Long-term responses to global security threats

Contributing to security capacity building in third countries through the Instrument for Stability
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Internet  
http://eepas.europa.eu/index_en.htm  
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid  
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/ifs_en.htm  
http://www.cbrn-coe.eu

Conception/pre-press: Tipik communication agency


The brochure Long-Term Responses to Global Security Threats is available in French, English, Spanish and Portuguese.

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Cataloguing data can be found at the end of this publication.

doi:10.2783/61247

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Printed in Belgium, March 2011  
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER
Foreword

The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism and organised crime, trafficking in drugs, human beings and weapons, and the proliferation of small arms are all examples of the intermingled cross-border challenges that countries and regions have to meet in the ever-changing security environment of the twenty-first century.

Aware that, in the face of global problems, there is no substitute for common solutions, the European Commission fosters regional cooperation on security matters in other areas of the world within the context of its external cooperation. The 2003 European Security Strategy and the 2008 implementation report on the strategy promote comprehensive approaches to addressing these global security threats.

The Instrument for Stability is a specific thematic instrument designed to work with partner countries and regional organisations in order to enhance their capacity to manage crises, emerging dangers and destabilising threats to security across regions through the establishment of trans-national and trans-regional cooperation networks.

Since its inception in 2007, the instrument has enabled the EU to prevent and intervene in crisis situations and, at the same time, to address the root causes of instability. The planning for future years is currently in preparation with a view to the new multi-annual strategy and the new indicative programme for 2012-13, which will be finalised in 2011. The next steps in the programming cycle for the Instrument for Stability are being carried out under the new institutional framework for the EU’s external action, as set forth by the Lisbon Treaty. As an external assistance tool, the Instrument for Stability will fall within the scope of the newly established coordination role of the European External Action Service and will continue to be implemented by the Commission. 2011 is therefore an important year for assessing the tool’s achievements so far.

This is the background against which this brochure has been produced, as a way of illustrating how the Commission supports durable security in partner countries, driven by the belief that security is not only a universal right, but also a precondition for development.

The brochure focuses on the instrument’s longer-term dimension, which provides the means to strengthen the response capacities of partner countries to distinctly trans-regional security issues such as cross-border threats to the security and safety of individuals, critical infrastructure and public health, as well as risks from chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials or agents. A brief reminder of the general structure of the Instrument for Stability can be found at the end of the brochure.

The activities implemented so far have demonstrated that the added value of this approach lies in the possibility to operate at a global, regional or trans-regional level, coping with threats that cannot be addressed by geographic instruments and adjusting responses to the challenges on the ground.

The new multi-annual strategy and indicative planning will build on the lessons learned during these years and also on the hallmarks of the Instrument for Stability: innovation and flexibility.

Fokion Fotiadis
Director General
EuropeAid Development and Cooperation Directorate-General
Sustainable economic growth and social development are unthinkable without a safe environment in which they can flourish. Ensuring stability is therefore a prerequisite for successful cooperation between the EU and its partner countries around the world. While the European Commission is working to prevent and end conflicts and also restore stability in their aftermath, its involvement does not stop there. Action is taken at many levels to tackle security threats and maintain stability in a long-term perspective. Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risk mitigation and trans-regional security issues are at the heart of activities in this field.

Organised crime, terrorism, trafficking and threats to critical infrastructure as well as the risks linked to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons are today’s major security hazards threatening peace and stability around the world.

The Commission aims to address these issues through innovative capacity building that combines financial and technical assistance at national, regional and trans-regional levels. Included as long-term priorities in its Instrument for Stability (IfS), the measures form part of a framework specifically designed to create stable conditions for cooperation.
The Expert Support Facility (ESF)

Given the highly sensitive subjects and technical domains dealt with, identifying priorities as well as designing and implementing programmes and projects in capacity building for security require considerable expertise. To improve the reliability and effectiveness of technical and financial assistance provided to partner countries, a flexible mechanism has been put in place: the Expert Support Facility.

Through the facility, experts from specialist public or semi-public organisations in the EU Member States have joined forces to make their specific knowledge and expertise available in order to contribute to the preparation and implementation of measures. The ESF guarantees the best use of resources available while ensuring enhanced coordination with other bilateral or multilateral donors, in particular (but not exclusively) the EU Member States.

Since 2008, about 100 multi-disciplinary experts from 17 different EU Member States covering 60 different organisations and institutions have carried out more than 100 fact-finding visits and missions to West Africa, North Africa and the Middle East, the Sahel, South-East Asia, Central and South America and the Caribbean.

**Operational areas**
Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation

The 2003 European Security Strategy (ESS) defines the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) as potentially the greatest threat to European security. Support for international efforts to mitigate chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) risks has therefore been included as a priority in the Instrument for Stability.

The measures financed through the Instrument for Stability target the mitigation of CBRN risks, including proliferation of WMD, in particular through policies for the effective control of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials and agents, export controls on dual-use goods, and redirecting former weapons scientists into peaceful research activities. For the 2007-13 period, €300 million have been earmarked for this purpose.

The activities are guided by the ESS and by the EU Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, as well as by major international commitments, such as the G8 Global Partnership or UN Security Council Resolution 1540.

While knowledge and expertise needed to mitigate CBRN risks are available at national, regional and international levels, these resources are often not effectively implemented. Lack of coordination and preparedness at national levels and fragmentation of responsibilities within a region can have dramatic consequences: non-state actors trying to acquire CBRN materials or expertise will exploit this situation, and an incoherent response will broaden the impact of a CBRN incident. This is why the EU is putting in place a framework providing for cooperation and coordination between all levels of government and international partners.

“€300 million earmarked for the 2007-2013 period”

1 Under article 4.2 of the Instrument for Stability Regulation.
2 The EU Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction was adopted in 2003.
Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Centres of Excellence for Risk Mitigation

Regional Centres of Excellence are being set up to help countries build institutional capacity and implement a coherent and coordinated strategy for CBRN risk mitigation, as required under their international commitments. The centres will make available relevant expertise, including best practices, legal issues, scientific and technical support and practical training on security risks.

Main objectives

- strengthening a regional culture of safety and security by increasing local ownership, local expertise and long-term sustainability;
- mobilising national, regional and international resources to create the conditions for the development of coherent CBRN policies at national and regional levels.

Partners

- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and the European Commission Directorate General Joint Research Centre (JRC).

Area

- the EU is engaged in establishing centres in Central Asia, South-East Asia, Southern Caucasus/Ukraine and the Middle East.

Expected medium-term results

- promoting cooperation between the EU and the regions on CBRN activities;
- strengthening existing networks and regional cooperation in the field of CBRN risk mitigation, including export control issues, illicit trafficking, illicit financing, bio-safety and bio-security, as well as engagement of the scientific community;
- increasing ownership by the countries based on existing strengths and availability of EU expertise;
- capacity building at regional and national levels;
- long-term sustainability through continuity of EU support.

Estimated EU contribution: €95 million

Duration: 2009-13 (implementation until 2016)
Prevention of CBRN illicit trafficking and related deceptive financial practices

The fight against illicit trafficking of CBRN materials and related deceptive financial practices is an area where the European Commission, and notably its Joint Research Centre, has long-standing expertise. The Instrument for Stability has broadened the related geographic scope.

Ongoing projects to combat this particular threat include:

- supporting the development of Knowledge Management Systems on CBRN trafficking in South-East Europe and the Southern Caucasus, as well as in North Africa;
- improving the detection of radioactive materials at borders or other nodal points in the former Soviet Union, Northern Africa and ASEAN countries;
- carrying out border monitoring activities in Georgia, Central Asian countries and Afghanistan.

Support for bio-safety and bio-security

Outbreaks of highly infectious diseases, increasing numbers of high-level containment laboratories, and evolving technologies in the life sciences, make bio-safety and bio-security vital priorities in terms of both CBRN risk mitigation and public health protection. To that end, the Instrument for Stability is also helping to strengthen capacities in selected countries by providing training and necessary equipment for improving the scientific and technical skills of personnel staffing or supervising the relevant laboratories.

These measures are being implemented in Russia, Central Asia, the Mediterranean Basin, South-East Europe and the Southern Caucasus. The Middle East, South-East Asia and parts of Africa have also been identified for future specific projects.

Export controls on dual-use goods

Dual-use goods are products and technologies which are normally used for civilian purposes, but may have military applications. The overall objective of this programme is to ensure that third countries develop a more systematic and sustainable framework for implementing export controls.

Fields of expertise include:

- detailed analysis of the national export control systems in partner countries;
- support for draft primary legislation and rules of procedure;
- support for licensing authorities in the enforcement of laws and regulations;
- training of customs officers;
- support for raising awareness within the industry and among researchers;
- support and training for the judicial sector in terms of handling cases of violations of export control laws and regulations.

18 partner countries are currently involved and receiving expert assistance from nearly 100 EU experts covering 21 of the EU Member States. Building on the positive results of the activities already undertaken in various regions, the programme now seeks to consolidate existing actions, reinforce related training and expand to new countries in the regions of concern. To this end, the Instrument for Stability foresees support for the development of
legal frameworks and institutional capacities to increase efficiency in export controls on dual-use items, including measures for regional cooperation.

Priority regions are the Western Balkans and the European Neighbourhood Policy countries. Asian countries will also be involved at a future stage.

Preventing the proliferation of WMD expertise

In the aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union, concern over the threat posed by the proliferation of expertise in weapons of mass destruction centred on former Soviet Union countries. Since 1994, the European Union has been supporting the International Science and Technology Centre in Moscow (ISTC) and the Science and Technology Centre in Ukraine (STCU) together with other parties (USA, Canada and Japan) via international bilateral agreements. Today, it is also necessary to address the risk of expertise proliferation from other regions, notably the Middle East and Asia, and to support alternative employment for scientists and engineers who took part in former weapons programmes. A new programme in Iraq is already being funded by the Instrument for Stability to redirect former WMD scientists through capacity building for the decommissioning, dismantling and decontamination of nuclear facilities, including site and radioactive waste management.

"Bio-safety and bio-security: vital priorities in terms of both CBRN risk mitigation and public health protection"

Multilateral nuclear assurances

The EU is committed to the establishment of a nuclear fuel bank of low-enriched uranium under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to ensure that any expansion of nuclear power for civilian use does not result in the spread of sensitive nuclear fuel technology, in particular enrichment and reprocessing technologies, with the associated risks of illicit trafficking and proliferation.
By their very nature, security issues such as organised crime, terrorism, illicit trafficking in drugs, human beings and arms, and threats to critical infrastructure, are interconnected and transcend boundaries. This is why responses to trans-regional threats to security were made a priority of the Instrument for Stability.

The programmes devised in this context focus on capacity building in close consultation with beneficiary countries. Typically, security capacities are strengthened at the national, regional and, ultimately, trans-regional level. Under a tailored approach, key countries in a region are identified and the capacities of local law enforcement and security units strengthened by setting up or strengthening specialised inter-agency units. Regional coordination functions are then established, making use of existing structures whenever possible, to foster regional and trans-regional cooperation. Information sharing is promoted through regional information systems. This results in the development of standardised operational procedures for responding to threats and the improvement of efficiency across the region as a whole. For the 2007-13 period, €118 million were earmarked for these measures.

The involvement of a plurality of countries implies multiple security authorities and legislation systems. The programmes acknowledge national laws while fostering international arrangements, thereby giving value to existing national structures and preparing the establishment of regional and trans-regional mechanisms.

To maximise the impact of the various programmes, synergies between them are sought, while coordination with other thematic and geographic instruments of the Commission is also pursued.

“€118 million earmarked for the 2007-2013 period”

Fighting organised crime on drug trafficking routes

Cocaine trafficking

Illicit drug trafficking, one of the major activities of organised crime worldwide, benefits from insufficient international cooperation, regulatory inconsistencies, political obstacles and lack of governance over the global financial markets. Cocaine trafficking from Latin America via the Caribbean towards West Africa and on to Europe, for example, is facilitated by the lack of regional and inter-regional cooperation. Illicit trafficking in drugs is closely connected with other forms of organised crime. Cocaine trafficking across these regions is complemented by high volumes of illicit financial flows which are instrumental to the concealment, laundering and investment of criminal proceeds.

A specific programme has been designed to support the fight against organised crime on the cocaine trafficking routes. The programme addresses all regions along the routes from Latin America to Europe, with a special focus on West Africa, where the threat has appeared more recently and the gap in capacity is high. It encompasses the trans-regional dimension by creating cooperation links between West Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. The aim of the programme is to strengthen the capacity for international cooperation between the law enforcement, prosecution and judicial authorities of the regions concerned. The interventions focus on building anti-drug capacities at selected airports and seaports in West Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and on establishing trans-regional frameworks for judicial cooperation, training, joint investigations and operations as well as information sharing. The activities are being carried out by the law enforcement, border control and customs authorities of the EU Member States as well as with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and Interpol.

One of the programme’s components deals with money laundering. The action is under way in Latin America and seeks to establish gradual links with West Africa. In this case, implementation takes place with regional law enforcement and anti-money laundering institutions, starting with the Financial Action Task Force of South America against Money Laundering (GAFISUD). Another major component is targeting the American Policy Community (AMERIPOL), its Member States and other essential stakeholders. A coordination and monitoring support mechanism is being established to ensure coherence between actions and complementarity with existing international mechanisms.
Strengthening the fight against trafficking by sea and air

As drugs are often smuggled by sea and air along the cocaine route, two targeted projects were set up focusing on selected airports (AIRCOP) and seaports (SEACOP).

**Operation COCAIR within the Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP)**

The operation was carried out at 25 international airports in 22 countries.

**Main objectives**
- strengthening anti-drug trafficking mechanisms in selected international airports;
- intercepting shipments of cocaine and other drugs bound for Europe.

**EU partners**
- WCO, UNODC, Interpol.

**Area**
- Western and Central Africa, selected hubs in Latin America and the Caribbean and South Africa.

**AIRCOP’s main expected medium-term results**
- establishment of Joint Airport Interdiction Task Forces;
- establishment of an operational communication network.

**Achievements**
- strengthened controls at major international airports;
- increased awareness of airport inspection services about smuggling risks on flights;
- collection of data on cocaine trafficking in the regions concerned;
- improved information sharing between customs and police services;
- 25 significant seizures: chemical precursors (Côte d'Ivoire), 1,870 kg of cannabis (Gabon), cocaine (Nigeria, Senegal, Ghana, Cape Verde and Mali) and several seizures of cash, arms and African works of art.

**EU contribution: €4.8 million**

**Duration: 2010-14**

**Seaport Cooperation Programme (SEACOP)**

In 2009, an estimated 250 tonnes of drugs were smuggled by sea from Latin America via the Caribbean towards West Africa and on to Europe, mostly concealed among legitimate cargos or on board yachts, speedboats or fishing vessels. The SEACOP programme was launched to curb this practice.

**Main objectives**
- supporting capacity building in the fight against maritime trafficking and associated criminal networks;
- strengthening regional and trans-regional cooperation in this context.
EU partner

- EU Member State Services Consortium.

Area

- Phase I: Cape Verde, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Côte d’Ivoire, Togo, Benin, Guinea-Bissau and Gambia in West-Africa;
- Phase II: Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil and selected Caribbean countries.

Expected medium-term results

- setting up Joint Maritime Control Units in key ports and Joint Maritime Intelligence Units;
- improving regional cooperation and intelligence sharing;
- providing regional maritime training;
- creating national and regional maritime information systems.

EU contribution: €3 million
Duration: 2010-14

Heroin trafficking

A comparable programme was set up to fight illicit trafficking to and from Afghanistan along the heroin trafficking routes. Traffickers take advantage of the lack of regional cooperation and weak law enforcement capacity. The same organised crime networks are also involved in the trafficking of human beings to the EU. Dealing with trafficking along the heroin routes therefore goes hand in hand with fighting organised crime in the Caucasus, the Black Sea Basin and the Western Balkans. A first major project to support the fight against trafficking to and from Afghanistan was launched in 2009. It focused on law enforcement cooperation between Central Asian countries, with a strong emphasis on Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran, and involved the ten countries of the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO).

A new project is planned for 2011, providing support for the fight against organised crime including trafficking in human beings, along the heroin routes in the Black Sea Basin and, ultimately, in the Western Balkans region.

Stepping up the fight against the proliferation of small arms and light weapons

Small arms proliferation fuels and sustains conflicts, illicit trafficking, gang violence and urban criminality. The Instrument for Stability contributes to international efforts to fight the proliferation, accumulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons. A specific programme was launched in support of measures to prevent the proliferation of firearms and explosive materials in selected regions of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

5 The actual start of activities in some of the countries depends on stable and secure conditions on the ground.
6 Economic Cooperation Organisation members: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.
It addresses two distinct key aspects:

- promoting the implementation of international agreements against the illicit manufacture and trafficking of small arms and light weapons, in combination with capacity building for law enforcement agencies in Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa;
- implementing a project to provide for the development of a stolen and lost firearms database at Interpol that will draw information from all 188 Interpol member countries.

The programme’s emphasis lies in strengthening coordination at regional and sub-regional levels, in line with the activities of regional organisations like the Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons (RECSA) in Africa and the Central American Integration System (SICA), both being supported by the IfS.

Counteracting the illicit accumulation and trafficking of firearms in Africa

Millions of illegal small arms and light weapons are thought to be circulating throughout the African continent. A project in cooperation with an African specialised organisation was launched to address this situation.

Main objective
- supporting the fight against illicit accumulation and trafficking of firearms and explosive materials by focusing on the effective application of existing international and regional agreements.

EU partner
- Regional Centre on Small Arms (RECSA).

Area

Expected medium-term results
- enhanced information sharing amongst sub-regions through electronic record keeping in each sub-region;
- strengthened cross-border cooperation between Regional Police Cooperation Organisations.

EU contribution: €3.3 million (Phase I – an extension is planned for 2011)

Duration: 2010-12
Enhancing maritime security and safety along critical maritime routes

Maritime transport faces a number of multi-dimensional security issues. Piracy and armed robbery against ships are a serious threat to maritime trading routes (representing by far the largest proportion of world trade by volume), humanitarian deliveries and regional stability. A programme is helping to combat this particular form of organised crime by supporting the capacity of coastal states to ensure security and safety along critical maritime routes. It addresses the ‘hot spots’ of risks and threats crossed by major shipping lanes.

The action focused initially on the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, where the safety of navigation is challenged by the archipelago structure of the Straits coupled with high-intensity naval traffic and shipments of hazardous and noxious materials, by armed robbery at sea and, to a lesser extent, by piracy incidents. Taking into account the sharp deterioration of the security situation in the Western Indian Ocean, the focus of the programme has shifted towards that area. The Commission has been supporting the implementation of the Djibouti Code of Conduct, which provides a framework for cooperation among coastal and user states for the repression of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden. The implementation of the agreement entails the establishment of a regional training centre in Djibouti, working under the aegis of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and of a regional information-sharing centre in Yemen. Ultimately, the scope of the programme encompasses the whole spectrum of maritime security and safety, beyond the short-term response to the piracy threat.

A second component of the programme provides training and equipment for law enforcement agencies in the Western Indian Ocean in order to enhance their active responses to maritime armed robbery and piracy.

The third component includes measures to improve maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea with a focus on piracy and armed robbery.

A pilot project on piracy, maritime awareness and risks began in 2010. The initial scope, focusing on the Western Indian Ocean area, will be extended at a later stage to include the Gulf of Guinea region.
Critical maritime routes in the Western Indian Ocean

In the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Western Indian Ocean, the issue of piracy and armed robbery has become a serious problem since 2008. A programme is being implemented, aimed at increasing the security of critical maritime routes in the area.

Main objective
- enabling maritime administration and law enforcement in the region to respond effectively to armed robbery against ships and piracy by providing them with the necessary training and equipment.

EU partner
- a consortium of EU Member State services and Interpol, which will contribute to building the capacities of police forces to conduct proactive investigations.

Area
- Djibouti, Yemen, Kenya, Seychelles, Tanzania and (where possible) Somalia.

Expected medium-term results
- setting up and supporting a new Maritime Information Sharing Centre in Sana’a;
- setting up and supporting the Documentation, Education and Training Centre on Maritime Affairs in Djibouti which provides for the training of law enforcement officers and coast guards;
- initiating a sustainable regional mechanism among key regional countries in the long term;
- enhancing the capacity of law enforcement to investigate incidents of piracy attacks and related offences, including bulk cash smuggling and money laundering;
- ultimately enhancing the level of information sharing, coordination with the international community and the response capacity of coastal states.

EU contribution: €7.6 million (including €1.6 million for the police support component)

Duration: 2010-14
Capacity building in regions afflicted by terrorism

A first specific counter-terrorism programme was devised under the Instrument for Stability to support capacity building in priority regions afflicted by terrorism, thereby contributing to the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant UN Security Council resolutions. In Mali, Mauritania and Niger, national law enforcement and judiciary services are being strengthened with a view to enhancing regional cooperation. The Commission also plans to cooperate with Southern and Eastern Asia on the implementation of the UN Counter-Terrorism Strategy in cooperation with the UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED). Particularly on counter-terrorism assistance, synergy with the instrument’s crisis response component is relevant. Under the short-term crisis response component of the Instrument for Stability, a €15 million capacity-building programme supporting law enforcement and judicial capacities started in March 2010 in Pakistan, while in Yemen, measures address law enforcement, criminal justice, de-radicalisation and conflict resolution. The component of the IfS dealing with long-term trans-regional threats to security is taking these ongoing actions into consideration when planning future interventions. For Pakistan, for instance, the planned long-term programme is seeking long-term solutions to provide continuity for the ongoing short-term action in this field.

Preventing and combating terrorism in Sahel countries

The project, which has been up and running since 2010, targets terrorist activities in Sahel countries. A first high-level regional seminar on security cooperation supported by the EU took place in December 2010 in Nouakchott, attended by senior law enforcement (police, gendarmerie, national guards) and judiciary service officials from Mali, Mauritania and Niger.

The EU has been contributing for several years to tackling development and security problems in Sahel countries within the framework of wider international community efforts.

Main objectives
• capacity building in security sectors, including the judiciary and border controls;
• helping countries to enhance the necessary capabilities within their criminal chain and security sectors at national and regional level.

EU partner
• EU Member State specialised services.

Area
• Mali, Mauritania and Niger (from 2011).

Expected medium-term results
• strengthened national capacity to fight terrorism and organised crime and multiplied regional cooperation actions;
• improved information sharing, enabling anticipation of terrorist acts;
• enhanced state capacities to respond to terrorist acts on both the operational and the judicial levels.

EU contribution: €5.3 million (Phase I)
Duration: 2010-13 (with possible extension to be decided in 2011)
The activities implemented by the IfS in the fields of CBRN risk mitigation and trans-regional security threats are carried out at the global, regional and trans-regional levels. This map presents a geographical overview, with the countries grouped by field of intervention.
Examples of ongoing projects

- Chemical Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Centres of Excellence for Risk Mitigation page 7
- Strengthening the fight against trafficking by sea and air page 12
- Counteracting the illicit accumulation and trafficking of firearms in Africa page 14
- Critical maritime routes in the Western Indian Ocean page 16
- Preventing and combating terrorism in Sahel countries page 17
The Instrument for Stability – addressing the security-development nexus

The Instrument for Stability (IfS) was devised in 2006 to address a number of key threats identified in the 2003 European Security Strategy: by pinpointing terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and organised crime as major sources of instability with long-lasting consequences for economic growth, social development and the environment, it called for urgent action by the EU to face up to this challenge.

Focusing on the link between security and development, the IfS was set up to tackle security threats in third countries by either restoring or maintaining the conditions under which the EU Member States could carry out their long-term development goals. As part of the reform of the EU’s external financing instrument, the strategic tool provides innovative financial support aimed specifically at ensuring stable conditions for human and economic development and promoting human rights, democracy and fundamental freedoms.

The IfS complements existing EU geographic and thematic instruments and policies, Common Foreign and Security Policy actions, regional and international organisations and bilateral programmes carried out by EU Member States. It has been assigned a financial envelope worth approximately €2 billion, to be spent over the 2007-13 period.

Operational areas

The instrument is divided into a short-term component, focusing on countries in crisis or emerging crises in which stability and the EU’s ongoing cooperation mechanisms could be threatened (and need to be restored); and a long-term component, focusing on countries where the conditions for cooperation are stable (and need to be maintained).

Operational areas of the IfS

Instrument for Stability regulation

Art 3. Short-Term

Art 4. Long-Term

Art 4.1: Trans-regional threats to security

Art 4.2: CBRN Risk mitigation

Art 4.3: Crisis Preparedness and response

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7 The ESS conclusions were re-asserted in the 2008 review report on the implementation of this ESS.
Restoring stability through the short-term component

The short-term component⁸ is a rapid and flexible financial tool at the disposal of the Commission for conflict prevention and peace building, mitigating the direct consequences of violent conflict, promoting stabilisation through good governance, and ensuring early recovery after a natural disaster in third countries. It has a wide scope, but can only be triggered in a situation of crisis or emerging crisis. Complementing programmes under geographic financing instruments, it provides support in two phases: emergency response measures are followed by interim programmes running for up to 18 months.

Maintaining stability through the long-term component

The long-term component⁹ provides the means to build capacity in third countries to address specific global and trans-regional threats with a destabilising effect in the context of otherwise stable conditions. Unlike geographic instruments with country-specific and regional approaches, it operates at trans-regional level.

Three main priorities for longer-term actions were identified for the 2007-11 period:

- Priority 1 – to support international efforts to mitigate chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks and combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;
- Priority 2 – to support global and trans-regional efforts to address the threats posed by trafficking, terrorism and organised crime;
- Priority 3 – to build capacity within the EU and the international community for effective crisis preparedness and response.

For further information on the IFS please refer to the following web pages:
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/ifs_en.htm

⁸ Under Article 3 of the IFS Regulation.
⁹ Under Article 4 of the IFS Regulation.