best-practice materials. There has been a sustained number of exchanges of product safety enforcement officials (19 in 2014, 31 in 2015, 20 in 2016 and 55 in 2017) and of CPC officials (40 in 2014 to 55 in 2015 and 72 in 2016).
- The European Consumer Centres Network (ECC-Net) helps consumers with cross-border purchases, explaining their rights when shopping internationally and helping them seek redress with a trader in another EU country (or Iceland or Norway) if something goes wrong. ECC-Net developed a “Travel App” in 2014 to help consumers exercise their rights while on holiday abroad. The ECC-Net IT Tool registered approximately 100,000 contacts with consumers per year.
- Professional EU consumer organisations, via the umbrella organisation “BEUC”, are supported to represent EU citizens and their interests effectively. The Programme has invested into capacity building for national consumer organisations and consumer education with the creation of the Consumer Champion and Consumer Classroom projects respectively.
- EU awareness-raising actions on consumer issues, such as energy, consumer credits and consumer rights, etc. have also been supported.
- The Rapid Alert System for dangerous non-food products has continued to facilitate the exchange of information between Member States and the Commission on measures taken against dangerous products. Cooperation between national authorities has significantly increased over time, as mirrored by an increase of the feedback ratio of reports of other authorities to “serious risk” notifications from 0.9 in 2013 to 1.66 in 2017. The number of notifications has stabilized at a regular rate with just over 2,000 per year. In 2017 alone, a total of 2,201 alerts were circulated. A quarter of the alerts in 2017 concerned the safety of toys.
- Since the launch of the Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) platform in February 2016, over 52,000 consumers decided to lodge a complaint and according to a survey about 44% of complaints were solved outside of the platform through a direct contact between consumers and traders initiated by the platform.
- In-depth market studies investigated problems in consumer markets and specific areas (e.g. consumer vulnerability, e-commerce, online marketing, environmental claims, comparison tools, consumer detriment) and proposed remedies, while behavioural studies allowed to test policy options in terms of their impact on consumer behaviour. By financing EU-wide consumer and retailer surveys that are the main input to the Consumer Scoreboards, the Programme ensures the consistent monitoring of how the single market works for consumers (including in over 50 specific sectors) which has provided a solid evidence base for a broad range of policies at EU level and in Member States.
LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

What the programme is about
The Creative Europe programme contributes to the political priorities of the Commission, in particular relating to jobs, growth and investment and the European Digital Single Market. By allowing participation of non-EU cultural and creative operators, the programme also contributes to making the EU a stronger global actor. At the same time, the programme helps address current political and societal challenges through the power of culture to reach the hearts and minds of citizens and boost confidence in our shared European values.

Benefits for EU citizens
Creative Europe Programme’s EU added value rests on its complementarity with national public funds, on the support to transnational activities and cooperation between cultural and creative players, including artists, audio-visual professionals, cultural and creative organisations and audiovisual operators. Moreover, EU added value is achieved through fostering of economies of scale, and the taking into account of countries with low production capacity and/or countries or regions with a restricted geographical and/or linguistic area.

Implementation status
With a budget of EUR 1.47 billion euros over the period 2014-2020 (56 % for the MEDIA sub-programme, 31 % for the Culture sub-programme and 13 % for the cross-sectoral strand), the programme was, in the period 2014-2017, successfully implemented in terms of results achieved and use of resources. The level of appropriations implemented reached nearly 100 % of the final budget both in commitments and payments.

In 2017, the programme has seen the number of participating countries expanding. The first Mediterranean neighbour, Tunisia, joined the programme and two other countries are ready to sign their agreement in the first half of 2018 (Armenia and Kosovo). This is a clear indication of the relevance of the Creative Europe programme as a useful tool for cultural diplomacy and the recent EU strategy on the role of culture in EU external relations.

In 2017 a total of 5 025 applications were submitted (906 under Culture and 4 119 under MEDIA), of which 2 317 were selected for funding (157 for Culture and 2 133 for MEDIA). Typically, the MEDIA sub-programme has set a restrictive set of eligibility criteria to focus on high quality applications and reduce administrative overheads for applicants and the Executive Agency alike. This results in high success rates in the closely targeted schemes such as Cinema Automatic – 90 % (a two stage Call restricted to operators performing well in cross border distribution). However, the Development schemes have a lower success rate of 15 % because there is high demand from independent producers for this type of “seed-funding”, often not available at national level.

As regards the Culture sub-programme, 292 co-operation projects were selected for co-financing in the period 2014-2017, representing an average success rate of 13.96 %, while in 2017 the success rate for cooperation projects slightly rose to 14.78 %, indicating a continuous high demand for EU support and a high number of excluded quality projects due to limited funds. The two final calls for network and platform support allowed for the selection of organizations representing a broader range of sectors covering areas so far not reached such as digital arts and photography.

Under the cross-sectoral strand the negotiations for the Delegation Agreement of the Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility (CCS GF) with the European Investment Fund were finalized in June 2016 thus enabling the launch of this innovative instrument. The implementation of the CCS GF has made a strong start and in 2017 further built on the number of guarantee agreements with financial intermediaries.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (grants) and indirect (loan guarantees) management.

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.05 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.03 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- To safeguard, develop and promote European cultural and linguistic diversity and to promote Europe’s cultural heritage.
- To strengthen the competitiveness of the European cultural and creative sectors, in particular of the audiovisual sector, with a view to promoting smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To support the capacity of the European cultural and creative sectors to operate transnationally and internationally.
- To promote the transnational circulation of cultural and creative works and transnational mobility of cultural and creative players, in particular artists, as well as to reach new and enlarged audiences and improve access to cultural and creative works in the Union and beyond, with a particular focus on children, young people, people with disabilities and under-represented groups.
- To strengthen the financial capacity of SMEs and micro, small and medium-sized organisations in the cultural and creative sectors in a sustainable way, while endeavouring to ensure a balanced geographical coverage and sector representation.
- To foster policy development, innovation, creativity, audience development and new business and management models through support for transnational policy cooperation.

CREATIVE EUROPE

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

- Admission for non-national European films in Europe: 99%
- Admission for non-national European films in the 10 most important non-European markets: 80%
- European audiovisual works in cinemas: 100%
- European audiovisual works on television: 72%
- European audiovisual works on digital platforms: 74%
- People in Member States accessing non-national European audiovisual works: 90%
- People in the countries participating in the Programme accessing European audiovisual works: 87%
- Member States making use of the results of the open method of coordination in their national policy development: 70%

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

Examples of achievements so far

- In 2017 MEDIA helped European films be visible and find audiences despite the dominance of Hollywood studios and the fast growth of US online platforms such as Netflix and Amazon. MEDIA supported the distribution of over 400 films across European borders so that they could be watched by 70 million people. MEDIA also supported a network of over 1,000 cinemas in 34 countries which give prominence to European films. The quality of MEDIA supported films again gained international recognition: At the Cannes Film Festival, “The Square” won the Palme d’Or while at the Oscars “Call me by your name” won the prize for best adapted screenplay. These are examples of how MEDIA has helped share powerful human stories and thus brought European citizens closer together and strengthened the sense of a common European identity.
- Among the actions showcasing the richness and diversity of cultures in Europe as well as the common features they share, the European Capitals of Culture (ECCs) have a significant leverage effect on long-term cultural, social and economic benefits to the cities which have held the title. This cost-efficient leverage action (EUR 1.5 million in the form of the Melina Mercouri Prize) stimulates huge culture-led investments by national, regional and local public authorities. One euro of public money invested in an EOC project can generate up to 6 euros in return for the local economy.
- The “European Creative Hubs Network Peer-to-peer exchange scheme” (2016-2017) supports the development and networking of 129 creative hubs across Europe and beyond as innovative models to support the creative economy and 95 created an online community.
- As of 2018, a new policy project “Cultural and Creative Spaces and Cities” will encourage a better use of public spaces for social regeneration through culture, better connecting urban development, social inclusion, job creation, skills development as well as innovation policies, creating a space for policy experimentation and support of new approaches and to test ideas on culture and the creative economy in the context of the collaborative economy.
- The Cultural and Creative Sectors’ Guarantee Facility is an innovative market led instrument that addresses the financing gap for SMEs in these sectors, aiming to generate over EUR 600 million in loans for cultural and creative sectors. The new instrument has been well received by the market, and by the end of 2017 the Cultural and Creative Sectors’ Guarantee Facility had signed guarantee agreements with 9 financial intermediaries from Spain, France, Romania, Czech Republic, Belgium and Italy. Overall about 500 loans were made under the scheme to final beneficiaries, of which 80% from the audiovisual sector and 20% from other cultural sectors. These results are very encouraging because they indicate that the traditional gap between the financial sector and the cultural and creative sectors can be addressed in a concrete way. Given the strong market demand, the European Fund for Strategic Investment has been mobilized to top-up the CCS GF by EUR 60 million, equivalent to 50% of the first budget.
COMMUNICATION

STATEMENT ON FINANCIAL INTERVENTION OF THE COMMUNICATION POLICY AREA

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2018 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!UQ49JR

What the programme is about
The programme covers communication products and services directly addressed to citizens as well as executive and corporate services provided to the President of the Commission, the College of Commissioners and across the communication domain of the Commission services, aligning the Commission’s communications to the political priorities. DG Communication Headquarters together with the Spokesperson’s Service and the Representations in the Member States communicate with the media, stakeholders and citizens’ about issues of European policy and their direct impacts on citizen’s daily activities.

Benefits for EU citizens
Joined-up, corporate communication of EU policies contributes to achieving a better image of the Commission and the European Union by raising public awareness about the EU as a whole, its values and its works to address current issues, in line with the 10 political priorities set out by the President. This includes further alignment of political and corporate communication as well as synergies and efficiencies across the communications domain of the Commission.

- Communication products and services directly addressed to citizens help them to access up-to-date and user-friendly information on European Union policies and EU values, increasing awareness and understanding of European affairs.
- Corporate communication products and services ensure a coherent and effective corporate communication on the political priorities, leading to distinctive visual branding and economies of scale.
- Executive services ensure political and economic intelligence and media advice, and feeds high quality country specific information into the Commission’s decision making process, leading to policy making for citizens.

Implementation status
The Work Programme 2017 was implemented as planned. The overall implementation rate of the operational budget is very close to 100 %.

Audio-visual productions and multimedia projects for the general public are now clearly focused on the 10 priorities of President Juncker, entailing fewer productions but of a higher quality and better serving general communication objectives:

Modernisation of the web presence of the Commission continued in 2017. The Europa website, which previously reflected the Commission’s organisational structure, is now, thanks to the digital transformation work carried out, organised thematically in a way that better corresponds and serves the needs of the citizens allowing them to easily find what interests them the most.

In 2018, the Commission’s web presence will be further optimised in order to increase coherence, relevance and cost-effectiveness under the Digital Transformation programme. The focus will be on:

- The introduction and enforcement of a new governance,
- The alignment of web sites across the Commission, including Executive Agencies,
- The standardisation of the Information Technology solutions.

In 2018, the Social Media Team will further develop social media strategies centrally while also, providing support for the local corporate social media platforms of the Commission. This includes support to the Commission’s Social Media Network and the Representations, as well as monitoring and analysis of social media communication and data.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (public procurement) management.

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>70.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>74.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>79.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>82.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>82.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>86.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>88.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>563.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
Information on evaluation of the Communication activities reports is available on:

http://europa.eu/!VH46UP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99.99 %</td>
<td>2016 99.01 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99.97 %</td>
<td>2017 99.09 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

94
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

Citizens perceive that the EU is working to improve their lives and engage with the EU. They feel that their concerns are taken into consideration in European decision making process and they know about their rights in the EU.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- A simple, clear, understandable message is communicated to citizens explaining the direct impact of EU policies on their lives.
- A coherent and effective corporate communication is developed and maintained.
- Country specific information and analysis are fed into College’s decision making process.

Examples of achievements so far

- In 2017 over 300 Citizens’ Dialogues took place where President Juncker and the Commissioners along with Members of the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions, including the Presidents and national and regional politicians, engaged with citizens to debate on the future of Europe.
- More than 140 million unique visitors to the Europa website were counted in 2017.
- The Media Library increased the audio-visual material (audio, video and photo) made available to the public from 50,000 items in 2016 to 60,000 in 2017.
- Followers/fans/subscribers on social media corporate accounts increased 22% in 2017.
- In 2017, 65 publications, including the General Report, where produced for which over 800,000 copies were disseminated for use during EU summits, Citizens’ Dialogues, and events organised by Representations and Europe Direct’s Information Centres.
- Satisfaction rate on queries replied by the Europe Direct Contact Centre reached 87% in 2017.
- In 2017, the number of events organised at Representations and European Public Spaces increased – with a 75% of participants agreeing that the event improved their knowledge on EU issues.
- 60,000 pupils were addressed during “Back to school” events in 2017.

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
List of programmes

- Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance ....................... 98
- Instrument of financial support for encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community .... 100
- European Neighbourhood Instrument ......................... 102
- Development Cooperation Instrument ....................... 104
- Partnership Instrument for Cooperation with Third Countries .. 106
- European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights ...... 108
- Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace ............... 110
- Humanitarian aid ............................................. 112
- Common Foreign and Security Policy .......................... 114
- Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation ................. 116
- Union Civil Protection Mechanism – Heading 4 ............. 118
- EU Aid Volunteers Initiative ................................. 120
- European Fund for Sustainable Development ............... 122
- Cooperation with Greenland ................................ 124
- Financial Statement for the Macro Financial Assistance .... 126
**What the programme is about**

The Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) is the means by which the EU supports reforms in the ‘enlargement countries’ with financial and technical help. The IPA funds build up the capacities of the countries throughout the accession process, resulting in progressive, positive developments in the region.

IPA funds help beneficiaries aspiring to join the EU prepare to fulfil the obligations that come with EU membership and benefit from the rights that are enshrined in the EU through support to reforms that provide citizens in the enlargement region with better opportunities and allow for development of standards equal to the ones enjoyed by EU citizens.

Pre-accession assistance is designed to help the beneficiaries (currently Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, and Turkey) coming closer to the accession benchmarks. By its very nature, IPA II is an enabling instrument which helps the beneficiaries in implementing the necessary reforms and achieving their respective targets as well as the conditionality of the Stabilisation and Associations process.

Pre-accession assistance is an investment in:
- Public administration reform
- Rule of law
- Sustainable economy
- People
- Agriculture and rural development.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The IPA complements the Enlargement policy of the Union by supporting political and economic reforms in beneficiary countries and contributes to meeting the broader European objectives of ensuring stability, security and prosperity in the immediate neighbourhood of the Union.

The EU’s political influence and leverage allows engaging national authorities with greater authority and legal certainty than individual EU Member States. Furthermore, granting pre-accession assistance under one single instrument on the basis of a single set of criteria is more efficient than granting assistance from multiple sources (including the national budgets of the Member States) following different procedures and priorities. The funds also help the EU reach its own objectives regarding a sustainable economic recovery, security of energy supply, improved transport connections, enhanced environmental standards, more effective action to combat climate change, etc.

**Implementation status**

For the period 2007-2013 IPA had a budget of some EUR 11.5 billion; its successor, IPA II, is building on the results already achieved by dedicating EUR 12.1 billion for the period 2014-2020.

The most important novelty of IPA II is its strategic focus. Country Strategy Papers are the specific strategic planning documents made for each beneficiary for the 7-year period. These provide for a stronger ownership by the beneficiaries through integrating their own reform and development agendas. A Multi-Country Strategy Paper addresses priorities for regional cooperation or territorial cooperation. IPA II targets reforms within the framework of pre-defined sectors covering areas closely linked to the enlargement strategy, such as democracy and governance, rule of law or growth and competitiveness. This sector approach promotes structural reforms that will help transform a given sector and bring it up to EU standards. It allows a move towards a more targeted assistance, ensuring efficiency, sustainability and focus on results. IPA II also allows for a more systematic use of sector budget support. Finally, it gives more weight to performance measurement: indicators agreed with the beneficiaries help assessing to what extent the expected results have been achieved.

In 2016 the programming exercise took into account the sector readiness with a particular focus on project maturity to ensure impact and added value of EU financial assistance. In total, 9 Annual Action programmes, including multi-country programmes, with a total value of EUR 662 million were adopted. Most of these programmes are still at an early stage of.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management, both centralised (in Brussels) and decentralised to EU Delegations and indirect management by Beneficiary Countries and Entrusted Entities.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

To support the candidate countries and potential candidates in adopting and implementing the political, institutional, legal, administrative, social and economic reforms in order to comply with the Union’s values and to progressively align to the Union’s rules, standards, policies and practices, with a view to Union membership.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Support for political reforms,
- Support for economic, social and territorial development, with a view to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth
- Strengthening of the ability of the beneficiary countries at all levels to fulfil the obligations stemming from Union membership by supporting progressive alignment with, and adoption, implementation and enforcement of, the Union acquis,
- Strengthening regional integration and territorial cooperation involving the beneficiary countries, Member States and, where appropriate, third countries

**Examples of achievements so far**

- Although the 2014-2017 programmes are at an early stage of implementation, there are already some measurable achievements. The sector-based approach and several sector reform contracts introduced under IPA II have contributed to improved governance and public administration and public financial management.
- **Connectivity agenda** aims at improving connectivity within the Western Balkans and between the Western Balkans and the European Union. EUR 200 million were allocated in 2015 for ten priority projects, out of which eight from the Multi-Country IPA allocation. In 2016, EUR 145.5 million were allocated for connectivity projects in the transport and/or energy sector. In 2017, the connectivity package endorsed at the Trieste Summit in July 2017 included seven additional transport projects financed by the Western Balkans Investment Framework leveraging EUR 500 million total investments.
- **Migration**, in 2017, the EU continued providing financial support to those affected by migratory pressure along the Western Balkans route. The support now focuses more on a structural approach in order to improve the conditions in shelters. The fight against smuggling and the improvement of the border controls are supported at regional level.
- In the area of environment, climate action and energy, the aim is to diversify and secure more reliable and sustainable energy supply and to increase the competition in natural gas market wholesale trading. The Gas interconnector between Serbia and Bulgaria was constructed. In Serbia, two wastewater treatment plants were constructed and the improvement of solid waste management at municipal level was financed to raise environmental standards to approximate to EU levels.

The "Progress towards the target" displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

### IPA II PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

- **"Distance to frontier" (Doing Business) score (Western Balkans)**: 100%
- **"Distance to frontier" (Doing Business) score (Turkey)**: 95%
- **GDP per capita as % of EU level - (Western Balkans excluding Kosovo)**: 101%
- **GDP per capita as % of EU level (Turkey)**: 99%
- **Cross-border cooperation programmes concluded (IPA - EU MS)**: 83%
- **Cross-border cooperation programmes concluded (IPA - IPA)**: 86%

*2016 data*
What the programme is about

The programme aims to facilitate the reunification of Cyprus by encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community, with particular emphasis on:

- the economic integration of the island;
- improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU; and
- the preparation for the implementation of the EU body of laws (EU acquis) following a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue.

The programme contributes significantly through private sector development schemes, facilitating the involvement of the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and human capital development. Measures to be financed under the Aid Programme are exceptional and transitional in nature and are intended, in particular, to prepare and facilitate the full application of the EU acquis in the areas where the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control, in view of the withdrawal of its suspension in accordance with the Act of Accession, upon the entry into force of a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem.

Benefits for EU citizens

The programme is the only EU funding for the Turkish Cypriots, who are EU citizens. There is very little assistance from individual Member States due to difficult legal and political circumstances in the de-facto divided island. The programme supports the reunification efforts and prepares the Turkish Cypriots for the lifting of the suspension of the application of the acquis in those areas of the Republic of Cyprus in which the Government does not exercise effective control. The EU contribution is supporting the political process, economic integration and improved living standards and is vital for the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community in order to facilitate the reunification of Cyprus.

Implementation status

Between 2006 and the end of 2017, the total EUR 514.4 million was programmed for operations under the Aid Regulation. In the period of 2014-2018 the allocations amount to EUR 164.6 million.

Major infrastructure works mostly contracted in 2009 have been completed. Further infrastructure investments, with a strong environmental and bi-communal focus, are going to be implemented. Continued support is provided for strengthening the private sector and labour market measures, with an emphasis on innovation and increasing employability. Likewise, concrete measures have been put in place aimed at eradicating animal disease and improving food safety standards. The ‘confidence building measures’ (support for Committee on Missing Persons and support for the Technical Committee for Cultural Heritage) have shown solid progress and good bi-communal acceptance. Two new Green Line crossing points, specifically requested as a confidence building measure, are being funded.

Intensive efforts continue on the preparation for the implementation of the acquis. Preparation for the acquis takes place mainly through the TAIEX instrument (expert missions, training courses, workshops and study visits) with around 839 TAIEX actions in 2014-2017.

The Committee on Missing Persons (CMP), has exhumed 1,217 sets of remains, of which 856 were genetically identified (December 2017 figures). The CMP’s objective is to recover, identify, and return to their families, the remains of 2,002 persons. The CMP establishes the fate of those persons declared missing by both communities as a consequence of the tragic events of 1963-64 and 1974. The programme has financed around 75% of the CMP costs since 2006.

Who is in charge

Structural Reform Support Service of the General Secretariat of the Commission is the lead service for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (procurement contracts and technical assistance).

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>31.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>30.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>33.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>34.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>34.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>33.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>33.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>231.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED

Each year the Commission shall send to the European Parliament and the Council a report on the implementation of Community assistance under this instrument. Further information on:

http://europa.eu/!MV34dK

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS | % EXECUTED PAYMENTS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>2016 94.13 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>2017 92.05 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- To facilitate the reunification of Cyprus by encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community with particular emphasis on the economic integration of the island, on improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU, and on preparation for the *acquis communautaire*.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE**

- To facilitate the reunification of Cyprus by encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community with particular emphasis on the economic integration of the island, on improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU, and on preparation for the *acquis communautaire*.

Examples of achievements so far

- In 2017, technical assistance project to support preparation and implementation of animal diseases eradication continued to build capacities of veterinary services to plan and implement surveillance and eradication programmes and to strengthen the system for animal identification and registration. The assistance also helped in continuous improvement of the performance and the quality of outputs of the veterinary laboratory. In 2016-2017 first ever, large scale testing of animals to establish the status of priority of animal diseases (such as brucellosis and tuberculosis) was implemented in the northern part of Cyprus. The purpose and long term benefits of elimination of important diseases in food producing animals have been widely communicated to the local farmers. This improved farmers’ awareness and ensured their support to the elimination of important animal diseases in the area.

- A wastewater treatment plant in Nicosia was inaugurated in 2014, the largest such plant on the island, serving 300,000 'population equivalent' in both communities. The technology used allows the treated water to be used for agriculture purposes. Actions to set up a sustainable integrated waste management plan have been funded allowing the collection and transport of solid waste to the central landfill to be optimised and the recycling of valuable resources to be started.

- Cultural Heritage protection through the bi-communal Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage (TCCH) remained a key component of the reconciliation and confidence building actions supported in 2017. Between 2011 and 2017, the Cultural Heritage programme has received nearly EUR 15 million of EU funds, which are being used to improve the protection of 71 cultural heritage sites across the island. During 2017, the main highlights of the programme were the completion of the conservation works for the Monastery of Agios Pantalimonas in May and the completion of the Martinengo Bastion and a section of the walls of Famagusta in September. Also in 2017, works were finalised for the conservation of Agia Marina, a Maronite church located within a military site.

- Scholarships for Turkish Cypriot students and professionals provide experience and a route to qualifications abroad and contribute to the image of the EU among Turkish Cypriots. The EU scholarship programme has ensured access to scholarships to more than 1,000 Turkish Cypriot students and professionals since 2007. The 2017 call allowed funding 152 scholarships for the 2017-2018 academic year. These scholarships support students, researchers and professionals in further developing their language and professional skills across EU Member States through language courses and internship programmes. 499 communication and visibility actions have been carried out in 2014-2017, providing information about EU policies, priorities and actions in support of the TCC, and promoting European culture. This has considerably enhanced the visibility of the EU in the northern of Cyprus.

- Around 400 grant awards have been made for farmers, private sector development, community development, civil society and lifelong learning establishments. These helped farms and businesses to modernise and improve competitiveness, and educational establishments to improve teaching methods and meet the labour market needs. Work in the communities and with civil society organisations helped develop advocacy, and improve community services and civic engagement.
The mid-term evaluation of the ENI was carried out in the framework of mid-term review of all external financing instruments. For further information please consult: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/ http://europa.eu/hU77yp

What the programme is about
The European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) supports implementation of political initiatives that have shaped the Eastern Partnership between the Union and its eastern neighbours, the Partnership for Democracy and Shared Prosperity and the Union for the Mediterranean in the southern neighbourhood. Those initiatives are all strategically important and offer equally meaningful political frameworks for deepening relations with and among partner countries, based on the principles of mutual accountability, shared ownership and responsibility.

The ENI provides the bulk of EU funding to the 16 partner countries: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Republic of Moldova, Morocco, Syria, Palestine, Tunisia, and Ukraine. Union support under the ENI is also used for the purpose of enabling the Russian Federation to participate in cross-border cooperation and other relevant multi-country programmes, including in cooperation on education (Erasmus+).

The vast majority of ENI funding is used for bilateral cooperation, tailor-made to each Neighbourhood partner country. A key element in this context is the bilateral Action Plans (AP), mutually agreed between the EU and each partner country. The AP sets out an agenda of political and economic reforms with short and medium-term priorities and serves as the political framework guiding the priorities for cooperation.

In addition to bilateral cooperation, ENI funding also supports regional, Neighbourhood-wide and Cross Border Cooperation programmes, designed to complement bilateral cooperation programmes.

Benefits for EU citizens
The EU has a strategic interest in seeing greater prosperity, economic development, better governance and state and societal resilience in its neighbourhood and in promoting stability and security in the region. Although the responsibility for this lies primarily with the countries themselves, the EU can effectively encourage and support their reform and modernisation efforts. The objective of the European Neighbourhood policy (ENP) is to build, together with partners, a prosperous, secure and stable neighbourhood on the basis of shared values and common interests.

By acting at the Union level and by streamlining financial resources the EU has greater leverage to achieve a common goal: prevent the emergence of new dividing lines between the enlarged EU and its neighbours. The EU provides financial resources to support partners’ own reforms and thus stimulates their transition and modernisation programmes. In addition, the EU has a leading role in bringing together donors, including major actors outside the EU, to work together on providing a comprehensive response to the new challenges in the region.

Regional cooperation programmes within the framework provided by the Union for the Mediterranean and the Eastern Partnership unite countries around common goals and allow them to discuss and seek solutions to common problems and challenges. None of these features can be achieved individually by EU Member States.

Implementation status
Specific objectives and priorities and indicative financial allocations for EU support are set in multi-annual programming documents, adapted to the situation prevailing in each country or region (from two to four years) developed through a wide consultation process, involving the authorities, civil society organisations and all relevant stakeholders and the Member States.

In 2017, EUR 2.5 billion were committed for bilateral, regional and CBC programmes (including projects via the EU Trust Funds and Africa and the Neighbourhood Investment Facility), responding to the challenges set out in the context of the Neighbourhood policy.

ENI will continue to support dialogue and reforms based on the fundamental principles of good governance and rule of law, respect for human rights, gender equality and civic engagement. In 2018, the ENI will continue to focus on stabilisation and resilience in the region.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (mainly grants) and indirect management (support through loans via the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development).
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

Establishing an area of shared prosperity and good neighbourliness involving the Union and the partner countries by developing a special relationship founded on cooperation, peace and security, mutual accountability and shared commitment to universal values of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights in accordance with the Treaty on EU

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, principles of equality and the fight against discrimination in all its forms
- Supporting smart, sustainable and inclusive development in all aspects
- Achieving progressive integration into the Union internal market and enhanced sectoral and cross-sectoral cooperation
- Promoting confidence-building, good neighbourly relations and other measures contributing to security in all its forms and the prevention and settlement of conflicts
- Creating conditions for the better organisation of legal migration and the fostering of well-managed mobility of people
- Enhancing sub-regional, regional and European Neighbourhood-wide collaboration as well as Cross-Border Cooperation

**Examples of achievements so far**

**The Eastern Partnership**
- 97 policy dialogues took place in 2017. The Eastern partnership Summit has reformed the institutional setup of the multilateral meetings to make them more strategic and results-oriented in view of enhancing relations with partner countries and developing sectoral reforms and cooperation.
- Armenia has concluded a Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement with the EU and has adopted joint Partnership Priorities. A new agreement is being negotiated with Azerbaijan on joint Partnership Priorities. Belarus is close to finalising joint Partnership Priorities with the EU. Two major milestones were reached with Ukraine, with the adoption of the visa-free regime for Ukrainian Citizens traveling to Europe and the ratification and full entry into force of the Association Agreement including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement.

**The Southern Neighbourhood**
- The EU agreed Partnership Priorities for 2017-2020 with Algeria and Egypt, and Single Support Frameworks (SSF) for 2017-2020 with Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia, focusing European assistance on relevant targeted sectors until 2020. More specifically, the new adopted Partnership Priorities with Egypt focus on economy and social development, foreign policy partnership and enhancement of stability. The new adopted Partnership Priorities with Algeria focus on governance and rule of law, socio-economic development and trade with EU, energy and environment, security, the human dimension and migration/mobility. In 2017 the Commission had several rounds of preparatory talks on future Partnership Priorities with Palestine, which could soon turn into formal negotiations. The Commission is also ready to launch formal Partnership Priority negotiations with Israel. EU and Tunisia started developing joint Strategic Priorities in view of their joint endorsement in May 2018.
- An increasing share of the EU’s non-humanitarian aid for Syria’s neighbouring countries is provided through the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis, the “Madad Fund”. The Fund primarily addresses long-term economic, educational and social needs of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries. In 2017, the EU Syria Trust Fund passed the one-billion-euro goal, set by President Juncker in September 2015.

**Migration**
- In 2017, the focus of migration shifted to the Central Mediterranean route. Libya remained the main country of departure towards Italy. As a response, the pace of implementation of the North of Africa window of the EUTF for Africa increased considerably with eight new programs approved for a total amount of EUR 232.5 million, as well as one cross-window program for EUR 8.6 million.
**What the programme is about**

In the field of development cooperation, the EU’s primary objective is the reduction and, in the long term, the eradication of poverty. The Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) also contributes to the achievement of other goals of EU external action, in particular fostering other goals of EU external action, and promoting other goals of EU external action, and promoting democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights. Through the DCI, the EU aims to ensure that both positive and negative impacts of migration on development are recognised in national and regional development strategies. It also provides assistance to countries wishing to strengthen migration governance in order to achieve development outcomes.

The DCI covers all the developing countries except the countries eligible for the Pre-Accession Instrument. DCI includes geographic programmes, thematic programmes in the categories ‘Global public good and challenges’ and ‘Civil society organisations and local authorities’, and finally the newly established Pan-African Programme (PanAf).

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The EU is in a uniquely neutral and impartial position to deliver on external action on behalf of and with Member States, giving enhanced credibility in the countries where it works. The EU alone has the critical mass to respond to global challenges, such as poverty reduction and climate change. Due to its large scale and the existing network of international agreements, it can deliver help to the poor in some of the world’s most remote areas, both implementing aid and coordinating.

In its role as a promoter of inclusiveness and multilateralism, the EU can do more than other international organisations. Acting as one, the EU can have greater impact and more leverage in policy dialogue and donor cooperation.

**Implementation status**

The DCI appropriations 2014-2017 were fully used and implemented as planned, through a comprehensive programming process. The result of the process has been a set of programming documents that define per bilateral/regional/thematic programme: the priority areas for financing, the specific objectives, expected results, indicators and indicative allocations. There is no need for corrective action at this stage.

High-level policy dialogues with Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran are addressing migration from Asia in line with the new European Consensus for Development and Agenda for Change. It targets both poverty and inclusive growth, addressing the root causes of fragility, insecurity and migration and displacement. The adoption of an EU Strategy for Iraq will open new opportunities of cooperation with the country. Across the Middle East and Asia, the EU works in partnership with countries that are not only the main countries of origin of economic migrants (such as Pakistan) and of the largest refugee populations (Afghanistan), but also host countries to some of the largest refugee populations in the world (Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Bangladesh).

The Latin America component of the DCI is being implemented as planned. In the first three years, the DCI financed 10 actions for a total amount of EUR 171.8 million (without allocation for Erasmus+). Within the PanAf, the DCI financed programmes contributing to the five strategic areas the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme, in line with the Joint Africa-EU Strategy Roadmap 2014-2017. Over 2014-2017, 32 actions for an amount of EUR 401.65 million contributed in particular to the strategic areas ‘sustainable and inclusive Growth’ (42 %) and ‘Human Development’ (42 %), as well as ‘global issues’, ‘Democracy, Good Governance and human rights’ and Peace and Security.

The South African component is also being implemented as planned. In the first three years, the DCI financed 10 actions for a total amount of EUR 171.8 million (without allocation for Erasmus+). Within the PanAf, the DCI financed programmes contributing to the five strategic areas the Multi-Annual Indicative Programme, in line with the Joint Africa-EU Strategy Roadmap 2014-2017. Over 2014-2017, 32 actions for an amount of EUR 401.65 million contributed in particular to the strategic areas ‘sustainable and inclusive Growth’ (42 %) and ‘Human Development’ (42 %), as well as ‘global issues’, ‘Democracy, Good Governance and human rights’ and Peace and Security.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (mainly grants) and indirect management through international organisations, Member State agencies and beneficiary countries.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

Fostering the sustainable and inclusive development in partner countries and regions and the promotion of democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights, as foreseen in the TEU, with the primary aim of eradicating poverty.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Poverty reduction and fostering sustainable economic, social and environmental development.
- Consolidating and supporting democracy, the rule of law, good governance, human rights and the relevant principles of international law.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- In **Bolivia**, EU funds provided over 100,000 water and over 100,000 sewage new connections for poor households in peri-urban areas. Nearly 400,000 new inhabitants in rural areas have benefited by safe water and/or access to improved sanitation.
- In **Peru**, support to social inclusion policies has yielded solid results in schooling of young children in some of the poorest districts of the Amazon regions. It improved access of rural households to basic service (from 46% in 2014 to 62% in 2016) such as electricity and water and sanitation (from 19% in 2014 to 22.5% in 2016).
- Strengthening democratic participation and civil society capacities in **Myanmar** and **Cambodia** in a challenging political environment as demonstrated by the Rohingya crisis and the restrictions in the political and civic space in Cambodia;
- EUR 287.5 million were committed in 2016 and 2017 to support internally displaced persons, refugees and host communities in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Iran and Iraq, specifically, in addressing challenges related to migration and forces displacement. A focus of these interventions is on strengthening cooperation with these partner governments over supporting returnees.
- **EU SWITCH to Green** initiative supports the transition to the green economy in partner countries through policy support and green business development. In 2017, a second phase of the SWITCH Africa Green programme was launched, building on the successful first phase which supported up to 3,000 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and contributed to create or secure 10,000 green jobs.
- During 2015-2016 in **South Africa**, the DCI contributed to 14% increase of the number of graduates qualifying as primary school teachers; reached more than 3 million vulnerable and marginalised South Africans and raised their awareness and knowledge of constitutional rights. Almost 2,600,000 ward-based primary health care outreach teams were displayed in the country.
- DCI contributed to the **Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM)** and the **Vaccine Alliance (GAVI)**. EU budget contributions represent about 5% of total resources spent by the Global Fund, which helped put 11 million people on life-saving HIV-treatment, detect and treat 17.4 million cases of tuberculosis, and distribute 7.953 million bed nets to prevent malaria. The EU pledged EUR 200 million to GAVI for 2016-2020, including EUR 70 million from the DCI budget. The EU contribution represents about 2% of total GAVI spending, which helped fully immunise 277 million children in 2011-2015 and another 300 million foreseen in 2016-2020.
- To tackle and mitigating the effects of climate change is crucial to Africa’s development. Under the **Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES)** & **Africa** initiative allowed to harness Europe’s existing satellite infrastructure and facilities, such as the Copernicus programme, for earth observation in Africa. 13 consortia from 70 institutions across the continent have been formed to design and develop 23 new apps which aim to help with monitoring and assessment of riverine floods, wetlands, land degradation and oil spills. Supported by EU, these consortia are making use of over 200 receiving stations installed across the continent. For the use of these apps to become widespread, universities and/or specialised training centres in each region are equipped to train 200 policymakers from 25 countries, a hundred companies and 50 civil society and non-governmental organisations.

**Performance framework**

**DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

**PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pupils starting in grade 1 who reach last grade of the primary*</td>
<td>1 %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 3.2.1 - Under-five mortality rate**</td>
<td></td>
<td>23 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 5.5.1 - Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments</td>
<td></td>
<td>19 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of population below international poverty line</td>
<td>80 %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 2015 data
** 2016 data

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about
The Partnership Instrument for Cooperation with Third Countries (PI) is the EU’s first instrument specifically designed to promote the Union’s strategic interests worldwide by reinforcing its external strategies, policies and actions.

It has four main objectives:
1. offering policy support and responding to global challenges;
2. projecting the international dimension of Europe 2020;
3. enhancing market access and boosting trade, investment and business opportunities for EU companies;
4. promoting public diplomacy and academic cooperation.

Benefits for EU citizens
The Partnership Instrument has been designed to advance and promote EU and mutual interests abroad by supporting the external dimension of EU policies, in particular the “Europe 2020” strategy, and by addressing major global challenges, both at bilateral and at multilateral level. Contrary to many traditional financing instruments, the PI promotes peer-to-peer relationships globally, although with a specific focus on EU’s designated strategic partners. The PI also intends to improve market access and develop trade and business opportunities for EU companies through economic partnerships, business and regulatory cooperation. Finally, the PI is intended to enhance widespread understanding and visibility of the Union on the world scene by means of public diplomacy, education/academic cooperation and outreach activities.

The EU has numerous international agreements with partner countries all over the world, not matched by individual Member States, which gives it influence in virtually all fields of international relations. By combining the weight of all Member States acting within common policies and strategies, only the EU has the critical weight to respond to global challenges. The EU as a global player has the credibility and the neutrality which is not available to individual Member States. The EU is also in a unique position to promote EU norms and turn them into global standards through international cooperation.

Implementation status
In 2017, adoption of the Partnership Instrument Annual Action Programme 2017 (AAP), and the timely contracting of actions under the AAP 2016 were the main policy and expenditure-related outputs for the PI work. Additionally, the implementation and monitoring of contracted actions under the AAPs 2014 and 2015 as well as the launch of the programming exercise for 2018 through the cluster modality were key efforts for PI implementation and planning.

The AAP 2017 was adopted in two phases: the first phase of the AAP 2017 comprising Action Fiches 1-19 to a budget of EUR 87 600 000 was adopted on 22 May 2017 while the second phase comprising Action Fiches 20-23 to a budget of EUR 23 799 000 was adopted on 17 November 2017. An additional commitment appropriation of EUR 5 500 000 was granted to the instrument for the budgetary year 2017. Also, the timely contracting of actions under the AAP 2016, the implementation of actions under AAP 2014-16, the launch of the programming exercise for 2018 through the cluster modality and work on the revision of the MIP 2018-20 were at the core of PI action in 2017.

Who is in charge
Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) is the lead service for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through two different management modes, depending on the specific circumstances of the action required: direct management (both centralised in Brussels and decentralised to EU Delegations) and indirect management (by partner countries (or to bodies designated by them), international organisations and development agencies of EU Member States).

Legal Basis

Period of application
2014 - 2020

Evaluation/Studies conducted
External Evaluation of the Partnership Instrument was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult
http://europa.eu/!xP33nx

Financial programming (EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commitments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>119.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>117.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>127.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>138.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>140.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>154.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>162.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>960.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Executed commitments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.97 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% Executed payments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>92.37 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>98.42 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

• The Partnership Instrument shall support measures that respond in an effective and flexible manner to objectives arising from the Union’s bilateral, regional or multilateral relationships with third countries and address challenges of global concern, or ensure an adequate follow-up to decisions taken at multilateral level.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To support the Union’s bilateral, regional and inter-regional cooperation partnership strategies, by promoting policy dialogues and by developing collective approaches and responses to challenges of global concern.

Improving access to third country markets and boosting trade, investment and business opportunities for European companies, while eliminating barriers to market access and investment, by means of economic partnerships, business and regulatory cooperation.

Implementing the international dimension of “Europe 2020 - A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth”.

Enhancing widespread understanding and visibility of the Union and its role on the world scene by means of public diplomacy, people to people contacts, education/academic/think tank cooperation and outreach activities to promote the Union’s values and interests.

Examples of achievements so far

The outcome that the Partnership Instrument actions aim to contribute to is that some processes are improved which in the longer term may, other things being equal, lead to some impact such as a strategic partnership, or an agreement on migration, or a policy having the potential to contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, or improved options for trade, or a better understanding of the EU and its place in the world. Hereunder a few examples:

• Clean Energy Cooperation with India has allowed the EU to vivify the EU-India high level energy dialogue by implementing concrete activities on the ground that underpin the policy engagement. The off shore wind component of the action has clearly contributed to the development of this renewable energy source in India for which the European Investment Bank is keen to provide financing for a first pilot plant.

• International Urban Cooperation Programme implemented city-to-city cooperation between the EU and target countries in Asia and the Americas in the context of the New Urban Agenda and in support of EU regional policy engagement.

• During 2016-2017, the EU Gateway | Business Avenues programme has organised 15 business missions to China, Japan, Republic of Korea and South East Asia. In total 575 European companies participated and engaged into B2B with some 8 300 potential business partners in the above markets.

• Cultural Diplomacy Platform increased mutual understanding through intercultural dialogue and facilitated future cooperation among cultural operators from the EU and the EU partner countries through the organisation of the second edition of the Global Cultural Leadership Training and cultural events in China (EU-China capitals of culture) and in India (International book fair – EU as guest of honour).
**What the programme is about**
The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) is a programme designed to help civil society to become an effective force for political reform and defence of human rights. Building on its key strength, which is the ability to operate without the need for host government consent, the EIDHR is able to focus on sensitive political issues and innovative approaches and to cooperate directly with local civil society organisations which need to preserve independence from public authorities, providing for great flexibility and increased capacity to respond to changing circumstances.

**Benefits for EU citizens**
Given its accomplishments in conflict resolution, peace building and the creation of prosperity, the EU is in an excellent position to deliver on external action, on behalf of and with its Member States, generally enjoying high credibility in the countries where it works. It is well placed to take on the role of a global leader on behalf of its citizens, in particular in its support and promotion of democracy and human rights.

Due to its scale and remit, the EU can deliver help in the world’s most remote areas, hereby enhancing the strategic reach of Member States, especially in cases when their presence is limited and therefore the capacity to act is reduced.

**Implementation status**
The EIDHR implementation has been executed as foreseen and all planned actions of the 2014-2016, and a good part of the 2017 budget, have been carried out and/or are currently ongoing. Their actions followed five axes of work, delivering on the objectives of the instrument:

1) Reinforcing the EU’s capacity to address the most difficult human rights situations, to react quickly to human rights emergencies and to support Human Rights Defenders in situations where they are most at risk: A comprehensive EU Human Rights Defenders Mechanism (EUR 15 million), the Human Rights Crises Facility (EUR 11.5 million), and the EIDHR Emergency Fund allowing rapid support through targeted low-value grants to individual human rights defenders in emergency situations (EUR 3.6 million) have been established.

2) Supporting local civil society organisations on the ground in promoting other human rights priorities of the EU: nearly 1 000 civil society initiatives in the area of human rights and democracy support have been funded worldwide through the EIDHR Country-Based Support Scheme (EUR 250.8 million). In addition, three Global Calls for proposals (EUR 82.9 million) covering in parallel five main EU priorities in the field of human rights, allowing for a more long-term response in each area, have been implemented.

3) Supporting democracy: The Democracy Initiative accompanying the Democratic Pilot Exercise under the EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy was launched, through an umbrella programme to support EU Delegations in the areas of civil society participation and support to media (EUR 4.6 million in 2015 and EUR 4.4 million in 2016). In 2017, a programme to support political parties (EUR 4.4 million) focusing on the participation of women and intra-party governance systems and inter-party dialogues, across five different projects in ten countries, was put in place.

4) Contributing to increasing transparency and trust in the electoral process by means of Electoral Observation Missions (EOMs): Around 7 fully-fledged EOMs were deployed annually according to the approved list of priority countries, along with a large number of smaller missions including Exploratory Missions, Election Expert Missions, and increasingly Election Follow-Up Missions and related studies.

5) Strengthening the international, regional and national key human rights actors and mechanisms: Support has been provided to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Criminal Court (ICC), the worldwide network of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), or the ‘Global Campus’ for higher education which now covers seven regions of the world.

**Who is in charge**
Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (mainly through grants addressed to civil society organisations) and indirect management with international organisations.

---

**PERIOD OF APPLICATION: 2014-2020**

**LEGAL BASIS

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount (EUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>184.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>171.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>170.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>184.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>192.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>196.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>201.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total programming: 1 302.06**

**MORE INFORMATION
http://www.eidhr.eu/**
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

• Enhancing the respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international and regional human rights instruments, and strengthening their protection, promotion, implementation and monitoring, mainly through support to relevant civil society organisations, human rights defenders and victims of repression and abuse.

• Supporting, developing and consolidating democracy in third countries, by enhancing participatory and representative democracy, strengthening the overall democratic cycle, in particular by reinforcing an active role for civil society within this cycle, the rule of law and improving the reliability of electoral processes, in particular by means of election observation missions.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Support to Human Rights and Human Rights Defenders in situations where they are most at risk.

Support to Democracy.

EU Election Observation Missions.

Support to targeted key actors and processes, including international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms.

Examples of achievements so far

• The emergency support to human rights defenders (HRD) at risk is considered as the EIDHR flagship. It provides emergency grants, physical/digital protection, legal and medical support, urgent relocation/sheltering, training or permanent (24h/7) helpline for human rights defenders at risk. Two programmes in particular have contributed to this achievement:
  • The first-of-its-kind EU comprehensive HRD Mechanism set up in 2015, with an unprecedented budget of EUR 15 million over three years, entitled ProtectDefenders.eu, bringing together a consortium of 12 independent civil society organisations specialised in HRD support with worldwide coverage; and
  • The EU Emergency Fund for HRDs at Risk (EUR 3.6 million) providing fast emergency grants of up to EUR 10 000. In 2017 alone, more than 1 200 HRDs at risk were supported by these two programmes.

• The EIDHR Human Rights Crises Facility (EUR 3.5 million per year) was set up in 2014. For the annual allocation of EUR 3.5 million, fifteen projects have been supported in the Enlargement region, the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhood, Central Asia, Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia.

• ‘Supporting Democracy’ (EUR 4.6 million) programme, under the umbrella of the Democracy Initiative, focusing on support in the areas of civil society participation in democratic processes. In 2016 the Citizen Observers Forum brought together 250 domestic observer organisation from all over the world, facilitated peer to peer exchanges and promoted the Declaration of Global Principles for Electoral Observers. An annual worldwide ‘EU4Democracy’ campaign promotes EU support to democracy in partner countries.

• The EIDHR-funded ‘V-DEM’ is one of the largest democracy indicators-related data collection efforts with a database containing over 18 million data points. In 2016, V-Dem received the most prestigious award for comparative datasets in political science: the Lijphart/Przeworski/Verba Best Dataset Award presented by the American Political Science Association.

• ‘Global Campus for Human Rights and Democracy’ (EUR 5 million a year) is a unique global network of more than 100 universities teaching and promoting human rights and democracy. It covers seven regions in the world and represents a beacon of excellence in human rights and democracy education leading to master degrees for more than 150 students a year.

• The EIDHR-financed EU Election Observation Missions (EU EOMs) are well established trademarks of the EU democracy support worldwide and a major flagship of EU external relations. In 2014-2017, EU EOMs observed elections in several geopolitically important countries and developed cooperation with other international bodies undertaking election observation. The EU-funded project of the Election Observation and Democracy Support, which provides support in electoral methodology and training to EEAS and FPI, contributed to building a reliable election observation capacity in Africa, Middle East and Asia and enhanced cooperation with other signatories of the Declaration of Principles for Election Observation as well as other partner election observation networks such as the OSCE, the Venice Commission, the African Union and the Arab Network for Democratic Elections.
**What the programme is about**

The Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) is the EU’s main instrument supporting security initiatives and peace-building activities in partner countries. It came into force in 2014, replacing the Instrument for Stability (IfS) and several earlier instruments that focused on drugs, landmines, uprooted people, crisis management, rehabilitation and reconstruction. The IcSP provides short-term assistance, for example in countries where a crisis is unfolding, or long-term support, notably to mitigate a variety of risks, tackle global and transborder threats, and build capacity for lasting socio-economic development. Its activities complement those of the European Union’s geographical instruments.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

To preserve peace, prevent conflicts and strengthen international security are the common overarching principles and objectives for the Union’s external action. Responding to this particular challenge requires a collective effort based on strong partnerships with other States, civil society actors, multilateral and regional partners. As a global player, the EU has credibility and a perception of neutrality that provides a competitive advantage to intervene in many conflict areas to avoid escalation or to offer assistance in preventing conflicts. A greater impact is achieved when the response is provided at EU level, as combined efforts provide increased leverage over authorities and international partners. Crisis response actions at EU level increase the coherence of response and aid efficiency while peace-building actions create openings for structural and thematic engagement with Member States and civil society. Synergies and cooperation are increasingly needed at international level, as EU Member States and international donors are facing similar problems in terms of scarce resources. In this regard, it should be noted that a very limited number of EU Member States operate a crisis response or peace-building facility comparable in scope to the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace.

**Implementation status**

In 2016, a total of EUR 271.5 million was committed under the IcSP objectives managed by the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI). FPI operations under IcSP are mostly crisis response concentrated in the regions with limited number of operating partners, where UN act often as a single entry point. In 2016 almost 40 % of payments under IcSP were done under indirect management mode to international organisations.

The second objective under Article 4 – Assistance for conflict prevention, peace building and crisis preparedness, which consumes 9 % of the financial envelope, and the third objective under Article 5 - Assistance to address global and trans-regional threats, are both subject to programming. The IcSP programme is being implemented in accordance with the relevant Multi Annual Indicative Programme and funds have been committed at 100 % against this benchmark. Any difficulties and problems are being addressed in a continuous manner to avoid any impact on the implementation of the programme and no delays have been encountered.

A total of EUR 64.4 million was committed under the IcSP Article 5, providing assistance in addressing global and trans-regional and emerging threats such as the fight against terrorism, organised crime, cyber-crime, illicit trafficking, threats to critical infrastructure, and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear risk mitigation.

**Who is in charge**

Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) is the lead service for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (mainly through procurement of services) and indirect management with international organisations.

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>276.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>330.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>344.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>260.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>370.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>376.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>393.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2 352.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS**

- 100 % 2016
- 99.99 % 2017

**% EXECUTED PAYMENTS**

- 97.37 % 2016
- 97.99 % 2017
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

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

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

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

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

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

Examples of achievements so far

- **Syrian crisis:** With a current portfolio of 10 Financing Decisions of EUR 80.2 million, including 5 new Financing Decisions adopted in 2016, the Syrian crisis remains a key priority for IcSP interventions. The adopted measures include a Comprehensive Syria Peace Support Initiative, set up to provide financial, technical and operational support to peacebuilding processes related to Syria in cooperation with the German government with the view to respond to the rapidly changing political landscape. A regional programme adopted in 2016 on "Protecting cultural heritage and diversity in conflicts", also covers Syria and aims at reducing the vulnerability of populations whose culture and heritage is targeted or affected in complex emergency situations, notably in Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen.

- **Colombia:** After years of complex negotiations, the peace process in Colombia has made unprecedented progress and there is now a genuine prospect of this long conflict coming to an end. A first Financing Decision of EUR 13 million was adopted at the beginning of 2016 to support this process and contribute to creating the conditions for both post-conflict and territorial peace. It also contributes to improving the effectiveness of the fight against criminal organisations and their support structures; reducing the level of impunity concerning crimes committed against human rights defenders and members of social and political movements and reducing the effectiveness of criminal conduct that threatens the peace process.

- **Migration and refugee crisis:** The IcSP contributed to the immediate European response to the crisis situation in the Mediterranean as well as to address root causes of migration linked to instability and conflicts. In Turkey, the IcSP is enhancing the capacity of the Turkish Coast Guards to carry out search and rescue operations thereby contributing to saving lives and enhancing the protection of migrants and refugees at sea while at the same time tackling irregular migration and trafficking through regular patrolling.

- **Support in the Counter-Terrorism field** continued, with numerous concrete, complementary actions with a regional, trans-regional and global dimension, working in the areas of Counter-Terrorism, Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, and Countering the Financing of Terrorism. Progress in the area of Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (P/CVE) in 2016 was particularly notable. For example, under a P/CVE action working with the Kofi Annan Foundation, in April 2016 the “extremely together” initiative was launched. This initiative succeeded in bringing together 10 young leaders to steer the way in countering and preventing violent extremism.
HUMANITARIAN AID

**What the programme is about**

To provide effective relief and protection to populations affected by natural or man-made disasters on the basis of need and providing aid to most vulnerable countries and forgotten crises (crises with little media attention and poor coverage). In addition, the EU is committed to build capacity and resilience of vulnerable communities and put in place a resilience action plan. The EU takes the role of a reference donor, basing its actions on the humanitarian principles, informed assessments, and promoting a non-political approach to humanitarian assistance by participating in well-established fora and holding strategic dialogues with its partners.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

Because of the financial weight of its humanitarian actions and its unique position, the EU encourages other humanitarian donors to implement effective and principled humanitarian aid strategies and has a comparative advantage in being able to intervene in politically sensitive situations more flexibly.

The EU is well positioned to rapidly complement Member States’ bilateral contributions as required in response to crises. A share of the annual budget is pre-allocated to on-going crises (in some cases, the Commission being the only donor, namely in forgotten crisis) and for prevention/preparedness measures, while the rest is deployed to respond to new crises or deterioration of existing ones.

The Commission’s strong field presence allows for a comprehensive understanding of the complex needs on the ground, and its neutrality provides greater flexibility and power to act on behalf of the most vulnerable. The Commission is valued by other donors for its technical know-how and capacity for coordination.

**Implementation status**

The implementation of the humanitarian assistance programme is on track. The EU has continued to roll out the development of innovative humanitarian aid policies, notably by implementing its commitments on Education in Emergencies and by using cash assistance as a delivery modality in more and more crises.

In 2017, more than 50 % of the budget went to most vulnerable countries and 15.8 % was allocated to forgotten crises. In addition, the Union is committed to build capacity and resilience of vulnerable communities and has put in place a resilience action plan for which 80 % of actions are on target.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through indirect management by NGOs, UN agencies and other international organisations.

**LEGAL BASIS**

**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**
Undetermined

**MORE INFORMATION**
http://europa.eu/br44Rp

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount (EUR Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1 081.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1 096.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1 384.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1 280.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1 085.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1 301.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>981.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total programming</strong></td>
<td><strong>8 211.38</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

The studies and evaluations finalised in 2017 and beginning of 2018 are published on:

http://europa.eu/Gq36du

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>2016 94.55 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>2017 99.63 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

To provide ad hoc assistance and relief and protection for people in third countries who are victims of natural or man-made disasters, in order to meet the humanitarian needs resulting from these different situations.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Provide needs based delivery of EU assistance to people faced with natural and manmade disasters and protracted crises.
- Build the capacity and resilience of vulnerable or disaster affected communities.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- The Commission funded humanitarian aid operations for more than EUR 2 billion in more than 80 countries reaching over 129 million beneficiaries.
- A significant proportion went to support refugees in the countries and regions most directly affected by the Syrian refugee crisis. Aid is delivered from all humanitarian hubs, including across conflict lines and international border crossings. The assistance contributes to the vital delivery of food, medicine, water, and shelter for millions of Syrians directly affected and/or internally displaced by the conflict.
- In neighbouring Lebanon, EU funding has contributed to cash assistance for the most vulnerable refugees, secondary healthcare for life-saving cases, non-formal education and shelter – including water, hygiene and sanitation – to improve the living conditions of the vulnerable families most affected by the displacement.
- On 5 April 2017, the European Union, together with Germany, Kuwait, Norway, Qatar, the United Kingdom and the United Nations, co-chaired the Brussels Conference on supporting the future of Syria and the region. The conference raised awareness on the plight of affected civilians in Syria and resulted in the pledging of USD 6 billion (EUR 5.6 billion) for 2017.
- In the face of an unprecedented level of humanitarian needs linked to a large number of protracted conflicts and other crises, particularly in Europe’s wider neighbourhood, the EU has again been in the front line of the humanitarian response, from Syria and neighbouring countries to a belt of crises across Africa and to crises in other parts of the world such as the Rohingya situation in Myanmar.
- The EU has also continued to be a leading donor in other parts of the world, with Africa continuing to account for a large share of funding. This assistance contributed to the vital delivery of food, medicine, water, hygiene and sanitation shelter items and protection for millions of vulnerable people.
- Education in emergencies remains more than ever a flagship policy: in 2017, the Commissioner Stylianides’ pledged to devote 6 % of the EU’s humanitarian aid budget to education in emergencies was fulfilled.
- The commitment to support cash as a delivery modality whenever possible, as this is considered the most cost-efficient and dignified method, has been progressing and 35 % of the assistance was provided in the form of cash-based transfers. The innovative programme known as the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN), the largest ever EU humanitarian project, has surpassed its initial target of supporting one million of the most vulnerable refugees in Turkey with regular cash allocations.

**HUMA PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

- Non-emergency agreements signed in maximum 11 working days: 77 %
- Beneficiaries of Commission’s interventions: 100 %
- Funds spent in “very high risk to disaster” countries: 94 %
- Actions ‘on track’ of Resilience Action Plan: 94 %
- Funded operations in which Disaster Risk Reduction has been mainstreamed: 100 %

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about

The European Union’s Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), including the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) which forms a part of the CFSP, aims to promote peace, security and progress in Europe and the World. EU Member states have committed themselves to a Common Foreign Security Policy for the European Union. The European Security and Defence Policy aims to strengthen the EU's external ability to act through the development of civilian and military capabilities in Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management.

Benefits for EU citizens

The CFSP is intended to safeguard the common values of the Union, to strengthen its (international) security, to preserve peace, to promote international cooperation and to develop democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

With 28 Member States acting within common policies and strategies, the EU alone has the critical mass to respond to global challenges, whereas the action of Member States may be limited and fragmented, with projects which are often too small to make a sustainable difference in the field. This critical mass also puts the EU in a better position to conduct policy dialogue with partner governments.

The CFSP is intended to safeguard the common values of the Union, to strengthen its (international) security, to preserve peace, to promote international cooperation and to develop democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The European Union’s Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), including the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) which forms a part of the CFSP, aims to promote peace, security and progress in Europe and the World. EU Member states have committed themselves to a Common Foreign Security Policy for the European Union. The European Security and Defence Policy aims to strengthen the EU’s external ability to act through the development of civilian and military capabilities in Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management.

Benefits for EU citizens

The CFSP is intended to safeguard the common values of the Union, to strengthen its (international) security, to preserve peace, to promote international cooperation and to develop democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

With 28 Member States acting within common policies and strategies, the EU alone has the critical mass to respond to global challenges, whereas the action of Member States may be limited and fragmented, with projects which are often too small to make a sustainable difference in the field. This critical mass also puts the EU in a better position to conduct policy dialogue with partner governments.

Implementation status

The volatile nature of challenges to the strategic interests of the EU means that many of the actions that the EU undertakes to implement the CFSP cannot be programmed in advance. Fourteen different civilian CSDP Missions have operated at some stage between 2014-2017 two of which were closed in 2014 (EU Aviation Security Mission in South Sudan and EU Police Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo). Nine Missions operated throughout the period. The EU Mission to provide Advice and Assistance for Security Sector Reform in the Democratic Republic of Congo (EUSEC RD Congo) completed its liquidation in 2016 following the end of its operational mandate and the EU Police Mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL Afghanistan) completed its liquidation in 2017 following the end of its operational mandate at the end of 2016.

A new civilian CSDP Mission was established in 2017, the European Union Advisory Mission in support of Security Sector Reform in Iraq (EUAM Iraq). From 2016 funding has also been provided for the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC) and from 2017 support allocated in accordance with Article 28 TEU to a team of experts for stabilisation in the Malian regions of Mopti and Ségou.

European Union Special Representatives (EUSRs) also play an important role in the development of a stronger and more effective CFSP. There were in total 11 EUSRs active over the period 2014-2017, two of which finished their activities in 2014 (EUSRs for the African Union and for the Southern Mediterranean region). Seven of the other nine EUSRs were active throughout the period (for Afghanistan, South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia, the Sahel, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the Horn of Africa and Human Rights). These EUSRs promote the EU’s policies and interests in troubled regions and countries and play an active role in efforts to consolidate peace, and to promote stability and the rule of law. One EUSR (for Central Asia) had a 10-month gap in operation for part of 2014-15 and one EUSR (for the Middle East Peace Process) restarted operation from May 2015 having been operated to end 2013.

In addition to the CSDP missions and the EUSRs, the CFSP also supports projects to promote disarmament, non-proliferation and arms export control (NPDP projects) as well as horizontal measures contributing to security and peace. During the period 2014-2017, 29 different projects to promote the non-proliferation and disarmament have been started and another 22, which started prior to 2014, were completed.

Who is in charge

Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (SIP) is the lead service for the programme implementation.

The management of each CFSP action is based on specific decisions adopted by the Council under the CFSP provisions of the Treaty on European Union. There is no over-arching instrument (basic act) adopted for the full period of the multiannual financial framework. Actions are either CSDP civilian crisis management missions, EUSRs or actions in the field of non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and small arms and light weapons.
Examples of achievements so far

- The achievements of CSDP missions are as wide-ranging and diverse as the EU’s strategic security interests and of the regions of the world in which they operate.
- The two civilian CSDP Missions in the Sahel are making important contributions to the security of this region of Africa. EUCAP Sahel Niger has supported the authorities to strengthen their strategic planning of security. In September 2017, a “National Strategy for Internal Security” (together with an action plan for its implementation) was approved by the Council of Ministers. In parallel, nearly 3,500 personnel from the various internal security forces (ISF) have been trained in the fight against terrorism and organised crime. In 2017, EUCAP Sahel Niger opened a regional field office in Agadez to strengthen local capacity in the fight against irregular migration.
- Further north in Africa, improved stability in 2017 has permitted a small redeployment of EUBAM Libya. A ‘light’ presence started in Tripoli as of December 2017. The first operational team on weekly rotation entered Tripoli one week later. EUBAM Libya supported the drafting of a “Concept Note towards a White Paper” on reforming Libya’s border management approach. The “Concept Note” drafted by the National Team on Border Security and Management (NTBSM) with EUBAM Libya’s support was presented to the Presidential Council on 26 November 2017 and it is hoped to pave the way for a national strategy that will also address the importance of developing effective operational capacity in the south.
- By strengthening the rule of law, justice and customs, EULEX Kosovo has contributed significantly to stability in the Western Balkans. Most recently, elections in 2017 were conducted without significant incident. EULEX police, prosecutors and judges have dealt with cases in especially challenging fields such as corruption, organised crime, war crimes and human trafficking, while also monitoring over 290 criminal cases which had been transferred to local authorities by the Mission. Through EULEX implementation of EU-facilitated Dialogue Agreements, the Mission has ensured the integration of 40 Kosovo Serb judges, 14 prosecutors as well as support staff in the Kosovo judicial system, thus significantly contributing to the Rule of Law in Kosovo.
- Many of the tangible achievements realised through the CFSP (and other EU external actions) would not be possible without the important, political and diplomatic encouragement and facilitation efforts of the EUSRs which lead to the credibility and trust upon which other results can be built. The EUSR for the Sahel plays an important role facilitating the peace process, for instance through support for the adoption of a UN Security Council resolution (UNSCR) on sanctions, maintaining pressure on stakeholders to implement the peace process. The EUSR has also been instrumental in co-ordinating international support for the G5 Joint Force to tackle terrorist threats and transnational organised crime (with the EU role recognised in UNSCR 2391).
- Through its support for United Nations organisations, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation and other international bodies, the EU contributes to international and regional safety and security. During the period 2014 to end 2017: 5 countries have ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (bringing the total to 166); 23 countries have submitted National Implementation Action Plans for the United Nations Security Council’s Resolution 1540, which obliges States, to refrain from supporting by any means non-State actors from developing, acquiring, manufacturing, possessing, transporting, transferring or using nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their delivery systems (bringing the total to 31); and 85 State parties have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (bringing the total to 94).

Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

Contribute to the implementation of the Lisbon Treaty (Article 21 (2) (c) which seeks to preserve peace, prevent conflicts and strengthen international security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, with the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and with the aims of the Charter of Paris.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- Support to preservation of stability through substantial CSDP missions and EUSRs mandates.
- Support the implementation and promotion of: 1) strategy on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in order to increase security in this area (WMD); 2) strategy on combating illicit accumulation and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) as well as measures against illicit spread and trafficking of other conventional weapons; 3) EU’s policies in the field of conventional arms exports, in particular on the basis of Common Position CFSP/944/2008.

### CFSP PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% achieved results in 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Countries having ratified the treaty - Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, CTBTO</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries having ratified the treaty - UN Resolution 1540</td>
<td>16 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries having submitted the National Implementation Plan</td>
<td>87 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries having ratified the treaty - Arms Trade Treaty</td>
<td>68 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about

Due to global challenges the EU supports the promotion of a high level of nuclear safety, radiation protection, and the application of efficient and effective safeguards of nuclear material in third countries with priority given to accession and neighbouring countries.

The Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC) pursues: the promotion of an effective nuclear safety culture and implementation of the highest nuclear safety and radiation protection standards, as well as continuous improvement of nuclear safety, responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste and remediation of former nuclear sites and installations; the establishment of frameworks and methodologies for the application of efficient and effective safeguards for nuclear material in third countries.

Benefits for EU citizens

The promotion of the highest level of nuclear safety is crucial for the safety and the security of the population and the environment of the EU. The Fukushima Daichii accident in 2011 after the Chernobyl disaster in 1986 showed that any accident has trans-boundary effects and impacts the international community widely. The access to nuclear or radioactive materials is a global security concern with proven evidence that non-state actors are trying to have access to such materials. The INSC has successfully contributed to the reduction of risks by providing support especially to regulatory authorities with priority given to Accession Countries (Turkey and Western Balkan partners) and countries in the European Neighbourhood area (Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Ukraine, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Iraq) engaged in nuclear power generation. It also includes health and environmental measures directed to the population that suffered from the Chernobyl accident in Ukraine and Belarus.

New challenges have to be addressed in addition to the on-going EU actions aiming at establishing or enhancing independent and competent regulatory authorities that will guarantee the safe use of nuclear energy and promoting sound safeguards systems to enforce the non-proliferation regime. Emergency preparedness systems need to be put in place. Training and tutoring are essential to ensure adequate management of nuclear power generation.

In all these domains, the EU has long-lasting experience in nuclear safety and security, as well as the use of the highest safety standards. Moreover, there is a need to further extend the acquis communautaire in the field of nuclear energy to third countries, especially with respect to the carrying out of the stress tests in the EU neighbourhood and abroad.

Implementation status

The Annual Action Programme (AAP) 2014 contained 7 Actions (Central Asia; Iraq; Tanzania; Ukraine (2 Actions); Training and Tutoring; Support measures) for a total of EUR 29.3 million. All the actions have been contracted and all the Financing Agreements were signed. Only the action foreseen for Ukraine is expected to be signed later in 2017/2018 as results from other currently ongoing projects are needed before the implementation of this action can start. All projects are going according to schedule.

The AAP 2015 contained 10 Actions (Armenia; Belarus; Central Asia; China; Cooperation with IAEA; Ukraine; Contribution to the Chernobyl Shelter Fund; Morocco; Safeguards; Support Measures). The necessary steps for the signature of the Financing agreement have already started. Two actions were already contracted (Central Asia and Chernobyl Shelter Fund).

The AAP 2016 consists of 11 Actions (Armenia, Belarus, Iran, Ukraine (2), South East Asia, Turkey, Training and Tutoring, Contribution to the Chernobyl Shelter Fund, Technical support from the Joint Research Centre and support measures). Four projects have been contracted (Armenia, Ukraine and Joint Research Centre) and the last payment of the contribution to the Chernobyl Shelter Fund executed early 2017. The procedures to contract the remaining actions have been completed before the end of 2017.

The AAP 2017 consists of 11 Actions (Armenia, (2), Georgia, Iran (2), Serbia (2), Ukraine, Contribution to the Nuclear Safety Account and the Environmental Remediation Account for Central Asia and support measures). The two contributions to the funds managed by the EBRD have been paid in 2017.

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) is the lead DG for the directly managed programme implementation.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

The Union shall finance measures to support the promotion of a high level of nuclear safety, radiation protection, and the application of efficient and effective safeguards of nuclear material in third countries.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- The promotion of an effective nuclear safety culture and implementation of the highest nuclear safety and radiation protection standards, and continuous improvement of nuclear safety.
- Responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, namely transport, pre-treatment, treatment, processing, storage and disposal, and the decommissioning and remediation of former nuclear sites and installations.
- The establishment of frameworks and methodologies for the application of efficient and effective safeguards for nuclear material in third countries.

**Examples of achievements so far**

**Safe management of Radioactive Wastes**

- The **Central Asia** states have inherited one billion tons of hazardous processing waste - highly toxic chemical and radioactive residues left behind and unsafely stored in uranium legacy sites. The EU flagship programme for the remediation of the legacy sites is now mature for implementation, with the completion of the necessary feasibility studies and environmental impact assessments. A dedicated multi-donor Environmental Remediation Fund was established in 2015 by EBRD upon the European Commission request. The European Commission has organised a very successful side event during the 72nd United Nations General Assembly in New York in 2017. The President of the Kyrgyz Republic, three Foreign Ministers from Central Asia, The Minister of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic and the EU Special Representative attended the event which created the momentum for a successful donor’s conference. This conference will be held in November 2018 supported by the European Commission together with the EBRD and the International Atomic energy Agency 8.

- A major milestone to make the **Chernobyl** site environmentally stable and safe was met on 29 November 2016 by sliding the New Safe Confinement over the nuclear reactor destroyed in April 1986. The New Safe Confinement is a giant arch-shaped structure that covers the damaged Chernobyl Unit 4 in order to prevent any further radioactive release. It is a unique engineering project of proportions: a span of 257 metres, a length of 162 metres and a height of 108 metres. The New Safe Confinement also contains the remotely operated equipment for ultimate removal of the damaged reactor and radioactive material. This important milestone in the project was achieved thanks to the joint effort of the European Union, Ukraine, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the international community. The total project cost is EUR 1.5 billion, to which the EU contributed more than EUR 430 million (under the TACIS (EUR 210 million) and INSC (EUR 220 million) programmes). It is scheduled for completion by the end of March 2018 with an official hand-over to the Ukrainian government on 26 April 2018.

**Capacity Building**

- The first project supporting the **Iranian** Nuclear Regulatory Authority has been kicked-off in July 2017 and is running smoothly in a very cooperative atmosphere. A second project supporting the implementation of the stress tests exercise at the Bushehr nuclear power plant has will start in April 2018. A follow-up project has been agreed with Iran in 2017, in compliance with the EU commitment to the implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action; it will be contracted in the second half of 2018. A third project has been agreed to be submitted for financing under the AAP 2018 demonstrating the reaffirmed commitment of the EU to the full implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

- Successful engagement with **Turkey** has been achieved in 2017 with the contracting of a project supporting capacity building for the nuclear regulatory authority in view of the decision to introduce nuclear in the national energy mix. The kick-off meeting has been held in January 2018.

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
CIVIL PROTECTION

UNION CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM – HEADING 4

What the programme is about
The Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) facilitates the cooperation in disaster response among 34 European States (28 EU Member States, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia and Turkey). When activated by an affected country, the Mechanism coordinates the provision of assistance inside and outside the EU. The primary beneficiaries are European Neighbourhood Policy countries and Candidate Countries not yet participating in the UCPM. The Participating States pool resources that can be made available to disaster-stricken countries all over the world. Mechanism is managed through the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC). The support provided may take the form of in-kind assistance, deployment of specially-equipped teams, or assessment and coordination experts sent to the field. The aim of the Mechanism is to support, coordinate and supplement the actions of the Member States in the field of civil protection with a view to improving the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters. It focuses on reducing the loss of human life, environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters through a comprehensive approach covering disaster prevention, preparedness and response; improving the understanding in Member States of disaster risks through cooperation on risk assessment and planning, and the gradual development of a European culture of disaster prevention; as well as on improving the preparedness for disasters through training, exercises, exchange of best practices and similar activities.

Benefits for EU citizens
Disasters know no borders. A well-coordinated response at a European level is necessary to avoid duplication of relief efforts and ensure that assistance meets the real needs of the affected region. Civil protection assistance consists of governmental aid delivered in the immediate aftermath of a disaster aiming to reduce the loss of human life, environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters. It can take the form of in-kind assistance, deployment of specially-equipped teams or assessment and coordination by experts sent to the field.

For a coherent, predictable and more visible EU response to disasters, the European Response Capacity was set up ready to help everywhere in the EU and in third countries, when needed.

Implementation status
The UCPM has delivered effectively on its primary role of facilitating the delivery of in-kind assistance from EU Member States to disasters inside and outside Europe, and it notably coordinated assistance for disasters in Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Chile, Dominica, Iraq, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Tunisia and Uganda, as well as organizing advisory missions to Armenia, Bhutan and Jordan. Selected prevention and preparedness actions were moreover implemented in eligible third countries (candidate, potential candidate countries and countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy), helping national civil protection administrations increase their capacities in cooperation with Member States (through prevention and preparedness projects, exercises, by participating in the training programme or in the exchange of experts programme). There were no delays in the programme execution. Some of these actions will be implemented over the period of 2 years (prevention and preparedness projects or exercises organised by Member States), others are more short-term.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

What the programme is about

Benefits for EU citizens

For a coherent, predictable and more visible EU response to disasters, the European Response Capacity was set up ready to help everywhere in the EU and in third countries, when needed.

Implementation status
The UCPM has delivered effectively on its primary role of facilitating the delivery of in-kind assistance from EU Member States to disasters inside and outside Europe, and it notably coordinated assistance for disasters in Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Chile, Dominica, Iraq, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Tunisia and Uganda, as well as organizing advisory missions to Armenia, Bhutan and Jordan. Selected prevention and preparedness actions were moreover implemented in eligible third countries (candidate, potential candidate countries and countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy), helping national civil protection administrations increase their capacities in cooperation with Member States (through prevention and preparedness projects, exercises, by participating in the training programme or in the exchange of experts programme). There were no delays in the programme execution. Some of these actions will be implemented over the period of 2 years (prevention and preparedness projects or exercises organised by Member States), others are more short-term.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!vF44kU

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The mid-term evaluation of the current Union Civil Protection Mechanism legislation was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:
http://europa.eu/!gD68jG

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11781</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.06 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>98.28 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>70.54 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>71.22 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a coherent, predictable and more visible EU response to disasters, the European Response Capacity was set up ready to help everywhere in the EU and in third countries, when needed.

Implementation status
The UCPM has delivered effectively on its primary role of facilitating the delivery of in-kind assistance from EU Member States to disasters inside and outside Europe, and it notably coordinated assistance for disasters in Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Chile, Dominica, Iraq, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Tunisia and Uganda, as well as organizing advisory missions to Armenia, Bhutan and Jordan. Selected prevention and preparedness actions were moreover implemented in eligible third countries (candidate, potential candidate countries and countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy), helping national civil protection administrations increase their capacities in cooperation with Member States (through prevention and preparedness projects, exercises, by participating in the training programme or in the exchange of experts programme). There were no delays in the programme execution. Some of these actions will be implemented over the period of 2 years (prevention and preparedness projects or exercises organised by Member States), others are more short-term.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

Strengthening the cooperation within the EU and facilitating coordination in the field of civil protection in order to improve the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters in third countries.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

- To achieve a high level of protection against disasters by preventing or reducing their effects by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection and other relevant services.
- To enhance preparedness in third countries to respond to disasters.
- To facilitate rapid and efficient response in the event of disasters or imminent disasters.
- To increase public awareness and preparedness for disasters.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- In 2017, there were 21 requests for assistance from outside the EU for sudden onset and large-scale emergencies.
- In 2017, the Mechanism facilitated the provision of assistance to the following countries outside the EU: Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Chile, Dominica, Iraq, Mexico, Montenegro, Peru, Tunisia and Uganda.
- Expertise in the form of preparedness and prevention (advisory) missions was provided to Jordan, Bhutan and Armenia.
- Assistance deployed included forest fire-fighting teams and materials (Chile), shelter materials and shelter kits (Bangladesh), medical kits (Iraq), and water purification units (Dominica).
- EU experts provided support to the Mexican authorities on the assessment of damage to cultural heritage sites following the earthquake in Mexico.
- Four prevention and preparedness programmes from the 2017 call; one twinning programme and the Programme for the Prevention Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters South III were implemented in candidate, potential candidate countries and countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy.
EU AID VOLUNTEERS
EU AID VOLUNTEERS INITIATIVE

What the programme is about

EU Aid Volunteers brings together volunteers and organisations from different countries, providing practical support to humanitarian aid projects and contributing to strengthening the local capacity and resilience of disaster-affected communities.

The programme incentivises and fosters collaboration, exchange of knowledge and good practices by building of partnerships between organisations in the field of humanitarian aid. Organisations that wish to participate in capacity building projects need to form consortia composed of a minimum of two EU-based organisations and two organisations based in third countries. Technical assistance projects require the participation of three organisations based in the EU. Furthermore, the set-up of a dedicated on-site training of selected volunteers to prepare them for deployment creates a strong ‘esprit de corps’ among European volunteers from different countries who are trained together in groups. This will then further be strengthened in the course of the implementation of the programme through the creation of a network of former and current EU Aid Volunteers, and the participating sending and hosting organisations in order to enhance learning and further professionalization of the sector.

The possibility to do an apprenticeship with an NGO based in the EU ahead of deployment will provide, especially for European citizens whose national NGOs do not provide such services due to their size or management capacity, an opportunity to engage or even seek their professional future in the field of humanitarian aid.

Benefits for EU citizens

The number, scope and complexity of humanitarian crises worldwide, both natural and man-made, have increased significantly over the years and that trend is likely to continue. Humanitarian organisations need more well-trained people to carry out practical action that helps communities affected by disaster.

EU Aid Volunteers initiative provides opportunities for citizens from the EU to volunteer in humanitarian aid projects worldwide. The initiative also supports humanitarian aid organisations by strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to humanitarian crises and volunteer management.

The EU added value comes in the form of:

- the EU Aid Volunteers has a transnational character, bringing together Union citizens from different Member States for joint contributions to humanitarian aid operations;
- fostering transnational cooperation of humanitarian aid organisations and stakeholders in implementation of the actions of the initiative;
- allowing for economies of scale and effects through complementarities and synergies with other relevant national, international and Union programmes and policies;
- providing for a tangible expression of the European values in general and in particular the solidarity of the Union and its citizens with the people who are most vulnerable and in need;
- contributing to reinforcing active European Union citizenship by empowering Union citizens of a different age and from different social, educational and professional background to engage in humanitarian aid activities.

Implementation status

The Annual Work Programme 2017 foresaw the publication of two calls for proposals, one for projects in the field of capacity building and technical assistance and another one for the deployment and apprenticeships of EU Aid Volunteers. It also covered the costs related to the evaluation of applications, the organisation of info days as well as support measures – such as the continuous development of a platform for project management and networking, communication and outreach activities, and the interim evaluation of the EU Aid Volunteers initiative. The calls were published and the interim evaluation was finalised. The development of the platform pursued, and communication and outreach activities were undertaken.

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

LEGAL BASIS


PERIOD OF APPLICATION

2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION

http://europa.eu/!QK39JQ

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>7.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>9.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>17.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>20.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>19.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>27.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>114.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED

The mid-term evaluation of the programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/!VG49Xu

More information:

http://europa.eu/!QK39JQ

% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS % EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>98.11 %</td>
<td>94.16 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.81 %</td>
<td>97.48 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

120
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

To contribute to strengthening the Union’s capacity to provide needs-based humanitarian aid aimed at preserving life, preventing and alleviating human suffering and maintaining human dignity and to strengthening the capacity and resilience of vulnerable or disaster-affected communities in third countries.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To contribute to increasing and improving the capacity of the Union to provide humanitarian aid.
- Improvement of the skills, knowledge and competences of volunteers in the field of humanitarian aid and the terms and conditions of their engagement.
- Building the capacity of hosting organisations and foster volunteering in third countries.
- Communication of the Union’s humanitarian aid principles as agreed in the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid.
- Enhancement of coherence and consistency of volunteering across Member States in order to improve opportunities for Union citizens to participate in humanitarian aid activities and operations.

Examples of achievements so far

- The selection of projects in 2017 includes 14 projects for capacity building (157 organisations), four projects for technical assistance (22 organisations) and six deployment projects which will deploy 175 EU Aid Volunteers in 2018.
- Until the end of 2017, 13 sending and 50 hosting organisations completed successfully their certification.
- An info day to promote the new calls and a first networking event with 93 external participants was organised.
- 178 candidate volunteers attended the four training sessions organised in 2017.
- The deployment of the 162 volunteers from the 2016 call started in 2017.

EU AID VOLUNTEERS

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

- EU Aid Volunteers trained: 22%
- EU Aid Volunteers deployed: 18%
- Hosting and sending organisations participating in the EU Aid Volunteers initiative: 100%
- Certified sending organisations applying the EUAV standards: 100%

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
What the programme is about
In the framework of the External Investment Plan (EIP), the European Commission has established the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) to support investments in Africa and the Union’s Neighbourhood. This initiative was inspired by the Investment Plan for Europe launched in 2015.

The EFSD is the first pillar of the EIP, under which the Commission also plans to enhance technical assistance in partner countries (pillar 2) and to work towards improving the investment climate and overall policy environment in those countries (pillar 3).

The overall aim of the EFSD is to contribute to the goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular poverty eradication, as well as to the commitments under the recently revised European Neighbourhood Policy. By supporting investments in Africa and the Neighbourhood, the EFSD also aims to address specific socioeconomic root causes of migration, including irregular migration, and to contribute to the sustainable reintegration of migrants voluntary returning to their countries of origin and to the strengthening of transit and host communities. The EFSD aims to foster decent job creation, economic opportunities and entrepreneurship, and green and inclusive growth with a particular focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women and young people.

The EFSD is managed by the European Commission and implemented through two Regional Investment Platforms (i.e. the African Investment Platform, and the Neighbourhood Investment Platform), which combine financing from the existing external blending facilities for Africa and the Neighbourhood with a newly developed EFSD Guarantee.

Under EFSD Guarantee, the Commission will provide partial guarantees to eligible counterparts, which in turn will provide support to downstream beneficiaries through a wide range of financial instruments, including loans, guarantees, counter-guarantees, capital market instruments and other forms of credit enhancement, insurance, equity or quasi-equity participations. The EFSD Guarantee will cover portfolios of investments to be implemented by eligible counterparts in targeted areas, so-called Investment Windows. A first set of Investment Windows include: sustainable energy and connectivity; micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) financing; sustainable agriculture, rural development and agribusiness; sustainable cities; digital for development.

Benefits for EU citizens
The EFSD is a bold new approach to support sustainable and innovative investment, going beyond the classical development assistance and building on the experience of existing blending facilities to maximise additionality, deliver innovative products and catalyse private sector investment. It will encourage private investors to contribute to sustainable development in countries outside of Europe. The EFSD will:
• contribute to achieving sustainable development in the partner countries in a coherent and consistent manner.
• target socio-economic sectors, in particular sustainable infrastructure (including energy, water, transport, information and communications technology, environment, social infrastructure, human capital), and provide finance for micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises with a particular focus on decent job creation.
• assist in developing economically and financially viable projects to attract investment.
• help to improve the business environment in partner countries by supporting reforms and economic governance.
• contribute to address the root causes of irregular migration and strengthen our partnerships in Africa and the EU’s Neighbourhood countries.

Implementation status
Based on the assessment by the Commission and independent experts of proposals submitted by the eligible counterparts during the first half of 2018, a number of selected financial institutions will be entrusted with managing investment programmes. The first agreements with the financial institutions are expected to be signed before the end of 2018.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation through regional investment platforms.

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2017-2020

MORE INFORMATION

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount (EUR Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>275.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>350.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
None
**Performance framework**

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- The EFSD shall contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda with a particular focus on inclusive and sustainable growth, decent job creation, gender equality and the empowerment of women and young people, socio-economic sectors and on the support to micro, small and medium sized enterprises, thus addressing root causes of migration and contributing to sustainable reintegration of returned migrants in their countries of origin while maximising additionality, delivering innovative products and crowding in private sector funds.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of the EFSD as an integrated financial package shall be to support through the supply of financing capacity in the form of grants, guarantees and other financial instruments to eligible counterparts investments and increased access to financing starting in African and Neighbourhood partner countries.

Examples of achievements so far

- In 2017 the Commission established a first set of Investment Windows for the EFSD Guarantee. The Decision sets out the objectives of each investment window and, as such, of the support by the EFSD Guarantee to portfolios of investment to be implemented by the eligible counterparts in the targeted sectors, thus ensuring alignment with EU development objectives and priorities. The Investment Windows, which were endorsed by the EFSD Strategic and Operational Boards, cover five areas: Sustainable Energy and Connectivity; Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (MSME) Financing; Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Entrepreneurs and Agribusiness; Sustainable Cities; and Digital for Development.

- Following the establishment of the Investment Windows, eligible counterparts were invited to propose investment programmes to be covered by the EFSD Guarantee. Proposals – with deadline 31 January 2018 for the Sustainable Energy and Connectivity and the MSME Financing windows, and 31 March 2018 for the remaining three windows – shall be assessed by the Commission and specifically assigned experts. Based on this assessment, a number of selected financial institutions will be entrusted with managing investment programmes. These will have to demonstrate their added value in relation to existing operations and show a demonstrable effect on the development objectives stipulated by the EFSD Regulation. The first agreements with the financial institutions are expected to be signed within the year of 2018.

- The response to the call for proposals for the first two Investment Windows – i.e. Sustainable Energy and Connectivity and the MSME Financing – was very positive. The Commission received 30 proposals from 12 partner institutions for a total value above EUR 2.5 billion, thus exceeding the current entire capacity of the EFSD Guarantee by over EUR 1 billion.


**GREENLAND**

**COOPERATION WITH GREENLAND**

### What the programme is about

Located between the North Atlantic and Arctic Ocean, Greenland is the world's largest island. It is an autonomous territory within the Kingdom of Denmark and is the only Danish territory associated to the EU. Between 1973 and 1985, Greenland was part of the EU. Following a referendum held in 1982, it withdrew from the EU and is now associated to the EU under the Overseas Association Decision. Greenland is eligible for funding from the EU’s general budget through the EU-Greenland Partnership. This has allowed for the continuation of strong relations between the partners and responds to the global challenges, allowing for the development of a proactive agenda and the pursuit of mutual interests. The partnership defines, in particular, the framework for policy dialogue on issues of common interest in areas such as (i) global issues concerning, inter alia, energy, climate change and environment, natural resources, including raw materials, maritime transport, research and innovation and (ii) Arctic issues.

The education, vocational training and post-elementary school system has been chosen as the concentration sector for the cooperation between the Union and Greenland for the period 2014-2020. This ensures Greenland’s continuous economic progress in the increasingly globalised world economy through provision of a critical mass of qualified, flexible people and a competitive workforce. Increased productivity in the working age population will reduce the growing pressure on the public finances resulting from the growing share of elderly people in the population. Furthermore, a highly educated and skilled labour force will reduce the economic dependence on single sectors and is a prerequisite for development and inclusive growth in emerging sectors.

### Benefits for EU citizens

As the EU is the only donor besides the Kingdom of Denmark, the support allocated through the partnership brings an EU perspective to the development of Greenland and will contribute to the strengthening of close and long lasting ties with that territory.

Greenlanders enjoy the citizenship of the Member State to which they are constitutionally linked (Denmark), and subsequently hold EU citizenship, making for the corresponding parts of the Treaty to apply to them. The EU support strengthens the position of Greenland as an advanced outpost of the EU, based on the common values and history which links the two partners. Through the framework of relations and dialogue with Greenland, the EU has gained a better understanding of the conditions in the Arctic, enabling it to better formulate relevant actions and policies, while Greenland supports the EU’s application for an observer seat in the Arctic Council.

### Implementation status

The EU provides financial support to the Greenland Education Sector through the implementation of a budget-support Sector Reform Contract.

A Mid-Term Review concluded that the choice to focus on education in the Cooperation with Greenland has been appropriate considering that this sector addresses beneficiaries’ needs as it is seen as the most relevant growth parameter for prosperity and societal development. It is furthermore fully consistent with EU policy priorities regarding the role of education in development as reflected in the Agenda for Change and Sustainable Development Goals. Even if the economic impact of this choice is necessarily long-term and thus, not immediately visible, this partnership has been effective in contributing to sustainable development in Greenland. The strong partnership and cooperation with the EU has enabled Greenland to increase capacity-building, develop stronger governing and financial systems, strengthen its education system and thereby its workforce.

The fixed tranche for the 2017 programme was paid in December 2017. The variable tranche 2016 was paid in December 2017 amounting to EUR 4.6 million (74 % of the total foreseen).

Three Policy Dialog Meetings were held in 2017.

For 2018 one of the main priorities will continue to be the improvement of elementary schools, which continues through the education and up-skilling of school staff, on the basis of recommendations of the external evaluation of the elementary school system reported in 2015.

### Who is in charge

Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation through budget support.

### Financial Programming (EUR Million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>24.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>30.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>51.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>51.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>323.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>52.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>33.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>217.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Evaluations/Studies Conducted

The mid-term evaluation of Greenland Decision was carried out in the framework of the mid-term review of the external financing instruments. For further information please consult: http://europa.eu/!dR38cH

### More Information

http://europa.eu/!dR38cH

### Legal Basis

Council Decision 2014/137/EU of 14 March 2014 on relations between the European Union and Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark on the other hand.

### Period of Application

2014 - 2020

---

### Table: % Executed Commitments and Payments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.52 %</td>
<td>99.52 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.99 %</td>
<td>98.39 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

124
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

• The EU/Greenland partnership aims to preserve the close and lasting links between the partners, while supporting the sustainable development of the Greenlandic society.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To support and cooperate with Greenland in addressing its major challenges in particular the sustainable diversification of the economy, the need to increase the skills of its labour force, including scientists, and the need to improve the Greenlandic information systems in the field of Information and Communication Technologies.

To contribute to the capacity of the Greenlandic administration to formulating and implementing national policies in particular in new areas of mutual interest as identified in the Programming Document for Sustainable Development.

Examples of achievements so far

• Greenland Education Programme phase 1 (2007-2013) resulted in an increased capacity of the education system and a related improved general access to education, the emphasis during phase 2 (period 2014 – 2020) is on:
  • To increase initiatives to reduce the dropout rate, including in vocational education and training (VET);
  • To improve the quality of the education system;
  • To increase the ability of the system to accommodate and include students who are in need of special attention.

• Overall, the instrument has contributed to improving educational attainment and administrative capability in Greenland. The following changes could be observed:
  • the capacity of the education system has been maintained, with attendance to educations after elementary school maintained at 3 856 in 2013 to 3 743 in 2016 and targeted at 3 856 in 2020;
  • the number of graduates from educations after elementary school has further increased after the period 2007-2013, with the number of graduates increasing from 968 in 2013 to 996 in 2016 (target 1 110 in 2020);
  • improving the quality of the elementary education system with the percentile of passes of the 7th grade test increasing from 56.25 % in 2013 to 58.75 % in 2016 (target 63 % in 2020);
  • improving the number transitions from elementary school to high school from 35.4 % in 2013 to 38 % in 2016 (target 48 % in 2020);
  • the number of transitions from high school to higher education from 64.1 % in 2014 to 49.5 % in 2016 (target 72 % in 2020);
  • reducing the number of 16–18 year olds outside the education system from 61.6 % in 2013 to 56.5 % in 2016 (target 40 % in 2020);

• The conditions attached to EU Budget Support have strengthened Greenland’s Public Financial Management system and the ability of its administration to plan and implement policies, including in sectors other than education (several ministries have begun to make 10-year plans).

• The conditions have also stimulated the government of Greenland to maintain the expenditures for education at a very high level of on average 25 % of the Public sector budget, amounting to EUR 300 million per year of which this programme contributes around EUR 30 million per year. This conditionality is the crucial difference compared to the Danish block grant, which does not impose performance indicators.
Macro-financial assistance (MFA) is a form of financial aid extended by the EU to partner countries experiencing a balance of payments crisis. It takes the form of medium/long-term loans or grants, or a combination of these, and is only available to countries benefiting from a disbursement International Monetary Fund programme. MFA is designed for countries geographically, economically and politically close to the EU. These include candidate and potential candidate countries, countries bordering the EU covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and, in certain circumstances, other third countries.

Benefits for EU citizens

The financial assistance provided under MFA operations and the policy measures attached to them aim at promoting macroeconomic and political stability in the EU’s neighbourhood. The policy measures associated with MFA cover selected provisions related, where applicable, to the accession-related agreements, Stabilisation and Association Agreements, Association Agreements, Partnership and Cooperation Agreements and European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plans or equivalent documents. They also cover other conditions aimed at fostering a sustainable balance of payments and budgetary position, raising potential growth, promoting integration and regulatory convergence with the EU and strengthening public finance management.

MFA complements EU assistance and maximises its effectiveness by alleviating the risks of disruption of the regular EU cooperation framework whilst at the same time laying the basis for structural change and sustainable economic and social development of the beneficiary countries. MFA is also complementary to the other EU crisis response mechanisms (e.g. the Instrument for Stability and humanitarian aid) and EIB lending.

When using loans, MFA operations increase the effectiveness of the EU budget through the leverage effect. MFA operations allow the EU as a whole to bundle financial resources and negotiate with recipient countries on modalities of the assistance and policy conditions as a unified actor. By complementing the resources made available by the IFIs and other donors, EU MFA contributes to the overall effectiveness of the financial support agreed by the international donor community.

Implementation status

During the course of 2017, the Commission made important progress in the implementation of a number of MFA operations. These include:

(a) three MFA operations which have been completed in 2017: Georgia II (EUR 46 million, including EUR 23 million in grants) adopted by the co-legislators in August 2013; Tunisia I (EUR 300 million in loans); and Ukraine III (EUR 1.8 billion in loans) the third and last tranche was cancelled when the availability period of the MFA expired in January 2018.

(b) two MFA operations for which the Commission’s legislative proposals were adopted by the co-legislators in 2016 and have not been (fully) implemented yet:

- Jordan II (EUR 200 million, in loans). The MFA Decision for Jordan II was adopted in December 2016. The first tranche (EUR 100 million) was disbursed in October 2017. The disbursement of the second and last tranche is foreseen in the first quarter of 2018, provided that the IMF programme is on track and the necessary conditions have been met.
- Tunisia II (EUR 500 million in loans). The MFA Decision was adopted by the co-legislators in July 2016. The first tranche of EUR 200 million was disbursed in October 2017. The disbursement of the second tranche is envisaged in early 2018, while the third and last tranche is expected to be disbursed in the first half of 2018.

(c) one MFA operation for which the Commission’s legislative proposal was adopted by the co-legislators in 2017:

- Moldova (EUR 100 million, including EUR 40 million in grants). The MFA decision for Moldova was adopted in December 2016. The first tranche of EUR 30 million is expected to be disbursed in the first quarter of 2018, provided that the necessary conditions have been met.

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) is the lead DG for the programme implementation through budget support measures (loans, grants or a mix of the two).
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

- Restoring a sustainable external finance situation for countries facing external financing difficulties

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

Providing macro-financial assistance to third countries in resolving their balance of payment crises and restoring external debt sustainability.

**MACRO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Progress 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official foreign exchange reserves - Jordan</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official foreign exchange reserves - Tunisia II</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current account balance - Jordan</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current account balance - Tunisia II</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External debt - Jordan</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>External debt - Tunisia II</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% of target achieved by 2017

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- MFA has gained increasing prominence in the EU’s external toolbox. Since 1990, the EU has implemented a number of MFA operations in candidate, potential candidate and neighbourhood countries, for a total amount of over EUR 10 billion. Since 2014, around EUR 3.66 billion have been already disbursed and other EUR 500 million have been committed for and are expected to be disbursed between 2018 and 2019 (not considering the new MFA operations to be adopted soon or currently in the pipeline).

- In 2014, the conflict in eastern Ukraine and the marked deterioration of the country’s economic and financial situation triggered MFA support at an unprecedented level, all in the form of loans. Between 2014 and 2015, EUR 3.4 billion were made available to Ukraine under three MFA operations, of which EUR 2.81 billion were disbursed as of December 2017. This represents the largest financial assistance ever granted to a non-EU country in such a short period of time. In response to persisting regional instability, in 2016 decisions on further MFA operations in Tunisia and Jordan have been adopted, for a total amount of EUR 700 million and in 2017 a new operation in Moldova for an amount of EUR 100 million has been adopted.

- As outlined in the ex-post evaluation reports published, MFA operations have contributed to restoring macroeconomic stability and returning the external financial situation of beneficiary countries on a sustainable path, whilst underpinning economic adjustments and structural reforms in the medium term through conditionality. However, given its specificities, MFA cannot be linked directly to identifiable outputs, and its concrete achievements are therefore difficult to assess.
SPECIAL INSTRUMENTS

- European Globalisation Adjustment Fund .................. 130
- European Union Solidarity Fund ......................... 132
**What the programme is about**

The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) is intended to provide support to workers made redundant as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation or the negative effects of the global economic and financial crisis.

The EGF is an emergency relief instrument. It co-finances active labour market policy measures organised by the Member States to help the redundant workers. The EGF can co-finance a range of services for the redundant workers, from guidance, careers advice, coaching and training courses to assistance in setting up their own business. These services help the workers re-position themselves on the labour market and to return to employment as quickly as possible by enabling them to update their knowledge and skills, or benefit from other suitable means, e.g. mobility allowances, child care allowance.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

The EGF addresses the adverse effects of globalisation, strengthens overall participation in the labour market and demonstrates the EU’s solidarity with the workers affected. Union involvement through the EGF allows it to complement national and European Social Fund (ESF) resources available for the re-integration of workers made redundant as a consequence of trade related globalisation and a global financial and economic crisis.

Practice has shown that the EGF allows Member States to offer targeted beneficiaries better tailor-made and more in-depth assistance than would be possible without it, including measures to which they would not normally have access (e.g. third-level education). The EGF allows Member States to pay particular attention to vulnerable people, such as lower-skilled or those with a migrant background, and to provide support with a better counsellor-beneficiary ratio and/or over a longer period of time than it would be possible without the EGF.

The result of the beneficiary survey, carried within the frame of the EGF mid-term evaluation, has shown that 67% of the respondents were of the opinion that the EGF is creating EU added-value by offering assistance to workers made redundant in major restructuring events.

**Implementation status**

Between 2014 and 2017 a total of 48 applications have been submitted by 11 Member States (BE, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, GR, IE, IT, NL and SE) out of which 3 have later been withdrawn. Whereas 5 applications are still in the assessment or adoption phase, the other 40 applications met the funding criteria and therefore resulted in the mobilisation of EUR 127 610 701 from the EGF funding for 40 310 targeted workers and NEETs.

Out of 45 accepted applications, 28 were submitted under the trade-related globalisation criterion and 17 under the economic and financial crisis criterion. The cases cover 25 different sectors, with the retail sector (6 cases) and the automotive sector (5 cases) being the sectors most often subject to EGF applications during period under consideration.

Based on the experiences made during the previous funding period, several changes were introduced in the EGF Regulation for 2014-2020 as to speed up the application process significantly (up to 20 weeks as compared to 41 in the previous programming period). Besides procedural changes, guidance measures to Member States have been intensified. Those measures led to a further reduction of the applications’ processing time.

In order to promote the exchange of best practices and discuss issues of common interest biannual EGF Contact Persons’ Meetings (CPM) are organised inviting the Member States’ representatives responsible for managing the EGF cases on the ground. In 2018 these meetings have been planned in March in Italy and in October in Spain.

At the same time as the CPM, the EGF Networking Seminars are organised appealing to policy makers, project promoters, counsellors, trade unions and beneficiary representatives. The first EGF Networking Seminar will take place in March 2018 in Italy and will be dedicated to the synergies and complementarity between EGF and other EU funds. Subsequent EGF Seminar is planned for October 2018 in Spain. Both events will be complemented by project visits of EGF cases in implementation phase.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. EGF cases are managed and implemented by national or regional authorities. Each project runs for 2 years.

### FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>12041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>15993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>16561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>16892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>17575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>17926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total programming</strong></td>
<td><strong>1 142.19</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>16.85 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>10.69 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>24.83 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>9.36 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MORE INFORMATION

http://europa.eu/PU34df

LEGAL BASIS


PERIOD OF APPLICATION

2014 - 2020

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED

Report on the activities of the EGF in 2015 and 2016 was published in 2017. For further information please consult: http://europa.eu/ghN38Gg
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

none

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

To contribute to smart, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and to promote sustainable employment in the Union by enabling the Union to demonstrate solidarity towards and to support workers made redundant and self-employed persons whose activity has ceased as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation, as a result of a continuation of the global financial and economic crisis addressed in Regulation (EC) No 546/2009, or as a result of a new global financial and economic crisis.

Examples of achievements so far

- The overall aim of each case is to ensure that the largest possible number of beneficiaries find sustainable employment as soon as possible.

- Based on the final reports received in 2014, 2015 and 2016 it can be observed that on average 46% to 47% of the targeted workers have taken up new employment following EGF intervention, a figure which in the general case rises during the six to twelve months after the end of EGF support. As regards the final reports received in 2017, the re-employment rate is significantly higher and reaches 57%. Taking into consideration that all final reports received in 2017 were the cases from the new funding period these results are very encouraging.

- It is worth pointing out that the beneficiaries supported by EGF co-funded measures are usually among those facing the greatest difficulties on the labour market. The results in terms of reintegration into work are influenced by absorption capacities of local and regional labour markets in the aftermath of the global economic and financial crisis. Hence the reintegration rate is very case specific and it may considerably differ depending on the specific economic sector and the area concerned.

- Furthermore four Member States (BE, IE, GR and ES) have targeted 3 369 Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) through EGF measures.

- In terms of both operational effectiveness and efficiency, the first Estonian EGF application ever can be regarded as a best practise example: as two unrelated major cases of redundancies occurred in the same region, but in different companies and sectors, the Estonian authorities decided to apply for a derogation to combine these in one single application. This led to efficiency gains in terms of administrative burden, but also improved effectiveness, as this allowed offering a broader range of measures, tailor-made to the specific needs of certain groups of beneficiaries.

EGF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

Redundant workers reintegrated into employment following EGF supported measures

100% % of target achieved by 2017

The “Progress towards the target” displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set, by considering a linear monotone path. Each indicator is specific by its nature and the distance towards the target allows comparing performance of indicators and programmes across the whole EU budget.
**What the programme is about**

The European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF), created in 2002, is activated upon request of an eligible State when major or regional natural disasters eligible for EUSF aid occur, such as earthquakes, floods, droughts, forest fires, storms, etc. Eligibility is essentially determined by total direct damage which must exceed a threshold specific to each Member State or Country Negotiating their Accession to the EU and is set at regional level. The number and size of eligible disaster determines the amount of spending in a given year. The total annual budgetary allocation to the Fund laid down in the multi-annual financial framework is a ceiling rather than a spending target. The Fund is therefore not programmable as it entirely depends on the unpredictable occurrence, nature and magnitude of these disasters.

The Commission may not activate it upon its own initiative. Financial assistance from the EUSF is awarded from appropriations raised by the budgetary authority (the Council and the European Parliament) over and above the normal EU budget. This ensures that in each case the aid comes as an expression of solidarity with the full backing of Member States and the Parliament, not just an administrative act of the Commission.

The Fund can be used to (re-)finance emergency measures from day one of the disaster, such as restoration to working order of basic infrastructure, providing temporary accommodation and funding rescue services to help the population affected, securing of preventive infrastructure (dams/dykes) and cleaning-up operations. In order to have greater budgetary effect there is no national co-financing requirement. The EUSF intervenes for emergency and recovery operations in the areas of basic infrastructures mainly for transport (road, rail) and water management (securing of flood protection constructions), energy, and cleaning up operations. In some cases, beneficiary States also used the Fund to cover the cost of temporary housing.

**Benefits for EU citizens**

Solidarity is one of the core values of the European Union and a guiding principle of the European integration process. The Fund is a concrete demonstration of solidarity between Member States in acute times of need caused by the occurrence of a severe natural disaster by providing financial assistance to Member States and Countries Negotiating their Accession to the EU.

**Implementation status**

In 2017, 10 applications were received, namely three cases from Spain (Murcia flooding in 2016, Doñana forest fires in 2017 and Galicia forest fires in 2017), from Portugal relating to the forest fires of 2017, two cases from Greece (Lesbos and Kos earthquake in 2017), from Poland for the storm of 2017, from Latvia and Lithuania for the flooding of 2017 and from France relating to the hurricanes Irma and Maria of 2017. Two applications (Murcia flooding and Doñana forest fires) were rejected by the Commission. The assessments of the remaining 8 applications were ongoing in early 2018.

Since 2015, under the terms of the EUSF Regulation as revised in 2014, Member States, when submitting their application, have the possibility to request an advance payment of 10% of the anticipated aid amount, limited to a maximum of EUR 30 million. In 2017, Portugal, Greece and France used this possibility and the advances, for a total EUR 6.521 million, were paid out shortly after their applications were made in 2017.

For 5 applications received in 2015-2016, namely for the Lower Bavaria flooding of 2016, for the fires in Portugal of 2016, for the drought and fires in Cyprus of 2016, for the series of earthquakes in Italy of 2016-2017 and for the flooding in the United Kingdom of 2015, payments totaling EUR 1.29 million were made in 2017.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through shared management for Member States or indirect management for Countries Negotiating their Accession to the EU.
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

none

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE**

To grant financial assistance to Member States or Countries Negotiating their Accession to the EU in the event of a major natural disaster with serious repercussions on living conditions, the natural environment or the economy for the financing of emergency operations undertaken by the public authorities in support of the affected population.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- In February 2017 Italy updated its initial application relating to the 2016 earthquakes after another severe shake had occurred in January. This disaster was the biggest ever in terms of damage dealt with by the EUSF. In October 2017 Italy was awarded the record amount of EUR 1 197 million. This was possible only by using the full EUSF allocation for 2016 (carried forward to 2017), the 2017 allocation plus the frontloading of a part of the 2018 allocation.

- After the assessment of the implementation reports and independent audit opinions received for earlier EUSF cases, the Commission closed 7 interventions in 2017 dating from 2007 to 2013 concerning Slovenia (2 cases), the United Kingdom, Romania (3 cases) and Germany.

- The EUSF contribution is determined by awarding 2.5 % for the part of total direct damage up to the “major disaster” threshold and 6 % for the part of the damage exceeding the threshold; accordingly, for regional disasters and disasters accepted under the “neighbouring country” provision, the EUSF contribution is 2.5 % of total direct damage.

- The overall impact of the EUSF is targeted on the affected population. It is usually not possible to identify the specific part of the population or areas covered by the EUSF intervention alone as most emergency and recovery operations are substantially covered by the beneficiary State’s own budget.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ABBREVIATION</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DG AGRI</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG BUDG</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG DEVCO</td>
<td>Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIGIT</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG EAC</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Education and Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ECFIN</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ECHO</td>
<td>Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ECFIN</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ENER</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ENV</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESTAT</td>
<td>Eurostat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG FISMA</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FPI</td>
<td>Service for Foreign Policy Instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG GROW</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG HOME</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG JUST</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG MARE</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG MOVE</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG NEAR</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLAF</td>
<td>European Anti-Fraud Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG REGIO</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG RTD</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Research and Innovation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG SANTE</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG</td>
<td>Secretariat-General of the European Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRSS</td>
<td>Structural Reform Support Service of the Secretariat-General of the European Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG TAXUD</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Key Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Agencies**                      | - An executive agency is a body governed by European public law and having its own legal personality, to which the Commission entrust, under its own control and responsibility, certain tasks relating to the management of EU programmes.  
- A decentralised agency is a body governed by European public law and having its own legal personality. A decentralised agency is subject to the external control of the Court of Auditors and to the annual discharge from the European Parliament |
| **Annual Management and Performance Report (AMPR)** | The Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget (AMPR) provides a comprehensive overview of the performance, management and protection of the EU budget. The Commission, by adopting this report, takes overall political responsibility for the management of the EU budget. |
| **Appropriations**                | Amount of commitments/payments which can be committed/paid after receipt of contributions.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| **Basic act**                     | Act of secondary law (regulation, directive or decision) laying down the objectives and conditions for budget implementation. It usually relates to action type (programmes).                                                                                      |
| **Budget implementation**         | Consumption of the budget through expenditure and revenue operations.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| **Budgetary commitment**          | A budgetary commitment is a reservation of appropriations to cover for subsequent expenses.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| **Direct Management**             | Direct management (selecting contractors, awarding grants, transferring funds, monitoring activities, etc.) of a fund or programme by the European Commission (centralised direct management) or one of its agencies (centralised indirect management), unlike shared management. |
| **Discharge**                     | Decision by which the European Parliament closes an annual budget exercise, on the basis of a recommendation from the Council and a declaration of assurance from the Court of Auditors. It covers the accounts of all the Union’s revenue and expenditure, the resulting balance, and assets and liabilities, as shown in the balance sheet. |
| **Draft budget**                  | The proposal of the European Commission for an annual financial plan drawn up according to budgetary principles, which provides forecasts and authorises an estimate of future costs and revenue and expenditures, with detailed descriptions and justifications (the latter in 'budgetary remarks'). The Commission integrates in this document the administrative expenditure requested from all EU institutions, consolidates the document and submits it to the European Parliament and the Council no later than 1 September. |
| **Evaluations**                   | Tools to provide a reliable and objective assessment of how efficient and effective interventions financed from or guaranteed by EU budget have been or are expected to be (in the case of ex ante evaluation). Commission services assess to what extent they have reached their policy objectives, and how they could improve their performance in the future. |
| **Financial instruments**         | Union measures of financial support provided from the budget in order to address one or more specific policy objectives of the Union through a risk-sharing mechanism. Such instruments may take the form of equity or quasi-equity investments, loans or guarantees, or other risk-sharing instruments, and may, where appropriate, be combined with other forms of financial support or with funds under shared implementation. |
| **Grants**                        | Direct financial contributions, by way of donation, from the budget in order to finance either an action intended to help achieve an objective part of an EU policy or the functioning of a body which pursues an aim of general European interest or has an objective forming part of an EU policy. |
| **Headings**                      | In the multiannual financial framework or financial perspective are groups of EU activities in broad categories of expenditure. The Multi-annual Financial Framework (2017-2020) is composed of six broad expenditure categories, or headings:  
  - Heading 1 – Smart and Inclusive Growth: economic policies in general (support for SMEs, education, innovation, cohesion policy, etc.), with two sub-headings: Competitiveness for growth and jobs (1a) and Economic, social and territorial cohesion (1b)  
  - Heading 2 – Sustainable Growth: Natural Resources: agriculture, fisheries and the environment  
  - Heading 3 – Security and citizenship: justice and immigration inter alia  
  - Heading 4 – Global Europe: worldwide issues (international affairs, cooperation, etc.)  
  - Heading 5 – Administration: the EU’s functioning costs (salaries of staff, buildings, pensions, etc.)  
  - Heading 6 – Compensations (referred to less frequently) |
| **Implementation rate**           | Share of available amounts committed or paid.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| **Indirect Management**           | A form of implementation of the EU budget, based on entrustment by the Commission of one or more third parties (e.g.: third countries, international organisations, EIB Group) for various reasons (e.g.: expertise of the third party, nurturing cooperation, enhancing cost-efficiency, etc.). |
| **Joint Undertakings (JUs)**      | A legal EU-body established under the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU. The term can be used to describe any collaborative structure proposed for the “efficient execution of Union research, technological development and demonstration programmes”. |
| **Payment appropriations**        | Payment appropriations cover expenditure due in the current year, arising from legal commitments entered in the current year and/or earlier years.                                                                                                                                 |
| **Programme**                     | EU policies are implemented through a wide range of programmes and funds providing financial support to hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries – farmers, students, scientists, NGOs, businesses, towns, regions, etc. |
| **Shared Management**             | Management of an EU fund or programme delegated to EU countries Member States (as opposed to direct management). This applies to the vast majority of EU-funded projects.                                                                                                     |
| **Special Instruments**           | The European Union budget can call on Special Instruments to allow the Union to react to specified unforeseen circumstances or to allow the financing of clearly identified expenditure which cannot be financed within the limits of the ceilings available for one or more headings. Their mobilisation is subject to a decision of the budgetary authority, acting on a transfer proposal from the “reserve” title to the line concerned. |
**Getting in touch with the EU**

**In person**
All over the European Union there are hundreds of Europe Direct information centres. You can find the address of the centre nearest you at: https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en

**On the phone or by email**
Europe Direct is a service that answers your questions about the European Union. You can contact this service:
- by freephone: 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 (certain operators may charge for these calls),
- at the following standard number: +32 22999696 or
- by email via: https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en

**Finding information about the EU**

**Online**
Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website at: https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en

**EU publications**
You can download or order free and priced EU publications at: https://publications.europa.eu/en/publications. Multiple copies of free publications may be obtained by contacting Europe Direct or your local information centre (see https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en).

**EU law and related documents**
For access to legal information from the EU, including all EU law since 1952 in all the official language versions, go to EUR-Lex at: http://eur-lex.europa.eu

**Open data from the EU**
The EU Open Data Portal (http://data.europa.eu/euodp/en) provides access to datasets from the EU. Data can be downloaded and reused for free, both for commercial and non-commercial purposes.