



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development

The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa – Horn of Africa Window

Actions in support of **peacebuilding and conflict prevention** in the Horn of Africa within the EU Emergency Trust Fund

This paper outlines ongoing interventions under the Horn of Africa window of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) in the sector of peacebuilding and conflict prevention, based on the first¹, second², third³ and fourth⁴ pipelines of projects approved by the Operational Committee of the Trust Fund.

The implementation of the EU Emergency Trust Fund in the Horn of Africa is based on a two-fold logic:

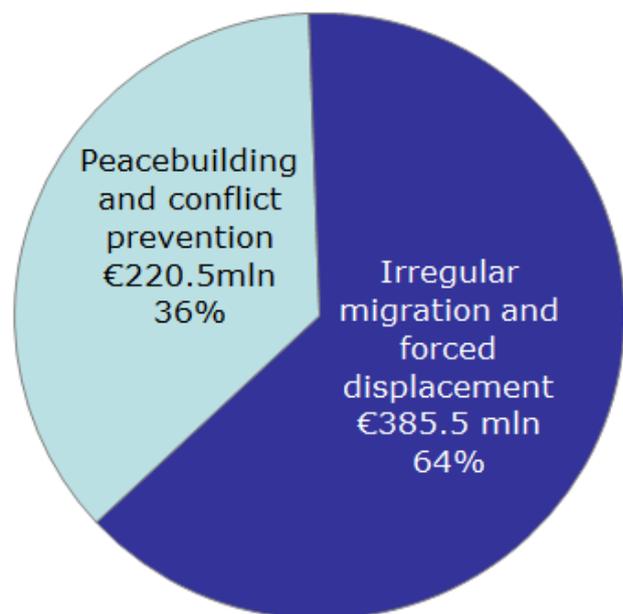
Firstly, it is grounded in a **migration and displacement logic**. Details of the operational lines of action following this approach are outlined in a related paper.⁵

Secondly, implementation centres around a **peacebuilding and conflict prevention logic**, focusing on areas where interventions can act preventatively to curb the risk of potential future displacement, irregular primary movement and onwards secondary movement, particularly in areas prone to migration, and to prevent and mitigate conflict associated with violent extremism.

The EUTF measures are guided by and aligned with the **EU Horn of Africa Regional Action Plan 2015-2020**⁶, in particular the priority domain to tackle violent extremism and the focus on cross-border areas. Moreover, the EUTF follows the **Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy**⁷ which stresses the need for an integrated and multi-dimensional approach to conflict prevention, resolution and stabilisation through the use of all available policies and instruments, including through building the resilience of origin and transit countries of migrants and refugees.

Proportion of the EUTF support allocated to irregular migration and displacement, and to peacebuilding and conflict prevention programmes

(1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th pipelines)



¹ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-6338_en.htm

² http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-1616_en.htm

³ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3536_en.htm

⁴ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-4342_en.htm

⁵ [Actions in support of tackling irregular migration and displacement in the Horn of Africa within the EU Emergency Trust Fund](#)

⁶ <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2015/10/26-fac-conclusions-horn---africa/>

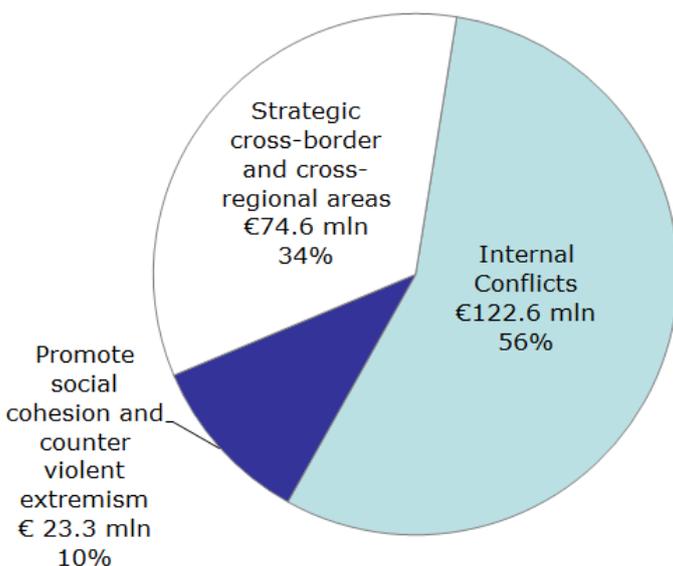
⁷ <https://europa.eu/globalstrategy/en/global-strategy-foreign-and-security-policy-european-union>

Due to its emergency character and short timeframe of implementation (until the end of 2020), the **EUTF cannot comprehensively address all these challenges as an individual instrument**. It must therefore be implemented in a complementary manner, and in coordination with, other EU and contributing donors' instruments and tools, **in line with commitments made at the Migration Summit in Valletta¹**. Amongst these commitments, the first priority set out in the Valletta Action Plan commits to taking action with regard to existing conflicts and preventing new conflicts, including launching measures to prevent and counter violent extremism.

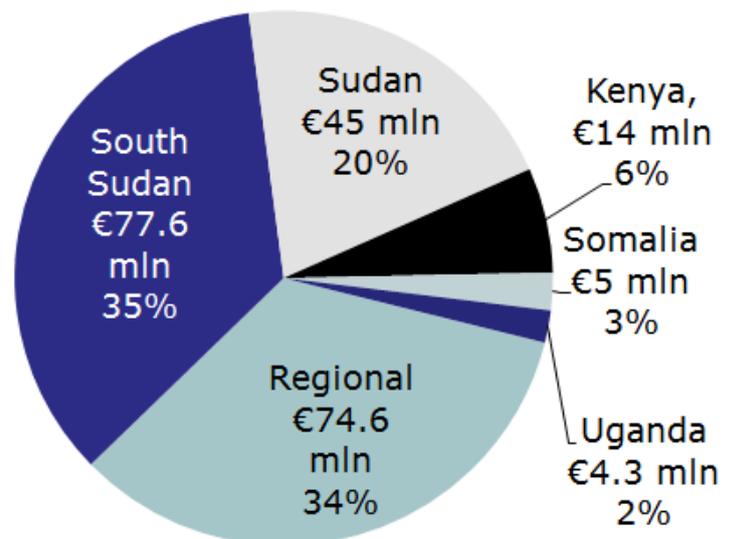
Interventions **draw upon the most updated research and evidence** available to ensure that EUTF interventions are targeted and geographically focused and therefore that maximum positive impact is achieved to address instability, irregular migration and forced displacement, as well as broader conflict drivers which cause violent extremism. The identification and formulation of actions is based on data and policy-relevant knowledge produced by the [Research and Evidence Facility](#) launched under the Horn of Africa window to ensure actions are founded on an evidence-based understanding of the causes and dynamics of conflict. Actions will also be **supported by a strong monitoring and evaluation framework**, including impact measures of conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities.

Below are the main operational lines of action being followed for the implementation of the Horn of Africa window in support of peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

Distribution of the support to peacebuilding and conflict prevention by domain



Distribution of the support to peacebuilding and conflict prevention by location



Support under the EUTF to peacebuilding and conflict prevention is articulated around **five principles**:

1. It follows a **conflict-sensitive** and **people-centred** approach. All conflict should be understood through **localised analysis** in order to avoid any unintended negative consequences, with responses being **primarily developmental**. They will not only aim to stabilise but to achieve **long-term** positive peace and hence address underlying structural causes of conflict. Interventions assess the needs of the relevant population groups, working at society level as well as through state institutions.
2. Whenever possible, the EUTF seeks **partnerships** with other actors, including EU Member States, so that interventions are more strategic and can open up the possibility of **future developments**.
3. Interventions are focused on **upstream prevention to anticipate crises and conflict resolution processes**, which in turn mitigate against forced displacement.
4. The EUTF supports initiatives which **reduce cross-border and peripheral area vulnerabilities** and address dimensions of fragility at a regional level.
5. **Violent extremism** is addressed holistically, as a phenomenon feeding off broader governance deficiencies and conflict issues.

Based on this principled approach, the EUTF focuses on:

- Strategic areas with a cross-border and cross-regional focus

The EUTF aims to better target aid in support of **peripheral and cross-border areas** where lack of development, destitution and environmental degradation drive violent conflict and displacement on a massive scale. These areas require a **targeted approach** and interventions that are **multidimensional**, implemented as close to the ground as possible, and taken up in political dialogues. The Horn of Africa window should catalyse a new approach to such areas which are also migratory routes, in order to tackle the main determinants of vulnerability (marginalisation, exclusion, destitution) and to prioritise populations at risk (notably youth), in particular where instability, forced displacement and facilitation of irregular migration are playing out.

To enhance the management of these geographical areas, **increased regional and trans-border cooperation** is needed, requiring innovative ways of working across borders, including through better pooling of efforts. The Trust Fund provides the opportunity to bring **more structured, holistic and multi-dimensional support** in this regard. Through this support, higher impact can be attained on challenges such as weak local governance, poor delivery of basic services, lack of infrastructure and legitimate trade, presence of trafficking and smuggling networks, or low youth employment rate. Framed politically, such actions could strengthen regional cooperation in handling those challenges.

Regional	Research and Evidence Facility	€4.1 mln
Regional	Strengthening IGAD's ability to promote resilience in the Horn of Africa	€5 mln
Regional	Collaboration in cross-border areas	€63.5 mln
Regional	Implementation of a Monitoring and Learning Framework for the Horn of Africa window	€2 mln

- Internal conflicts

It is essential to take action with regard to **conflicts**, human rights violations and abuses that generate internal displacement, irregular migration and refugee flows. Special focus is given to the situation in individual countries such as **Sudan** and **South Sudan**. In Sudan, the EUTF supports the population in targeted areas facing conflict or instability and being affected by displacement and irregular migratory flows (East Sudan, Darfur and the Transitional Areas).

South Sudan	Health Pool Fund 2: Provision of basic health	€20 mln
South Sudan	IMPACT: Improvement of delivery of basic education through improved management and teachers' training	€45.6 mln
South Sudan	Support to stabilisation through improved resource, economic and financial management	€12 mln
Sudan	Greater Stability in Eastern Sudan through better and more informed decision-making in Food Security	€6 mln
Sudan	Support to rural livelihoods in Eastern Sudan	€9 mln
Sudan	Strengthening nutrition in Eastern Sudan	€8 mln
Sudan	Equitable access to primary education (country-wide)	€22 mln

- Promoting social cohesion and countering violent extremism

Violent extremism in the Horn of Africa region is the result of a plethora of complex and locally specific factors which include grievances against the state, identity issues, exclusion and inequality, marginalisation, lack of opportunities and ideological dimensions. This phenomenon, which increasingly contributes to instability, needs further careful analysis at country-specific and local level, with a focus on high-risk and sensitive areas such as cross-border regions, urban and migrant reception areas and migrant transit routes.

Youth represent a main target beneficiary group, with actions aiming to improve understanding of the causes of conflict and violence amongst youth, as well as addressing their needs and sources of grievances. The **role of women** will be systematically included in the analysis, given the positive role they play in peacebuilding at societal level and preventing violent extremism of young people, but also due to their vulnerability as a potential target for recruitment by violent extremist groups.

Uganda	Strengthening Social Cohesion and Stability in Slum Populations	€4.3 mln
Somalia	Promoting a culture of tolerance and dialogue in Somalia	€5 mln
Kenya	Conflict prevention, peace, and economic opportunities for youth	€12 mln
Kenya	Rider to Conflict prevention, peace, and economic opportunities for youth	€2 mln

Conclusion

Of the total committed amount of €606 million under the Horn of Africa window of the EUTF, almost 40% (amounting to €220.5 million) addresses peacebuilding and conflict prevention. In the context of the Horn of Africa, in which three countries (Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan) are ranked within the four most fragile countries globally, a peacebuilding approach is essential to break the existing cycle of conflict and fragility, and to contribute to ending poverty and achieving sustainable development and peaceful and resilient societies.