PROGRAMMES’ PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW
EU budget 2014-2020

Extract from Programme Statements of operational expenditure Draft Budget 2020
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"Progress towards the target” – a snapshot of programme progress

The Commission is continuously working on the improvement of the presentation of the spending programmes’ performance information in order to provide accurate, reliable and understandable information on programme performance. Each indicator is specific by its nature and presenting comparable information is a challenging task. In particular, it is crucial to keep in mind that the information contained in the indicators provides only an indication of the overall performance and achievements of each specific programme. Only by taking into account the specific implementation context including qualitative as well as quantitative elements is it possible to make fully substantiated statements about the ultimate performance of programmes. The Commission does this in the context of regular evaluations of its spending programmes.

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

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 Progress 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.

The progress 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.

**Targets.** Each Progress towards target charts specifies the programme final target date. In most of the cases, the final target is set for 2020, at the end of programme implementation. However, the specific nature of the shared management programmes- a long start-up phase (e.g. planning, programming, authorisations) and long implementation cycle need to be highlighted. As such, the funds can be implemented in the three years following the adoption of the budget, therefore the final target is set for 2023 (N+3 rule).

**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 |
| Baseline 2013 | Actual results | Target 2020 |
| 4 | 3 | 9 | 18 | 22 | 26 | 30 |


**Progress towards the target calculation**

Factual achievement: 26 operational satellites in 2018
Target value: 30 operational satellites in 2020

Progress towards the target: \((26/30)\times 100 = 87\%\)

**Presentation**

![Progress Towards the Target Chart](chart)

**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 2018. The programmes under shared management present values recorded and reported by Member States at the end of 2017. The programmes under indirect management present a mixed picture; some have achievements reported up to 2018 while the others depend on the data sources provided by the international organisations and may therefore be delayed.
INTRODUCTION

The **Programmes’ Performance Overview** is an extract of the Programme Statements attached to Draft Budget 2020. The Programmes’ Performance Overview aims to present all EU spending programmes for the period 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

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

- **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

- **Sustainable growth: natural resources**
  - EUR 420
  - Agriculture
  - Rural development
  - Fisheries
  - Environment and others

- **Administration**
  - EUR 69.6

Note: Commitments; adjusted for 2018.

The EU Budget is implemented via **direct, shared and indirect management**. Based on average % of total 2014-2020 commitments appropriations, 74% of the EU budget is managed via shared managed mode (by Member States), 18% is managed directly by the European Commission, including its delegations and executive agencies, and the remaining 8% is managed via indirect management mode by international organisations, decentralised agencies and joint undertakings, national agencies, specialised union bodies, third countries. The section “Who is in charge” presents budget management particularities for each individual programme.

2018 was the fifth 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 period and results are starting to show.

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 to 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 the Commission’s main contribution to the annual budgetary discharge process.

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1. COM (2019) 400 June 2019
3. This framework is set out in SWD (2014) 200
To achieve its objective of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, the Europe 2020 strategy includes five headline targets on employment, research and development, climate and energy, education, and the fight against poverty and social exclusion. These headline targets are translated by each Member State into national targets. While Member States are primarily responsible for progress towards these targets at national level, the EU budget contributes to the achievement of the headline targets at EU level. The Commission monitors and reports on the contribution of the EU budget to the EU’s priorities set out in the Europe 2020 strategy and its headline targets:

The Europe 2020 priorities of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth are implemented through thematic pathways such as innovation, education, digitalisation, poverty reduction, employment, competitiveness and resource efficiency in order to catalyse the progress at EU level.

Contribution to Europe 2020 should not be confined within the limits of single programme, but rather it should be seen as a mutually reinforced contribution of the EU budget as a whole. Indeed the multi-dimensional character of the initiatives implies a certain thematic overlap. Their realisation depends on a multi-level governance based on the effective coordination and management of diverse stakeholders at different levels (EU, Member State, local and regional levels). These aspects of the Europe 2020 framework make it difficult to evaluate the resources allocated in the EU budget to each priority.

Despite this complexity, since the adoption of Europe 2020, the methodologies to estimate financial contribution of the EU spending programmes have been developed and introduced in the Programme Statements. The precise allocation in terms of percentages may differ from one year to another and from one programme to another as it depends on the particularities of each programme and on specific priorities and actions planned for the relevant budgetary exercise.

**EU BUDGET CONTRIBUTION EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Priority 1 — Smart growth</th>
<th>Priority 2 — Sustainable growth</th>
<th>Priority 3 — Inclusive growth</th>
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<td>Priority 2 — Sustainable growth</td>
<td>Priority 3 — Inclusive growth</td>
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</table>

**Main programmes contributing to Europe 2020**

**Priority 1 — Smart growth (Innovation, Education, Digital Society)**
- Horizon 2020; 32.8%
- European Social Fund; 14.3%
- European Regional Development Fund; 41.2%
- Erasmus+; 6.2%
- Other; 5.6%

To promote sustainable development, support is provided to climate change and energy research. This will ultimately contribute towards reducing emissions, promoting renewable energy sources and increasing energy efficiency, thus making progress towards the 2020/20 climate/energy targets.

**Priority 2 — Sustainable growth (Climate, Energy, Mobility and Competitiveness)**
- European Regional Development Fund; 31.6%
- European Agricultural Guarantee Fund; 5.7%
- Connecting Europe Facility; 7.3%
- Cohesion Fund (CF); 24.3%
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development; 21.7%
- European Regional Development Fund; 18.0%
- Other; 9.4%

Education and training are at the core of Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, and of the integrated guidelines for the economic and employment policies of the Member States. Arguably none of the Europe 2020 priorities and headline targets will be reached without a strong investment in human capital: Youth on the Move, Agenda for New Skills and Jobs, as well as the Digital Agenda, Innovation Union and the Platform against Poverty.

**Priority 3 — Inclusive growth (Employment and skills, Fighting poverty)**
- European Social Fund; 55.8%
- European Regional Development Fund; 15.1%
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development; 18.0%
- Other; 11%

Meanwhile, actions related to energy, climate and sustainability supported under CEF, LIFE+, Horizon 2020 programmes and the European Structural and Investment (ESI) funds help maintaining the quality of the environment and enhance creation of sustainable jobs.
Climate action is a key priority for the Commission, as set out in the ‘Europe 2020 strategy’. To respond to the challenges and investment needs related to climate action, the European Commission has mainstreamed climate action in the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

In order to contribute to building a low-carbon, resource-efficient and climate-resilient economy, climate action objectives and relevant performance measures have been included in the relevant programmes for the 2014-2020 MFF.

In the framework of the draft budget, the Commission uses the Programme Statements as vehicle for consolidating the data and reporting to the Budgetary Authority.

**Target.** In the Communication “A Budget for Europe 2020 – Part II Policy Fiches”, presenting the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework, the Commission set the political target of spending 20% of the EU Budget to tackle climate change through Climate Mainstreaming.

This was a substantial raise of the target, up from 6-7% compared to the 2007-2013 MFF.

**Tracking.** Building upon these provisions, a common tracking methodology for climate-related expenditure has been integrated in the existing methodology for measuring performance used for EU programmes. Climate tracking uses EU climate markers, adapted for the OECD’s development assistance tracking ‘Rio markers’ to provide for quantified financial data. EU climate markers reflect the specificities of each policy area, and assign three categories of weighting to activities on the basis of whether the support makes a significant (100%), a moderate (40%) or insignificant (0%) contribution towards climate change objectives.

The figures show that the total contribution to climate mainstreaming is expected to reach EUR 34,451 million in 2020 (or 21% of proposed total commitment appropriations) compared to EUR 33,809 million in 2019 (or 20.9% of total commitment appropriations). The late adoption of the legal basis of the current MFF and the long start-up phase of the shared management funds, delayed climate expenditures in the first two years of implementation of the MFF. **On average, the EU budget is on course to deliver 19.7% for the 2014-2020 MFF.**
BIODIVERSITY MAINSTREAMING

Protecting biodiversity and strengthening the resilience of ecosystems will make an important contribution to our sustainable growth objectives. As foreseen in the Commission Communication ‘A budget for Europe 2020’, financing the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and its objective to halt and reverse the decline of biodiversity in the EU requires the mainstreaming of biodiversity throughout the EU budget, both within the EU via the main funding instruments and through external action funding.

As for the mainstreaming of the climate action, the Commission has developed a general approach for tracking biodiversity-related expenditure in a consistent way across the EU budget with detailed instrument-specific guidelines. In addition, the Commission makes sure that spending under the EU budget has no negative impacts on biodiversity. As support for this, the “Common Framework for Biodiversity proofing of the EU budget” provides general and fund-specific guidelines to be used by national and regional authorities as well as by the Commission services.

Based on the estimations, the total contribution to mainstreaming biodiversity is expected to be EUR 13 566 million in 2020 (or 8.3 % of proposed total commitment appropriations) compared to EUR 13 396 million in 2019. For the period 2014-2020 the contribution of the EU budget is estimated to be EUR 85 922 million, or 8.1% of total commitment appropriations.
THE EU BUDGET AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets, adopted by the United Nations (UN) in September 2015, have given a new impetus to global efforts to achieve sustainable development. The EU has played an important role in shaping the 2030 Agenda, through public consultations, dialogue with our partners and in-depth research. The EU is committed to playing an active role to maximise progress towards the SDGs, as outlined in its Communication (COM (2016)739) “Next steps for a sustainable European future”. The SDGs are firmly anchored in the European Treaties and mainstreamed in all its programmes, sectoral policies and initiatives.

Each year the EU continues its efforts to pursue SDGs, and plays a key role in supporting, coordinating and complementing Member States’ policies or has a shared responsibility: EU policy and regulatory instruments address sustainable development challenges and through its programmes; in line with the principle of subsidiarity, the EU budget complements national budgets and provide a significant contribution to its implementation.

The progress and achievement of SDGs will also depend largely on action taken in Member States. The 2019 Programme Statements highlight in particular the most recent and relevant initiatives contributing to SDGs, although often in an indirect and not quantifiable way. This information should be considered for information purposes and does not constitute the official reporting on the EU budget contribution towards SDGs. As the SDGs are interlinked, many EU actions can contribute to several SDGs. The overview presented is not exhaustive, but aims to highlight in particular the most recent and relevant initiatives contributing to the achievement of the SDGs. This information should be considered for information purposes and does not constitute the official reporting on the EU budget contribution towards SDGs.

Considering their wide geographic and thematic scope, the ERDF, CF and DCI programmes contribute to all 17 SDGs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDGs</th>
<th>EU dimension</th>
<th>EU Programmes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End to poverty in all its manifestations, including extreme poverty, over the next 15 years</td>
<td>EFSI, Erasmus+, Solidarity Corps, Social Fund, Agriculture Guarantee Fund, Maritime and Fisheries Fund, Anti-Fraud Information System, Humanitarian Aid, Statistical Programme, European Aid to the Most Deprieved, Agriculture Rural Development Fund, Development Cooperation, EU Aid Volunteers</td>
<td>Agriculture Guarantee Fund, Maritime and Fisheries Fund, AFM, Food and Feed, Humanitarian Aid, Horizon 2020, Social Fund, European Aid to the Most Deprieved, Agriculture Rural Development Fund, LIFE, Development Cooperation, Nuclear Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End hunger and malnutrition, and ensure access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food</td>
<td>EFSI, Erasmus+, Solidarity Corps, Maritime and Fisheries Fund, Health Programme, Humanitarian Aid, Horizon 2020, Solidarity Fund, LIFE, Development Cooperation, Nuclear Cooperation, EU Aid Volunteers</td>
<td>Decoupling environmental impacts from economic growth, in decreasing its energy consumption and in tackling waste generation and management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure health and well-being for all</td>
<td>EFSI, Erasmus+, Solidarity Corps, Maritime and Fisheries Fund, Health Programme, Humanitarian Aid, Horizon 2020, Solidarity Fund, LIFE, Development Cooperation, Nuclear Cooperation, EU Aid Volunteers</td>
<td>Decoupling environmental impacts from economic growth, in decreasing its energy consumption and in tackling waste generation and management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure access to equitable and quality education throughout all stages of life</td>
<td>Erasmus+, Social Fund, Agriculture Guarantee Fund, Humanitarian Aid, Solidarity Corps, Agriculture Rural Development Fund, Maritime and Fisheries Fund, Rights Programme, Globalisation Fund, Support for Turkish Cypriots, Development Cooperation, Nuclear Cooperation, Cooperation with Greenland</td>
<td>Climate mitigation efforts and in establishing climate initiatives. Climate impacts are measured to assess how and to what extent climate change is affecting Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending all forms of discrimination, violence, and any harmful practices against women and girls in the public and private spheres</td>
<td>Erasmus+, EaSI, Solidarity Corps, ESF, Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace, Humanitarian Aid, Justice, Rights Programme, Globalisation Fund, IPA II, European Neighbourhood, Development Cooperation, Partnership Instrument, CFSP, EU Aid Volunteers, Cooperation with Greenland</td>
<td>Improving the status of ecosystems, in decelerating land degradation and in preserving biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring universal access to safe and affordable drinking water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>Agriculture Guarantee Fund, Humanitarian Aid, Horizon 2020, Agriculture Rural Development Fund, LIFE, Development Cooperation, Nuclear Cooperation, Civil Protection Mechanism</td>
<td>Improving the status of ecosystems, in decelerating land degradation and in preserving biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress made in reducing its energy consumption, in securing sustainable energy supply and in improving access to affordable energy</td>
<td>ITER, EFSI, Ecuador, Agriculture Guarantee Fund, Consumer, Horizon 2020, Agriculture Rural Development Fund, European Neighbourhood, Development Cooperation, Partnership Instrument</td>
<td>Ensuring peace and personal security, in promoting access to justice and in safeguarding effective justice systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fostering sustainable economic growth, in increasing employment and in providing decent work opportunities</td>
<td>EFSI, COSME, Development Cooperation, Erasmus+, EaSI, Solidarity Corps, Customs, ISASA, Social Fund, Agriculture Guarantee Fund, Creative Europe, Fiscals 2020, Agriculture Rural Development Fund, LIFE, Globalisation Fund, IPA II, European Neighbourhood, Development Cooperation, Partnership Instrument, Nuclear Cooperation, Civil Protection Mechanism</td>
<td>Progress in strengthening global partnership and in improving the financial governance in the EU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress in strengthening R&amp;D and innovation and in promoting sustainable transport</td>
<td>ITER, EFSI, COSME, CEF, ISA2, Social Fund, Agriculture Guarantee Fund, Horizon 2020, Agriculture Rural Development Fund, LIFE, Support for Turkish Cypriots, European Neighbourhood, Development Cooperation</td>
<td>Copernicus, ISAS, EEDHR, Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace, ITER, LIFE, Rights programme, Development Cooperation, EED, EU Aid Volunteers, Partnership Instrument</td>
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Source: European Commission
The Commission carried out a comprehensive spending review in 2018 (SWD(2018)171). This review was designed to identify the features of current programmes that have proven their worth and should be replicated or amplified in the future financial programmes. It also identified the areas where reforms are needed to make full use of the potential of the EU budget. The review responded to specific requests from stakeholders and other EU institutions to provide evidence that spending programmes are managed efficiently and to ensure that the value added of its programmes is clearly described.

The spending review has concluded that the increase in the number of spending programmes over time has resulted in some cases in fragmentation, overlaps and an inability to fully exploit the synergies between different funding sources. The need to streamline the budget has been a recurrent finding in many evaluations or studies. Staff Working Document set out the evidence and the analytical underpinning for the Commission’s proposal for the modernisation of the EU long-term budget.

The Commission proposed a modern, simple and flexible budget for the next Multiannual Financial Framework. The structure of the budget is clearer and more aligned with the Union’s priorities. The Commission proposed to reduce the number of programmes by more than a third (from 58 currently to 37 in the future), for example by bringing fragmented funding sources together into new integrated programmes and radically streamlining the use of financial instruments, including through the InvestEU Fund.

The Commission proposals regarding each individual spending programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework is presented in the section “Outlook for the 2021-2027 period”.

Source: European Commission
List of programmes

- Implementation and exploitation of European satellite navigation systems ........................................... 12
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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.

Implementation status
GALILEO initial services (Open Service, Public Regulated Service and Search and Rescue) were successfully provided throughout 2018 with excellent performance in terms of availability and accuracy. In 2018 the Commission decided to offer the Commercial Service High Accuracy with 20cm positioning accuracy for free to foster development of emerging technologies such as automated connected cars. This service will be implemented gradually, with initial operations in 2020.

The launch of 4 additional satellites in 2018, which brings the total of launched satellites to 26. Procurements in 2018 included additional satellites and maintenance and upgrade of the GALILEO ground infrastructure.

Security: measures were taken to improve cyber security, to obtain and maintain security accreditation for operations.

International cooperation: negotiations with the US and Norway for access to PRS continued. Progress was also made with the adoption of EGNOS in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries. EGNOS services were provided continuously throughout 2018 and a major EGNOS release version continued to be developed.

Market uptake: there are more than 500 million GALILEO-enabled devices on the market, the majority of smartphone producers have included and enabled GALILEO on their chipsets.

Use of GALILEO granted in the U.S.: In 2018, a decision of the U.S. Federal Communications Commission granted that devices in the United States may access the GALILEO signals. GALILEO is the first non-US Global satellite navigation system, which is allowed in the U.S.

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).

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period
The Commission proposed to integrate all existing and new space activities under the umbrella of a single European space programme.

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.

More information
http://europa.eu/!KF39Uq
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 for end users. Navigation in cities will particularly benefit from the increased positioning accuracy this will provide.
  - 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.
  - 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.

- **Towards full operational capability of Galileo by 2020:** In 2018, a successful launch of an Ariane 5 launcher added 4 more satellites to the constellation, which brought the total of satellites in space to 26. Additional satellites and a major upgrade of the ground infrastructure paves the way for the development of new functionalities and service improvements in 2019. This will prepare for the Full Operational Capability stage of Galileo, when the constellation will offer robust resilience capability.

- **Market uptake:** The market uptake of Galileo has boomed in 2018. There were more than 500 million Galileo-enabled devices on the market in 2018. Since 2018 Galileo is granted to be used on devices in the United States.

- **EGNOS:**
  - The uptake of EGNOS has further advanced. At the end of 2018, there were 315 EGNOS-enabled airports and 529 EGNOS-based procedures in 23 countries in Europe.
  - The evaluation of the new EGNOS generation evolution (EGNOS V3) was completed and the contract was signed in January 2018.
**LEGAL BASIS**

**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**
2014 - 2020

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**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-Léz-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 put it beyond the reach of individual EU Member States and even of the EU itself. 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 F4E.

Europe’s support to ITER and to ITER-related activities contributes to the strategic agenda of the European Union for clean and secure energy. 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.

Fusion has enormous potential and 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**

Initially, ITER encountered challenges related to its schedule, cost, and governance. The ITER Council has made extensive efforts to address the project’s issues, one of the most significant being the adoption of a new baseline (schedule, scope and cost) in 2016. This revised baseline uses the “staged approach”, which prioritises the activities necessary for First Plasma (the beginning of the device’s operation), now scheduled for 2025.

In April 2018, the Council granted a mandate for the Commission to approve the new baseline at Ministerial level with the other ITER Members. Most of the other ITER Members have also formally approved the new baseline at domestic level, and the Members that have not are making progress towards this goal. In 2018 the Commission also implemented the comprehensive supervision strategies for F4E (administrative agreement) and the ITER Organization.

Regarding the construction of the machine itself, the percentage completion of the construction up to First Plasma progressed over the course of 2018 from 50% (December 2017) to almost 60% (November 2018). The bioshield of the Tokamak building is complete, and its scaffolding was removed in February 2018. At its base, the construction of the crown, a vital component under Euratom’s responsibility, was completed on schedule in August. Three US-supplied drain tanks and four Chinese-supplied vapour suppression tanks were installed the same month. The first vacuum vessel sector, under construction in Korea, is more than 80% finished. Russia has completed its production of poloidal field conductor for the ITER magnet system, and India has nearly completed fabrication of the cryostat lower cylinder and base on-site in Cadarache. The manufacturing of toroidal field coil winding packs, as well as cold testing and insertion into precision-fabricated cases, is well advanced in Europe and Japan.

**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.

**OUTLOOK FOR THE 2021-2027 PERIOD**

The Commission proposed a continuation of this long-term project for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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**
- Over the last ten years, F4E has directly awarded over 900 contracts and grants for a value of EUR 4.5 billion. Approximately 450 contractors and over 1000 sub-contractors in 24 countries have benefited from this investment. In the longer term, ITER is contributing to the Research & Innovation pillar of the Energy Union. In terms of governance, since 2015 the goal has been to address the issues in management and project culture that caused, along with other factors, the project’s delays and cost overruns. At European level, changes have been made to improve the functioning of F4E. New management with industrial experience was appointed at F4E, and new monitoring systems and indicators were introduced along with strategies to streamline the governance of the project. The effects of these efforts are becoming visible, with the construction progressing in accordance with the 2016 baseline, renewed confidence in the project among the stakeholders, and coverage in the media reporting on the project’s "turnaround".

- Construction is now progressing visibly and steadily on-site. In November 2018, the first part of the tokamak was lowered into the tokamak pit, marking the beginning of the Assembly stage of the project. Russia completed its production of poloidal field conductor for the magnet system, and the first vacuum vessel sector is more than 80% complete in Korea. In terms of European achievements, F4E completed the Tokamak Concrete Crown civil works on schedule in August 2018. The crown is a crucial component - a concrete cylinder that sits underneath the tokamak and bears the entirety of its weight.

- As of the end of 2018, Euratom had completed 35% of its total obligation to the project (credits achieved as a percentage of total credits).
- In addition, the procurement of in-kind contributions to the project from European entities through F4E has had a significant positive impact on the EU economy. Up to mid-2017, spending on ITER through F4E had generated 34,000 job years and almost EUR 4.8 billion in Gross Value Added (GVA), compared to no spending. In addition, this investment into the high-tech industry has increased the competitiveness of European companies and enabled the innovation of new technologies, which could have applications across many sectors outside fusion.

- For example, the German SME Pro-beam AG was contracted by F4E as part of a consortium to weld the European-manufactured sections of the vacuum vessel using electron beams for ITER. As a result of this involvement, Pro-beam AG has hired over 20 new employees. Between 2013 and 2017 Pro-beam has experienced a total turnover of roughly EUR 2.62 million as a result of its participation in ITER and other ITER-related projects. Furthermore, EUR 1.3 million can be attributed to contracts with indirect ITER involvement over the same time span. Pro-beam also built a second giant electron beam welding machine to carry out its contracts, and as it is unique in its size and complexity, the concept of the machine is being commercialised. Pro-beam has sold two so far.

The "Progress towards the target" chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
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 on track with the foreseen progress in the planning, with seven satellites in orbit and in operational mode, and six services all operational. The last launch was Sentinel 3B in April 2018. The satellites produce now more than 16 Tbyte of high-quality data every day. A data and information access service has been 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 Commission pursued its cooperation with international partners to promote the uptake of Copernicus globally. The use of Copernicus data and information services is quickly picking up, including public organisations, researchers, SMEs and start-ups. Following the launch of enhanced data access platforms DIAS, the user base has dramatically increased to well above 200 000 users, and is still growing. Satellites are not the only data source, with Copernicus relying also critically on in-situ measured data. The Copernicus in-situ component established in 2017 an agreement with EUMETNET encompassing all six Copernicus services - it is foreseen 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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed to integrate all existing and new space activities under the umbrella of a single European space programme.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>607.4 100%</td>
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<td>630.2 100%</td>
<td>2018 99.7% 558.9</td>
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</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 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 a 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 EMS Mapping component was activated over 86 times (over 30% vs 2017) in 2018 to assist authorities in emergency situations. Disasters covered include wildfires, storms and floods and volcanic eruptions in and outside Europe, and earthquakes in Haiti, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. The EMS monitors and provides early warnings for floods, fires and droughts to European and international organisations.
- **Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS)** supplies products for marine environmental monitoring and climate. The number of users regularly accessing the service has reached nearly 15 000. In 2018, all products benefit from Sentinel 3A.
- **Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS)** is providing information for policy development, implementation and monitoring. The pan-European and local land component comprises products like the Corine Land Cover and EU-DEM (Digital Elevation Models), high resolution layers on imperviousness, forest, grassland, wetness-water and small woody features, as well as urban areas, riparian zones and Nature 2000 sites. The CLMS is preparing jointly with the CMEMS for a coastal zone monitoring information product. At global level, the service delivers variables covering vegetation, agriculture, energy, cryosphere and water cycles and domains.
- **Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS)** provides data on atmospheric composition. Pollen forecast, stratospheric ozone monitoring and deposition products are key products. There is an estimated audience of 18.8 million people for the daily Euronews air quality bulletins and the C3S monthly climate updates.
- **Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S)** has initiated its transition to an operational phase in 2018. It has become an important and recognised climate information resource for international bodies. By 2018, 256 entities from 24 countries and international organisations are contributing to this European effort. C3S was the first to confirm 2018 was the fourth warmest on record. Many sectoral applications are benefitting from the Service including agriculture, forestry, health, energy, water management, tourism and biodiversity.
- **Copernicus Security Service (CSS)**: Civilian security is the prime goal, but the service is also available to defence users and missions. As an exception to the Copernicus open data policy, CSS products are restricted to authorised users. Some examples of use in 2018 include: the detection of migrants at sea and on EU external land borders; the provision of images to the Spanish Navy for safe navigation through sea ice in the Antarctic.
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 EIB Group and the European Commission, 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 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 funding 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 was a EUR 16 billion guarantee from the EU budget, complemented by a EUR 5 billion allocation of the EIB's own capital. These amounts were increased to EUR 26 billion and EUR 7.5 billion, respectively, by the EFSI 2.0 Regulation. The total amount of EUR 33.5 billion aims to unlock additional investment of at least EUR 500 billion by end-2020.

Benefits for EU citizens
The EFSI focuses on removing obstacles to investment, providing visibility and technical assistance to investment projects and making smarter use of new and existing financial resources. The European Fund for Strategic Investments aims to overcome current market failures by addressing market gaps and mobilising private investment. Action at the Union level will allow for economies of scale in the use of the Union budget funds 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 multiplier 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, as of end December 2018, two thirds of investments came from private sources.

Implementation status
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. The EFSI initiative is on track with more than 75% of the target investment volume of EUR 500 billion already being mobilised.

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 standard EIB procedures.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new “Invest EU” programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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**

- EFSI has exceeded its initial investment target of EUR 315 billion by mobilising EUR 334.8 billion of investment by July 2018. Moreover, the EFSI is on track to meet the end-2020 investment target of EUR 500 billion. As of end-December 2018, the volume of investment mobilised by the approved EFSI operations stood at 75% of the target of EUR 500 billion of total investment, i.e. EUR 375.5 billion across both investment windows: EUR 244.3 billion for Infrastructure and Innovation investments and EUR 131.2 billion in favour of SMEs.
- A total number of 1,031 EFSI projects have been approved by end-December 2018 covering all eligible sectors.
- The EFSI has benefitted all 28 Member States, with the biggest impact in countries that were most hit by the crisis.
- It is estimated that EFSI operations have already supported more than 750,000 jobs and increased the EU GDP by 0.6%.
- The European Investment Advisory Hub (EIAH) team received overall 1,091 requests as of end-2018 of which 918 were project-related, 190 requests are currently allocated to receive more detailed technical assistance from the EIAH and 95 are closed as fully delivered. In 2018 only, requests received were 416.
- The European Investment Project Portal (EIPP) was officially launched in June 2016. As of end-2018 there were 508 projects published on the Portal emanating from 28 Member States.
**What the programme is about**
When Bulgaria and Slovakia were candidate countries to join the European Union, 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 by the 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 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**
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 demonstrated—especially in Slovakia—an increasing ability to anticipate emerging issues and cope with them as needed.

Following up on the mid-term evaluation, the detailed quantitative objectives of the Programmes have been re-evaluated while keeping the initial end dates. In Bulgaria, the due revision of the decommissioning plan resulted in an increase in cost estimates post-2020. The increase of estimates did not result in a proportional increase of the financing gap because Bulgaria committed to cover the increase to a large extent. The end date of the decommissioning programme is confirmed to be 2030.

As the decommissioning operators in Kozloduy (BG) and Bohunice (SK) received 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 substantially progressed in 2018. Decontamination & Dismantling (D&D) works in the turbine halls and auxiliary buildings were finalised in 2018 with the demolition of the four V1 Nuclear Power Plant cooling towers. Furthermore, important D&D works have also been performed in the reactor-building. In 2018 the decontamination of the spent fuel pools and other tanks in the controlled area was finalised, while the dismantling of large components of the reactor coolant systems started.

The Kozloduy programme (BG) has seen important waste management infrastructures – key in order to proceed with the decommissioning – become operational in 2018. A workshop for the size reduction and decontamination of dismantled equipment and a facility for high-performance volume reduction of radioactive waste (the Plasma Melting Facility) took place. In parallel, construction works are underway for the National Disposal Facility, i.e. the low and intermediate level waste surface repository, which will receive large quantities of the decommissioned materials.

The Commission adopted the 2018 work programmes and associated financing decisions, allocating EUR 75.5 million for the implementation of the actions in Bulgaria and Slovakia. These funds sum up to EUR 362.9 million allocated from 2014 to 2018. The Commission has also presented in 2018 a proposal for the continuation of the Union financial assistance in the period 2021-2027 and the completion of these decommissioning programmes.

**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.

**Outlook for the 2021–2027 period**
The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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

(Kozloduy) Performing dismantling in the turbine halls of units 1 to 4 and in auxiliary buildings

(Kozloduy) Dismantling of large components and equipment in the reactor buildings of units 1 to 4

(Kozloduy) Safely managing the decommissioning waste in accordance with a detailed waste management plan

(Bohunice) Performing dismantling in the turbine hall and auxiliary buildings of reactor V1

(Bohunice) Dismantling of large components and equipment in the V1 reactor buildings

(Bohunice) Safely managing the decommissioning waste in accordance with a detailed waste management plan

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 November 2014 and July 2016 respectively. Dismantling & Decontamination works in the turbine halls and auxiliary buildings have progressed well will likely be completed before 2020.

• A state-of-the-art waste volume reduction facility has been installed and is now in operation; it provides very high performance in radioactive waste treatment as compared to other similar facilities in the EU.

• A new workshop for the size reduction and decontamination of dismantled equipment allows for an increased rate of processing of radioactive waste.

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 Nuclear Power Plant 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 were completed in 2018 with the dismantling of the four cooling towers.

• Important Dismantling & Decontamination works have also been performed in the reactor-building. To date the reactors’ cooling circuits, including the spent fuel pools and other tanks in the controlled area, 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.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

Kozloduy - Metal from dismantling in Reactor Buildings

Kozloduy - Quantity and type of safely conditioned waste

Bohunice1 - Quantity and type of safely conditioned waste

1 Average of relevant indicators

% of target achieved by 2018

525 out of 1 200 tons

28 725 out of 43 860 tons

130 624 out of 149 297 tons
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 its 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

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 removal of spent fuel assemblies from both reactor buildings (units 1 and 2) started in September 2016. The second reactor was defueled fully in February 2018, i.e. 9 months earlier than planned. Both reactors are defueled and transfer operations of spent fuel from the ponds to the Interim Spent Fuel Storage Facility continue steadily. As at 31 December 2018, more than 50% of spent fuel assemblies were safely loaded into casks and put into storage. According to the schedule, all spent fuel assemblies will be removed in July 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 Commission adopted the 2018 work programme and associated financing decision, allocating EUR 65.6 million for the implementation of the actions in Lithuania. These funds sum up to EUR 315.6 million allocated from 2014 to 2018.

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. Accordingly, the Commission has presented in 2018 a proposal for the continuation of the Union financial assistance in the period 2021-2027.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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.
- Performing dismantling in the turbine hall and other auxiliary buildings and safely managing the decommissioning waste in accordance with a detailed waste management plan.
- Safely maintaining the reactor units.

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 progressed since then in line with plans and with a potential to shorten the schedule without prejudice to the operational safety. The reactor unit 2 has been fully emptied of spent fuel in February 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.

- Works have started for the construction of the Landfill Facility for Short-Lived Very Low Level Waste and the call for tender for the construction of the Near Surface Repository is ready to be launched in 2019.
HORIZON 2020
THE FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

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 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;
- 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;
- increasing the EU's attractiveness as a place for education, research, innovation and business (EU funding supports over 300,000 researchers and innovators);
- leveraging private investment;
- having a positive structuring effect on national R&I ecosystems.

Implementation status
The last Work Programme for Horizon 2020, covering the budget years 2018-2020, was adopted in 2017. It has a budget of around EUR 30 billion.

The new features include measures to support market-created innovation, most notably the introduction of the European Innovation Council (EIC) pilot.

Important novelties were introduced:

- A new boost to competitiveness by accelerating innovation and collaboration, improving transparency and openness when it comes to research data, and thus avoiding duplication of efforts. The current Open Research Data Pilot programme was extended to cover all thematic areas of Horizon 2020.
- In response to the migration crisis, funding was made available to coordinate research communities and to make policy recommendations to facilitate migrants’ integration in the labour market. The EUR 11 million package of migration actions aims to bring together pertinent research communities to map, assemble and synthesise the currently on-going migration research in Europe; The Fight against crime and terrorism part of the Security calls, will develop new ways of fighting and preventing organised crime and tackling terrorist ideas and beliefs, while guaranteeing fundamental rights and values.
- Key actions supporting a forward-looking climate change policy, such as the new “Closing the water gap” topic with a budget of EUR 10 million in the ‘Greening the economy’ call which will reduce the fragmentation of water research and innovation efforts across Europe and which will contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as the conclusions of the COP21 Paris Agreement on climate change.

Horizon 2020 continues to support a range of cross-cutting initiatives. Industry 2020 in the Circular Economy to develop strong and sustainable economies; Smart and Sustainable Cities to better integrate environmental elements, transport, energy and digital networks in the EU’s urban environments; Technologies and standards for automatic driving; and the Internet of Things to foster the take-up of digital technologies; as well as other features such as the “Widespread” call to bring excellence to all corners of the EU.

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

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of this programme under the name “Horizon Europe” for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

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<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
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<td>2016</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>10423.9 99.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>11217.2 99.9%</td>
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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
- Non-Nuclear Direct Actions of the Joint Research
- The European Institute of Innovation and Technology

### PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

**Cross-sector and cross-country circulation of researchers**

- Researchers who have access to research infrastructures
- Total investments mobilised via debt financing and Venture Capital investments
- Number of peer reviewed publications in high impact journals - Direct Research
- Collaboration inside the knowledge triangle leading to the development of innovative products, services and processes
- Share of ERC-funded publications among the top 1% cited

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48 000 out of 65 000 researchers</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 000 out of 25 000 PhD candidates</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 900 out of 20 000 researchers</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47 compared to EUR 15 billion</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.4 out of EUR 35 billion</td>
<td>7% compared to 1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91% compared to 85% the research activities</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 589 out of 3 420 publications</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>407 out of 600 start-ups and spin-offs</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7% compared to 1.8%</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

### Examples of achievements so far

- **Horizon 2020** has successfully stimulated innovation in SMEs and has contributed directly to the overall objective to boost Europe’s industrial leadership and competitiveness. The overall target of 20% participation of SMEs in Horizon 2020 has been surpassed, with 24% of the total budget for Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies (LEIT) and Societal challenges going to SMEs.

- **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions** funded 48 000 leading researchers across the world, providing them with high-quality training and experience across borders, sectors and disciplines. A new study shows that Europe accounted for 37% of all patent applications related to self-driving vehicle technologies at the European Patent Office in 2011-2017, ahead of the United States (34%), Japan (13%) and China (3%). In one year, the L3Pilot project has developed automation technologies addressing a wide range of driving situations, including parking, overtaking on motorways and driving through urban intersections.

- The Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) are among the least abundant of Earth’s elements and are classified by the EU as critical raw materials, given their high economic importance. The **PLATIRUS project** aims at upscaling to industry-relevant levels a new process for cost-efficient recovery of PGMs from waste. Due to its high level of innovation - the technique has the potential for recovering high-impact metals such as cobalt (used in Li-ion batteries) and rare earth materials (used for magnets in efficient motors) - the PLATIRUS project has been nominated for the Innovation Radar Prize 2018.

- Every year, the ERC selects and funds the very best, creative researchers to run projects in Europe. Ana Caño-Delgado, who leads research groups on signalling in plant development, has succeeded to enhance **tolerance in plants**, while still making them grow normally. In 2015, she received an ERC Consolidator Grant, which allows her team to develop these advances into benefits for agriculture.

- **New laser tomograph** for non-invasive early detection of cancers and eye diseases. Each year around 20 000 Europeans die from melanoma skin and eye cancer. Also, one in 30 Europeans is expected to develop sight loss. The EU-supported LASER-HISTO project has contributed to the manufacturing of a new diagnostic device that offers early warning of eye diseases and cancers. Without the need for a physical biopsy, it increases patient wellbeing, as well as speeding up the diagnosis.

- **5 250 top researchers** at various stages of their careers have been funded by the ERC via Horizon 2020 by the end of 2018. ERC publications represented nearly 7% of the highly (top 1%) cited papers.

- **The bus of the future**. By 2050, two thirds of the world’s population will live in cities. Finding ways to improve mobility for these people has therefore become a priority. The EU-funded EBSF_2 project successfully combined research with demonstrators based on innovative technologies to provide intelligent, cost-effective, energy-efficient and customer-oriented bus systems for greater mobility in Europe’s cities.

- Efficient non-intrusive inspection of containerised freight is critical to trade and society. Freight containers are potential means for smuggling, drug trafficking, and transport of dangerous / illicit substances. The **C-BORD project** developed prototypes for enhanced X-ray imaging and passive radiation detection. The project has also demonstrated that the advanced technologies used in combination can provide information that is more complete to the customs analyst and improve non-intrusive inspection to stop the trafficking of dangerous or illegal goods.
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

The amount of EUR 1 041 million was allocated to the indirect actions of the previous Euratom programme 2014-2018. 70% being assigned to fusion research and 30% to fission research.

In the case of fusion research, following an independent evaluation, in 2014 the Commission awarded 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.

In fission research, 2 000 applicants submitted 139 proposals to three calls for research proposals in nuclear safety, waste management and radiation protection, requesting a Euratom contribution of EUR 501 million.

Direct actions

The work programme of the JRC covered research and training on the following areas:

• nuclear programme, including safety of reactor, fuel and fuel cycle, nuclear waste management, environmental monitoring and emergency preparedness and response; about 40% of the available resources were allocated to this area. The work in this area pursue the specific objective 9 of the Euratom WP, corresponding to direct actions
• nuclear safeguards non-proliferation and security, including combatting illicit trafficking and nuclear forensics. About 26% of the resources were allocated to these field, to achieve the specific objective 10 of the Euratom WP
• basic science knowledge and standards and reference materials essential for nuclear safety, security and safeguards, including research on non-energy applications of nuclear science as medical and space applications, consumed around 17% of the available resources. The work on the area pursue the specific objective 11 of the Euratom WP.

The research carried out contributed mainly to two Commission priorities: Energy Union in the areas of research, innovation and competitiveness and also security of supply and Europe as a stronger global actor in the areas of international cooperation, and nuclear security.

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).

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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 ensure availability and use of research infrastructures of pan-European relevance.
5. To support the policy of the Union on nuclear safety and security.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- Artificial and natural radiation sources have a radiological impact on the public and the environment. It is therefore important to improving radiation protection. The CONCERT project, funded by the Euratom Programme, aims to contribute to the sustainable integration of European and national research programmes in radiation protection, in order to answer unresolved questions and reduce uncertainties in various fields, such as dosimetry and nuclear medicine.
- In fusion research, by the end of 2018, the EUROfusion consortium had achieved 84% of the project’s milestones, as foreseen in the work plan.
- A technical breakthrough was made regarding plasma responses in a strong magnetic environment. This is very good news for the preparations of ITER exploitation, as this will be of considerable help for the development of credible operational scenarios.
- Another key achievement concerns the development of High temperature superconductors. The CROCO conductor, winner of the 2016 Euratom prize for innovation in fusion research, can now be fabricated in 7 metre lengths. It has also been cold-tested at liquid nitrogen temperature and high current, i.e. under fusion conditions. A licence for industrial exploitation has been granted.
- JRC has been contributing to the CIELO project, an OECD-NEA initiative which aims at world-wide standardisation of evaluated nuclear data for harmonized safety assessments in nuclear energy. With the same aim, JRC contributes to the OECD and IAEA nuclear data libraries.
- JRC actions also support the assessment of ageing nuclear power plants for their long-term operation, contributing to ensuring that their safety level remains at a high level. JRC supported the Belarus’ Nuclear Stress Tests Peer Review for the implementation of the EU nuclear safety stress tests, by providing experts for the Peer review team.
- In May 2018, a workshop on “Countering nuclear smuggling” was jointly organized between the JRC and the US-DoS, bringing together 70 participants from 22 countries and 4 international organisations. Two training sessions were provided in Georgia and Moldova, following a “virtual exercise” organized in 2017.
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.
- Coherence and consistency in national measures through the exchange of best practices at European level and benchmarking.

Implementation status
Financial instruments: The calls launched by the European Investment Fund (EIF) attracted great interest from financial intermediaries across the EU and non-EU countries participating in COSME, especially for the Loan Guarantee Facility. In 2018, EIF signed 36 agreements for loan guarantees for a total volume of EUR 387 million, out of which 33 agreements were also backed by the European Fund for Strategic Investment. All agreements signed by 2018 helped more than 381 000 SMEs to receive more than EUR 20 billion of financial support by September 2018.

Signing agreements for the Equity Facility for Growth took longer, as equity entails more complex due diligence and fund-raising processes. At the end of 2018, the EFI has invested through the Equity Facility for Growth in 14 funds (out of which 4 conditional signatures at this stage), for a total amount of EUR 163.5 million. Of these, five are multi-stage funds combined with the InnovFin Equity Facility for Early Stage set up under Horizon 2020.

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 EEN serves about 250 000 SMEs every year in all regions of the EU and 10 COSME associated countries through its 527 partner organisations. 73 EEN Business Cooperation Centres are present in 27 third countries (not funded). A new strategic vision for the EEN has been developed to adapt its services to changing business needs and to further increase the concrete positive impact on its SME clients' businesses. 'EEN Scale-Up Advisors' were put in place, to help start-ups overcome the barriers to growth and to fully support their ambition to scale. The analysis of SMEs expected impact shows that nearly 89% of them expect their market situation to improve thanks to EEN support.

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE) - In 2018, the EYE scheme has already reached the level of 7 000 mentoring exchanges between new and experienced entrepreneurs, and proved to be successful in addressing the needs of entrepreneurs in the European market. Currently there are 194 local contact points in 37 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.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new “Single Market” programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>311.9 100%</td>
<td>2016 98.2% 127.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>349.4 100%</td>
<td>2017 99.0% 223.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>354.2 100%</td>
<td>2018 98.6% 206.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!ng64Kw

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EUR MILLION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>254.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>304.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>319.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>349.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>354.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>367.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>413.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>2 354.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018 (EUR MILLION)

- 2 354.0 EUR MILLION
- 67% commitments
- 36% payments

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
Interim evaluation of the programme for the competitiveness of enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2014-2020) was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:
http://europa.eu/!RD83Xc

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 finance for SMEs in the form of equity and debt.
- To improve access to markets, particularly inside the Union but also at global level.

Examples of achievements so far

- By 30 September 2018, more than 381,000 SMEs in 27 countries already received financing for over EUR 20 billion. The enhancement of the Loan Guarantee Facility through additional risk-bearing capacity made available under the European Fund for Strategic Investments enabled a much quicker roll-out of the Loan Guarantee Facility, providing a much bigger amount of financing for riskier SME transactions than would have been the case without the European Fund for Strategic Investments 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 Loan Guarantee Facility with more than 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 3000 network staff have been active in local events involving more than 225,000 SMEs. They provide specialised advisory services to 70,000 SMEs, and about 30,000 SMEs participated in matchmaking events. Since its renewal in 2015, the EEN reached 11,231 partnership agreements between SMEs, while the new Network advisory support services gave already 5,580 clients a significant impetus to improve their competitiveness and innovation at European level.

- 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 254 new companies so far, and over 1000 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 930 cluster organisations with an average of 100 SMEs per cluster. With the facilitation of over 1100 international matchmaking meetings between clusters in 2018 where the ECCP took part, it has become a key EU instrument supporting SME internationalisation. The “Cluster Go international” Initiative enabled the establishment of 25 new EU cluster partnerships in 2018 supporting 134 clusters in Europe. 9 European Strategic Cluster Partnerships for smart specialisation investments were launched to facilitate cluster cooperation in thematic areas related to regional smart specialisation strategies.
The Erasmus+ programme is recognised for developing a European dimension to education. Over 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 fosters the European identity and reinforces European values.

Benefits for EU citizens

Erasmus+ guarantees that schools, vocational education and training, higher education and adult learning in all Member States benefit from mobility systems more compatible.

Erasmus+ also promotes activities outside formal education- building capacity of youth workers and enabling young people to increase their skills, intercultural awareness and active citizenship. It has also supported improvements in transparency of qualifications and skills for learners and workers.

Erasmus+ international dimension continued to facilitate mobility for higher education staff, students, young people and youth workers between Europe and the rest of the world. Cooperation with Partner Countries was further intensified through capacity building projects.

Benefits for EU citizens

School education: priority was given to strengthening the profile of teachers, promoting the acquisition of key competences e.g. by addressing underachievement in the basic skills of maths, science and literacy, supporting schools to tackle early school leaving and boosting access to high quality early childhood education and care.

Vocational education and training (VET) component prioritised the internationalisation of VET, improving the quality of VET provision and promoting work-based learning in all its forms, with special attention to apprenticeships, by involving social partners, companies and VET providers. It promoted long-term mobility (i.e. 3-12 months duration) of VET learners through the new ErasmusPro.

Adult education priority was given to enhancing the supply of high-quality learning opportunities to 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.

Youth emphasis was put on inclusion, promoting diversity and common values. Building on the potential of youth work, non-formal learning mobility and volunteering to address societal challenges, the programme helped young people with fewer opportunities to participate and equipped youth workers with competences and methods to promote fundamental values.

Sport: activities in grassroots sport as a tool for social inclusion, including integration of migrants and promotion of good governance and fight against violence and intolerance in sport was supported.

Jean Monnet activities supported study modules, university chairs, networks, projects, centres of excellence and associations in 30 European programme countries and 69 countries worldwide.

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 a combination of direct and indirect (grants and procurement) management and financial instruments.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed an expansion of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1 734.7 100%</td>
<td>1 811.7 99.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2 070.2 100%</td>
<td>1 913.9 99.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2 314.5 100%</td>
<td>2 248.9 99.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LEGAL BASIS


PERIOD OF APPLICATION

2014 - 2020
**General Objectives**

- The Programme contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy, notably the headline education target; the objectives of the strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training ("ET 2020"), 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; and the promotion of European values in accordance with Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union.

**Programme structure**

- **Key Action 1** aims to enhance the skills, employability and intercultural awareness of the participants.
- **Key Action 2** promotes 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 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.
- The **Jean Monnet Activities** aim at promoting excellence in teaching and research in the field of European Union studies worldwide.
- 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, and the dialogue with relevant European stakeholders.

**Examples of achievements so far**

Initiatives - such as the Erasmus+ virtual exchanges and network of role models - were implemented in 2018 with the aim of fostering intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding, preventing radicalisation and violence, and promoting active participation of young people in society. Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges aim at reaching 200 000 participants by 2019. These exchanges will connect young people from Europe, the Southern Mediterranean, the Middle East and Africa, and provide a structured platform for sharing views and ideas, and collaborate on joint projects, all facilitated by trained moderators.

The **European Week of Sport**, which takes place every year from the 23rd to the 30th of September, celebrated its 4th anniversary in 2018. It was extended to the Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership countries and regions and it attracted over 13 million people to more than 50 000 events. More than 287 000 higher education **student mobilities** took place in 2017 therefore reaching over 1 million mobilities since 2014. The positive trend continued in 2018 with more than 320 000 mobilities reached. Moreover, the first Erasmus+ pilot call to support the setting-up of “European Universities” was launched in autumn 2018.

Launched in 1989, the **Jean Monnet Activities** support research and teaching about the European Union worldwide. In the last three decades, more than 1 000 universities in 87 countries were supported to offer courses in the area of European studies as part of their curricula. The Jean Monnet Activities reach an estimated 300 000 students every year.
EaSI
EUROPEAN UNION PROGRAMME FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL INNOVATION

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

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 (MF/SE 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 the implementation of the employment and social objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. It creates added value to national policies by developing, coordinating and implementing modern, effective and innovative EU employment and social policies.

Implementation status
In 2018 the PROGRESS axis concentrated on gathering evidence through studies, analysis and EU statistics to shape policy developments. In addition, it 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 to the European job mobility portal, training courses on EURES services, as well as horizontal support to the member organisations of the EURES network. 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” were also supported.

Concerning the MF/SE axis, by the end of 2018, 101 operations (76 for Microfinance and 25 for Social Entrepreneurship) have already been signed in 29 countries for a total amount of EUR 178.6 million, (EUR 129.2 million for Microfinance and EUR 49.4 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 December 2017 which further on increased by an additional top-up of EUR 200 million from EFSI 2.0 in December 2018. 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 396 million for both microfinance and social entrepreneurship.

With regard to EaSI Technical Assistance (TA), the programme offers a range of support activities to European microfinance institutions (MFIs), including capacity-building tailored trainings and training courses on the implementation of the European Code of Good Conduct for microcredit provision under the programme. Since March 2018, the EaSI TA programme is directly managed by the Commission.

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).

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new "European Social Fund +" programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>96.3%</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.3%</td>
<td>95.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>98.2%</td>
<td>98.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

Under Progress axis, the Post Lab project fostered administrative cooperation between inspection authorities and social partners in the area of posting of workers in the construction sector in Italy, Romania, France and Spain. The project identified how cooperation between inspection authorities and social partners can produce relevant data and information, and how relevant data and information can be properly registered and shared at national and transnational level, with a view to reducing the administrative burden on employers while easing the protection of workers’ rights.

In pace with the overall political priority to boost youth employment, EaSI-Progress supported a project ‘Make the Future...Today’ to strengthen the Youth Guarantee scheme in Portugal. The Youth Guarantee support services were initially concentrated in the group of young people ‘not in employment, education or training’ (NEET) but lately it was necessary to also reach out to NEETs not registered as unemployed. Besides reducing the number of young NEETs, it also aimed to increase the number of registrations of youngsters in the Youth Guarantee database. As a result, the average time of response between a request and contact has dropped dramatically (from 100 to some 20 days in 2 to 3 years). More generally, the youth unemployment rate (15-24 years old) decreased from about 42% in 2013 to levels below 20% and the NEET rate (15-34 years old) decreased from levels higher than 18% in 2013 to levels below 9% (Portuguese national statistics institute, 2018).

Due to the improved labour market context in Member States, the use of the EURES Job Mobility Portal is decreasing since 2017 but still remains important (0.9 million visits every month). While 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 first six months of 2018 already resulted in an additional 1 204 placements.

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, a total of 5 465 placements were made (until end of June 2018).

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. This is 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.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

* Average 2014-2018
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.

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. The EU value added of the programme derives from the cross-border character of the activities, in addition to those developed at national or regional levels.

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
Since December 2016, eight different programmes have been mobilised to give young people the chance to take part in a range of solidarity activities, before starting being implemented under its self-standing Regulation. Regarding the implementation of volunteering activities, appropriate transitional measures for the first half of 2018 were put in place in the context of the Erasmus+ Programme. These measures guaranteed continuity of volunteering activities in 2018, thus avoiding any disruption in the flow of volunteering opportunities.

The Regulation was adopted on 2 October 2018, which enabled the implementation of the European Solidarity Corps as a self-standing programme. The final agreed indicative share of costs is 90% for volunteering activities and solidarity projects and 10% for traineeships and jobs. The first call was also launched in 2018, with a deadline of 16 October 2018, which allowed activities to start as early as 1 January 2019. Three rounds have been planned for the 2019 call for proposals for actions implemented by National Agencies in participating countries.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sports and Culture (DG EAC) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. European Solidarity Corps funding is provided in grants, procurement and prizes.

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>99.43%</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>33.2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Performance framework

**GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

- To promote solidarity as a value, mainly through volunteering, enhance the engagement of young people and organisations in accessible and high-quality solidarity activities as a means to contribute to strengthening cohesion, solidarity, democracy and citizenship in Europe, while also responding to societal challenges and strengthening communities, with particular effort to promote social inclusion. It shall also contribute to European cooperation that is relevant to young people.

**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 particular efforts are made to promote social inclusion and equal opportunities, in particular for the participation of young people with fewer opportunities, through a range of special measures such as appropriate formats of solidarity activities and personalised support.

- 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.

- To contribute to European cooperation relevant to young people and to raise awareness of its positive impact.

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. In addition, the coherence with key indicators for Youth as referred to in the Erasmus+ Regulation is ensured.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- Several key milestones were already reached by early 2019. These include:
  - **Organisations:** first call launched was a success. National Agencies received over 1 400 submissions, including 255 submissions for solidarity projects to be implemented directly by the young people themselves. In total, the proposed activities could offer up to 13 000 opportunities for young people.

- **Participants:** since its launch in December 2016, the European Solidarity Corps has attracted more than 100 000 young people who have expressed their interest to help in solidarity actions across Europe.

- By December 2018, more than 11 000 people have already started their activities in projects dealing with various topics such as environment, culture, social services, helping refugees, migrants, children or the elderly.
**CUSTOMS 2020**

**ACTION PROGRAMME FOR CUSTOMS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**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. 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%).

Strngthening security and protection of citizens while facilitating legitimate international trade, pursuing customs modernisation and developing and managing an effective and efficient EU customs union have been part of the Union’s priorities. The achievement of these priorities is enabled under the programme, mainly through setting-up of a paper-less customs environment. This environment improves both the trade facilitation and the effective enforcement of rules for protecting the financial, safety and security interests of the EU.

Regarding operational cooperation, the programme funds Expert Teams, namely structured forms of cooperation, pooling expertise to perform tasks in specific domains or carry out operational activities, possibly with the support of online collaboration services, administrative assistance and infrastructure and equipment facilities.

**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.

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.

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 shows that the Customs 2020 programme is on course to fulfilling its objectives and that it plays an important role in facilitating the implementation and development of the EU customs policy.

The core outcomes of Customs 2020 programme are the European Information Systems (EIS), which are of critical importance for the well-functioning of the customs union. Since the launch of the programme, it has financed the development of new EIS projects, in close cooperation with national customs authorities and in line with the deadlines agreed with the Member States and trade in the Electronic Customs Multi-Annual Strategic Plan (MASP). It developments and adaptations of the existing IT environment to the Union Customs Code have been carried out, bringing the total number of EIS in operations to 52.

**Who is in charge**

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

**Outlook for the 2021–2027 period**

The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

### Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>99.9% 64.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>99.7% 64.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>99.9% 72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 – 2020

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!NQ39kG

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total programming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>78.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>75.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018 (EUR MILLION)**

- 532.5 EUR MILLION
  - 71% commitments
  - 49% payments

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

The studies and evaluations financed under the programme Customs 2020 can be consulted on the TAXUD EUROPA website: http://europa.eu/ltv44YW
To support the functioning and modernisation of the customs union in order to strengthen the internal market by means of cooperation between participating countries, their customs authorities and their officials.

Some of the most relevant deliverables were produced by the

The correct calculation of tariffs and the fight against fraud are crucial

By end 2018, TAXUD’s eLearning portfolio contained more than 30

Across the programme, over 1 000 guidelines and recommendations

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 Fiscals) has been gradually rising over the years, from 2.7 billion (2014) to 6 billion (2018). The messages exchanges on the Customs systems also indicating a rise: from 440 million (2014) to 550 million (2018).

The "Progress towards the target" chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

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 Fiscals) has been gradually rising over the years, from 2.7 billion (2014) to 6 billion (2018). The messages exchanges on the Customs systems also indicating a rise: from 440 million (2014) to 550 million (2018).

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. The system maintains high availability rate (more than 99%) and in 2018 has exchanged around 223 million messages.

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 March 2018). 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 in 2017 (on laboratories, Binding Tariff Information, operational cooperation at the EU Easter 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)). During 2018, CELBET 2 was created to continue the work of its predecessor and a new Expert Team on IT collaboration (ETCIT) started its activities to explore and identify possible new approaches for customs IT systems development, aiming at effective and cost-beneficial solutions amongst Member States.

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.

By end 2018, TAXUD’s eLearning portfolio contained more than 30 eLearning courses in the customs area, all of which support customs professionals from both public and private sector with the application of the UCC and related common customs legal, operational and technical requirements. The number of downloads of eLearning courses from EUROPA website has risen significantly, from 3 219 (2014) to 12 612 (2018). Innovative common knowledge building and sharing formats were further explored in 2018, such as training webinars, eBooks and similar.
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. 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%).

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 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.

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 set-up is more cost-effective than if each Member State were to set up individual cooperation frameworks on a bilateral or multilateral basis.

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.

Implementation status
The data collected in the performance measurement of the programme show that Fiscalis 2020 is on course to fulfilling its objectives and progressing towards achieving the expected results of the projects planned in the Annual Work Programmes.

During the last four years, the number of IT systems (and their availability), the number of events and participants remained at high levels. The high quantity of deliverables under the programme is the result of a high demand from stakeholders. This aspect has been confirmed by the conclusions of the Mid-Term Evaluation of the programme, which has highlighted an agreement among the stakeholders consulted that the programme is needed to facilitate secure and rapid exchanges of information, cooperation between tax administrations and enhancement of administrative capacity.

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.

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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.

Based on the results of MANITC, two additional Expert Teams were launched to foster the IT collaboration in the taxation area (MANITC 2 in 2017 and MANITC 3 in 2018). In the area of excise duties, two new Expert Teams were launched in 2018 to create a mobile application for EMCS controls, and to develop an excise duty calculator. Also in 2018 another Expert Team was created to group Member States’ resources to assist the Commission in the development of the Transaction Network Analysis (TNA) software, a custom built software to facilitate information exchange and data analysis within the Eurofisc network.

The core outcomes of Fiscalis 2020 are the European Information Systems (EIS), which allow the electronic exchange of tax-related information between Member States. Ensuring the business and IT systems’ continuity is a major responsibility under the programme since disruptions in the operation of the European tax systems would affect national administrations, citizens and business across Europe. In the 2014-2018 period, the Common Communication Network (CCN/CSI) that enables the functioning of these IT systems had the required high availability (more than 99%) and the number of exchanged messages on the network has been gradually rising over the years, from 2.2 billion (2014) to 5.2 billion (2018).

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%) according to data available in March 2018.

After having started the Blockchain@TAXUD initiative in 2017, in 2018, DG TAXUD, in collaboration with DG DIGIT and DG CONNECT, evaluated further if this technology was suited for taxation (or customs). In the excise domain, DG TAXUD tested, with the EMCS Proof of Concept, a complex scenario using a permissioned consortium blockchain. It was completed in 2018 and is illustrated in a video available in YouTube “Blockchain in the excise domain video”. Drawing from the positive results of the above blockchain project, DG TAXUD organised a workshop with the Member States in May 2018, raising awareness on the interest of this new technology.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

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**

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- **Expert Teams** represent a new tool from the programme, that 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 two Expert Teams that were created for taxation in 2016 started to produce their outputs in 2017: the MANITC Expert Team grouped Member States’ resources to strategically manage IT Collaboration initiatives in the field of taxation (e.g. development of software, IT specifications, testing); the DAC2 Expert Team supported Member States in the implementation of Council Directive 2014/107/EU, which imposed an automatic exchange of financial information (e.g. account numbers, account balance or gross amount of interests paid) by collaboratively designing and developing some national software modules. This allowed MSs to save costs on the phase of the development lifecycle and to ensure a cross-border orientation.

- Based on the results of MANITC, two additional Expert Teams were launched to foster the IT collaboration in the taxation area (MANITC 2 in 2017 and MANITC 3 in 2018). In the area of excise duties, two new Expert Teams were launched in 2018 to create a mobile application for EMCS controls, and to develop an excise duty calculator. Also in 2018 another Expert Team was created to group Member States’ resources to assist the Commission in the development of the Transaction Network Analysis (TNA) software, a custom built software to facilitate information exchange and data analysis within the Eurofisc network.

- Fiscalis 2020 supports a coherent implementation and application of tax policies (VAT competency/tax compliance building). This happened specifically in 2018 through the realisation of a major technical up-grading and content-updating project of the EU VAT eLearning programme (composed of 12 VAT process-specific eLearning modules in 17 EU languages, a total of 204 modules) that makes this EU competency building training material fit for use by the national public and private sector across the EU for the years to come. In addition, the development of an EU TAX Competency Framework was started in early 2018, with the elaboration of draft versions of common tax values, operational competencies, and functional domains in taxation and tax career paths.
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 substantial higher number of applications for grants under the calls for proposals in particular technical assistance (purchase of 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). Between 2014 and 2018, the Commission awarded more than 190 grants to national and regional authorities as well as research institutes and NGO’s for the purchase of technical equipment or for the organisation of training events, conferences and seminars.

In 2019, the Commission has launched three calls for proposals providing technical support to national and regional authorities tasked with the protection of the Union’s financial interests as well as support for the organisation of training and conferences by research and educational institutes and NGO’s.

In addition, the Programme will finance the access to databases for Member States’ law customs and police forces as well as the development of IT-tools for risk assessment analyses.

Who is in charge

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

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new “EU Anti-Fraud” programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
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<td>15.3</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>14.9</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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.

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### Examples of achievements so far

**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.

- 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. For example, x-ray scanners purchased by the Polish Customs detected large quantities of illegal cigarettes being smuggled into the EU. Brussels Airport is now more efficient in fighting smuggling, having acquired a state-of-the-art scanner van, able to X-ray airplanes.

- In addition, grant beneficiaries reported that investigation support equipment, such as cameras, IT-tools and forensic soft- and hardware, facilitated the lawful gathering of evidence during operations in support of investigations aimed at protecting the Union’s revenues, expenditures and assets. For example, Polish Customs Service reported that the use of the forensic equipment co-financed by Hercule led to seizures of EUR 117 million, 287 investigated persons and 35 convictions. The French National Service for Intelligence and Customs Investigations indicated that the localisation and surveillance equipment acquired contributed to EUR 73 million seizures and six arrests.

**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. For example, the Lithuanian Customs implemented an IT system linking customs offices in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia for the exchange of information and images generated by X-ray scanners located at border crossing points. The use of this tool already led to seizures of more than 12 million cigarettes, preventing potential losses of almost EUR 2 million.

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**PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction rate of training activities funded, including specialised trainings</th>
<th>&gt;100%</th>
<th>90% compared to 75% satisfaction rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of target achieved by 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 - 2020

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**PERICLES 2020**

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

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**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 2018 - Call for Proposals reference 2018 ECFIN 006/C5 was set at EUR 1 055 100. Under the call for proposals 2018, two deadlines for applications were set. 94.15%, a total of EUR 993 388.74 of the overall budget was committed in 2018. In 2018, the programme funded 11 projects; 8 originated from the competent authorities of euro area Member States, while 3 were initiatives of the Commission. Of the applications approved, 5 are seminar/conferences/workshops, 4 staff exchanges, and 2 purchase of equipment. 5 actions were implemented in 2018, while 6 actions will be implemented in 2019. An estimated total of 580 participants are foreseen to participate.

**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).

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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**

To protect the euro banknotes and coins against counterfeiting and related fraud, by supporting and supplementing the measures undertaken by the Member States and assisting the competent national and Union authorities in their efforts to develop between themselves and with the European Commission a close and regular cooperation and an exchange of best practices, also where appropriate, including third countries and international organisations.

**Examples of achievements so far**

• The latest data for the defined programme indicators (further details are provided in the ‘Performance information’ section) is as follows:
  - 563 000 counterfeit euro banknotes and 179 353 counterfeit euro coins detected (2017),
  - 22 illegal workshops (mints and print shops) dismantled (2017),
  - and 7 494 individuals arrested (2017). Further details are provided in the programme indicators Annex.

However, these indicators, while linked to the protection of the euro are not directly linked to the programme implementation.

• An estimated number of 756 experts participated in actions for which commitments were made in 2017.

• In terms of origin, participants come from 57 countries. The majority of trainees (73%) are European participants: 36% come from the euro area Member States, while non-EU countries in Europe represents 17% and Non-Euro Area Member States 20%; 16% of trainees are from Latin America, a significant decrease compared to the previous year. Finally, 3% come from the Middle East and North Africa and 1% from Asia.

• With respect to the professional background of participants, members from police forces represent 42% 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. However, there is a continuing positive trend towards an increasing differentiation and diversification of the professional backgrounds of participants over the years. Indeed, for the second year in a row, police authorities do not represent the absolute majority of participants in 2017. Other categories of participants account for 58% of the total, a slight decrease from 63% in the previous year. The substantial participation of central banks has remained nearly constant with (24%) and there is a continuing high participation of members of the judiciary (8%). Of particular note is the significant participation of mints (4%), customs (4%), ministries of finance (3%) and financial institutions (3%), reflecting a full range of professional backgrounds of the participants. Finally, the implementation of the Commission action “first meeting of the Platform 1210” results in a high participation of representatives from the coin processing machine (CPM) industry (4%) for the second year in a row, which affirms the private sector as a significant stakeholder in the fight against counterfeiting.

As a result, the implementation of the Programme meets the transnational and multidisciplinary dimensions of the Programme required under Regulation (EU) No 331/2014.
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 programme 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-OCU (Virtual Operations Coordination Unit) used for Joint Customs Operations, secure web mail (AFIS-Mail), specific information exchange modules and databases like 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 2016-2018 have been mostly executed as foreseen.

The start of 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 started in 2018, and the go-live is expected for the beginning of 2019.

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.

In July 2018 the legacy Mutual Assistance Broker (MAB) and CIS applications were finally replaced by the new Customs Information System (CIS+), which implements the changes in the amended Regulation 515/97. All users of and cases in the legacy MAB/CIS were successfully migrated to the new CIS+.

All new applications, which development has started late due to delays in previous years, have either been implemented in this reporting period or are close to completion, and the programme is now well on track for the delivery of its objectives and targets for 2020.

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 platform development (IT systems).

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.2%</td>
<td>92.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.7%</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>98.5%</td>
<td>90.6%</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 2018:
  - 18,340 active customs fraud cases were available in the Mutual Assistance databases in 2018;
  - 5 Joint Customs Operations, including EU wide and regional operations, were supported by 2018.

- **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 operational activities under AFIS constitute a valuable support to Member States’ and Commission’s operational and investigative work aiming at: detecting customs infringements, recovering customs duties, and enhancing customs cooperation in the anti-fraud area. The permanent physical (Permanent Operational Coordination Unit - POCU) and IT infrastructure (Virtual Operation Coordination Unit - VOCU) for the support of Joint Customs Operations (JCOs) has been regularly used by Commission and Member States, as well as third countries and other organisations on numerous occasions. This physical structure and AFIS application strongly facilitate the coordination tasks associated to JCOs with a large number of participants.

- AFIS supports the protection of the EU financial interests and has a positive effect on the EU budget. It prevents losses of revenue far higher than the programme’s actual budget. Just the seizures of 56 million cigarettes alone during one single JCO in 2017 prevented the loss of EUR 12 million in customs duties and taxes. By supporting the detection of cases of misdescription of origin or undervaluation, AFIS applications prevent the loss of millions of Euro in customs duties and VAT. In addition, they prevent the loss of excise duties, by enabling Member States to perform seizures of illicit cigarettes.

- AFIS also contributes to non-monetisable values. By supporting the seizure of illicit and counterfeit goods, like counterfeit semiconductors and fake automotive spare parts the programmes contributes to the protection of health and safety of EU citizens.

- The **AFIS Portal** is a single and common infrastructure for the delivery of the above-mentioned services to nearly **8,800 registered end-users** in more than **1,900 competent services** from Member States, partner third countries, international organisations, 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.
**CEF**

**CONNECTING EUROPE FACILITY**

**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 253 railway projects across the EU. The investment in railway projects accounts for EUR 16.4 billion, around 70% 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 12,840 supply points for alternative fuel.

**CEF Energy** currently supports projects under eight priority corridors, four in the electricity sector, four in the gas sector and two thematic area, one on smart grids and one on CO2. CEF Energy promotes the further integration of the internal energy market and the interoperability of electricity and gas networks across borders, including by ensuring that no Member State is isolated from the European energy network. It enhances EU security of supply and contributes to sustainable development and protection of the environment by fostering the integration of more energy renewable electricity.

**CEF Telecom** facilitates the deployment of trans-European digital services for citizens, business and administrations, and supports the vision of public services being not only digital by default but also cross-border. It also promotes free wireless connectivity in local communities through the Wifi4EU initiative and stimulates investment for deploying and modernising broadband networks through the Connecting Europe Broadband Fund (CEBF) and the CEF Debt Instrument – all essential elements for sustaining a Digital Single Market.

**Implementation status**

For the three sectors, during the period 2014-2018, more than 40 calls for proposals have been launched. All but 3 ongoing calls have been evaluated and finalised.

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 90% of this budget has already been allocated through the 2014-2018 calls for proposals – with a remaining budget of around EUR 2 billion. For transport only, the entire budget, which consists of two envelopes - general envelope and cohesion contribution of EUR 11.3 billion - has been allocated as a result of the calls launched between 2014 and 2018.

Under the CEF, due to the complexity of the infrastructure projects concerned, the majority of the CEF financed projects is still ongoing and is expected to be completed by the end of the current financial framework and beyond.

The overall performance of CEF financed actions is very good, with actions progressing within the initial timeframe or with minor delays. Most projects are on track to meet their objectives and to deliver benefits to EU citizens.

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. Building on the positive experience of the blending call, the CEF Transport has launched at the beginning of 2019 a blending facility call.

**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 or with minor delays. Most projects are on track to meet their objectives and to deliver benefits to EU citizens.

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

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**LEGAL BASIS**


**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!Rc38MC

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commitments</th>
<th>Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1,976.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2,134.5</td>
<td>1,435.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2,469.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2,747.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>3,764.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>3,937.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>18,464.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVERALL EXECUTION 2014 - 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EUR MILLION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>18,464.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

The external mid-term evaluation of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

http://europa.eu/!Rc38MC

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**VOTED BUDGET EXECUTION (IN EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Executed Commitments %</th>
<th>Executed Payments %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>99.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>99.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>99.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 – 2020
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

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020, CEF TRANSPORT 2023)

CEF Transport - Lines in service equipped with the European Railway Traffic Management System (ERTMS)
- New sections of increased capacity and removed bottlenecks
- 70.5% 18%

CEF Transport - Number of supply points for alternative fuels
- 1% 10%

CEF Transport - Improved or new connections between ports through motorways of the sea
- 1% 6%

CEF Energy - System Resilience - Member States
- 24% 55%

CEF Energy - Member States with diversified gas supply sources
- CEF Energy - Member States with diversified gas supply sources
- 87%

CEF Telecom - Citizens using public services on-line
- 64% out of 70% of citizens

CEF Telecom - Availability of cross-border public services
- 73.3% out of 100% public services

% of target achieved by 2018
Estimated value

* 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. Estimated values represent project results to be completed by 2018 based on the contractual delivery dates in the signed grant agreements.

Examples of achievements so far

CEF transport has played a key role in financing projects contributing to the TEN-T policy’s objectives, focusing on addressing bottlenecks and missing links along the network, with a particular attention to cross border sections. Among these actions, key cross-border infrastructure projects such as the Brenner Base Tunnel, Rail Baltica and the development of the Seine-Escaut Inland waterway network are included. At this date, some achievements have already been reached in terms of completed projects. As an example, for rail transport, the deployment of European Railway Traffic Management System (ERTMS) for 29.5 km along the double-track rail section Ans-Angleur (Belgium) in Belgium has generated significant improvements in the rail interoperability and safety.

CEF Energy has been a key EU funding instrument to support the achievement of EU energy policy objectives by promoting the implementation of Projects of Common Interest (PCIs). CEF Energy is an integral part of the Trans-European Networks for Energy (TEN-E) strategy. In the period 2014-2018 CEF Energy co-funding of a total of EUR 3.4 billion was allocated to 122 actions contributing to 91 PCIs. CEF Energy has helped to kick-off key energy infrastructure investments in Europe including the construction of the Biscay Gulf France-Spain interconnection, better integrating the Iberian Peninsula into the internal electricity market and allowing for an enhanced integration of renewable electricity, as well as the Baltic Synchronisation Project for synchronising the Baltic States’ electricity grid with the continental European network.

CEF Telecom has played a key role in facilitating coordination among Member States to share solutions, develop standards and enable cross-border services - enhancing online public services and making solutions interoperable for the benefit of citizens, businesses and public administrations across Europe. For example, the Cybersecurity digital service set up a voluntary cooperation platform to strengthen EU preparedness and response to cyberattacks. The platforms enables a swift and effective operational cooperation between the Member States and contributes to an EU-wide solution to a threat that does not respect national borders.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
### 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.

The ISA² Programme supports 53 actions focused on the development of tools, services and frameworks in the area of eGovernment. The actions are organised in nine work packages defined by the annual rolling work programme.

### Benefits for EU citizens

ISA² continues and capitalises on the results of the previous ISA programme, broadening its scope to the interactions between public administrations, citizens and businesses. Important contributions of the ISA² programme are to:

- Interoperability is a necessary condition for the modernisation of public administrations, in particular for “one-stop-shop”, “once only principle” or “end-to-end services”.
- Actions identified as fundamental to the Digital Single Market initiative, such as the new European Interoperability Framework and the European Catalogue of standards, are supported by the ISA² programme, preventing the emergence of electronic barriers.
- Almost all EU policies depend for their implementation on the availability of ICT systems that support the interconnection between Member States administrations. The ISA² programme supports the implementation of interoperable systems either by funding or by providing tools to help the interconnection and implementation of these systems.

### Implementation status

The programme has so far been implemented efficiently 99.96% of the actions progressing very well as per Q4 2018\(^1\). In 2016 - 2018 work programme was performed as envisaged without delays or unforeseen events affecting the objectives stated in the legal decision of the programme.

The intermediary targets have been met, with eleven key interoperability enablers and twelve supporting instruments for public administrations in use by European public administrations. For example, 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 programme has effectively delivered on its objective to develop, maintain and promote a holistic approach to interoperability in the Union in order to eliminate fragmentation in the Union’s interoperability landscape. It is expected that timely monitoring of the EIF will help to identify areas to work at Member State level towards efficiency gains for public service delivery, and potential synergies across EC to further common objectives of Digital Public Administration.

### 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.

### Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new “Digital Europe” programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

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\(^1\) Update of the programme’s dashboard [https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/dashboard/programme/efficiency](https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/dashboard/programme/efficiency)
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

• Developing common vocabularies and data models, ISA² programme effectively delivers on its objective to facilitate efficient and effective electronic cross-border or cross-sector interaction between European public administrations on the one hand, and between European public administrations and businesses and citizens on the other. It also contributes to the development of a more effective, simplified and user-friendly e-administration at the national, regional and local levels of public administration. Success stories and application of ISA² solutions were presented in the ISA² mid-term conference in November 2018. Members States were keen to share their experience how solutions such as Interoperability Maturity Assessment of a Public Service, European Interoperability Reference Architecture, and European Legislation Identifier are helping them in facilitating digitalisation in national public administrations and ensuring interoperability.

• In addition, the success of ISA² can be illustrated by an intensive cooperation with other programmes and projects of the EU, such as Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), Structural Reforms Programme (SRSP), projects from Horizon 2020. Some of ISA² actions and pilot solutions have proved to be so successful and impactful, that CEF Telecom programme has proposed to finance them as building blocks: TESTA (Trans European Services for Telematics between Administrations) secure network service and Big Data test infrastructure. Horizon 2020 projects are reusing ISA² created solutions such as European Single Procurement Document, EU Public License and others.

• By systematically screening new EU legislation – under preparation by the Commission – for possible ICT impacts, and by providing ICT Impact Assessment guidelines to the policy officers working on the identified ICT-related proposals, the ISA² programme effectively delivers on its objective “to identify, create and operate interoperability solutions supporting the implementation of Union policies and activities.” Timely ICT Impact Assessments result in concrete efficiency gains by identifying and deploying reusable components, thus saving the efforts linked to new developments, and by ensuring thorough planning of IT implementation. Tool #27 of the Commission’s Better Regulation Toolbox contains detailed guidance on digital checks. This Better Regulation Tool also points towards further sources of support available for policymakers and ICT specialists. One of them is the “ICT Impact Assessment Guidelines”, of which the methodology was updated by the ISA² Programme in 2018 and is available for use in work on a legislative proposal which may entail ICT elements.
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 Annual Work Programme for 2018 referred to the first year to implement the extended European statistical programme (ESP) to 2020. The extension paved the way for a range of ambitious actions to give the ESS greater capacity and flexibility. In addressing high-level requests from policy-makers, the ESP extension included measures for higher-quality, timelier statistics to support the Commission’s 10 political priorities and the European Parliament’s political agenda. The 2018 work programme also aimed at carrying forward the ESS Vision 2020, covering key areas such as user needs, data sources, dissemination and communication.

In 2018, 94.9% of planned outputs were achieved or were on target. Those outputs with a status other than "Achieved / On target" have been analysed in detail. None of them put at risk the fulfilment of the ESP objectives. The causes included dependency on partners or contractors; issues related to priority, resource, IT matters; and unexpected complexity or difficulties in executing the tasks. Corrective actions were identified and have been implemented. These actions included reviewing the IT planning procedure, in particular IT prioritisation and HR allocation.

Who is in charge

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

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new "Single Market" programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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;
- Eurostat substantially advanced with the improvement of production methods of statistics, notably through the exploration of new data sources for official statistics. Quality considerations continued playing a central role in Eurostat’s management as well as in its day-to-day statistical operations. Quality in official statistics was also at the very heart of the 2018 European Quality Conference that Eurostat organised in Krakow in June 2018.
- Eurostat made significant progress on timelier data and estimates in a wide range of sectors. Timeliness was improved for employment estimates for the Principal European Economic Indicators (PEEIs), major components of social expenditures (social protection, education and health), results of the Farm Structure Survey, share of energy from renewable sources supporting the “decarbonising the economy” pillar of the Energy Union, energy statistics and prices for electricity and gas, and estimates on air emission accounts.
- In response to the needs for indicators on natural resources, Eurostat produced harmonised data on prices and rents of agriculture land. New harmonised data on passenger mobility now ensure comparability for integrated urban mobility plans.
- Regarding new statistical products and services, Eurostat started disseminating new official and experimental business and trade statistics on topics like e-commerce, cloud computing, and big data analysis. It also progressively expanded trade statistics to provide better information on the traders themselves, complementing the existing statistics on what is traded.
- Eurostat made increased use of infographics, videos and other innovative products aimed at a general audience to enhance the attractiveness of its publications, news releases, news items and social media posts.
**FINANCIAL REPORTING**

**SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF FINANCIAL REPORTING AND AUDITING**

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**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 - 2020

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!pN89Jp

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**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EUR MILLION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>82</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>56.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018 (EUR MILLION)**

- **69%**
- **61%**

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

The relevant findings of the implementation of the programme are submitted in the form of annual reports to the European Parliament and the Council. The most recent report on the activities of the International Financial Reporting Standards Foundation (IFRS Foundation), the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) and the Public Interest Oversight Board (PIOB) is available here: http://europa.eu/!FT68wD

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**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 international standard setting process in the areas of audit and assurance, education, and ethics.

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**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.

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**Implementation status**

Over the period, the IFRS Foundation issued four major standards including IFRS 15 - Revenue from Contracts with Customers, IFRS 9 – Financial Instruments, IFRS 16 - Leases and IFRS 17 - Insurance Contracts. Following a public consultation run in 2015, the 2015-2020 work programme established by the International Accounting Standard Board now aims at improving and supporting the implementation of existing standards and enhancing the way the information is disclosed in the financial statements.

Over the same period, EFRAG implemented its internal reform in line with the recommendation from the Maystadt report of October 2013, which contributed to broadening its representation of European stakeholders. Meanwhile, for all newly issued standards, EFRAG has provided the IASB with comment letters at an early stage of the IFRS Foundation’s due process and issued endorsement advices about whether IFRS meet the technical criteria of the IAS Regulation, including the true and fair view principle and the conduciveness to the public good.

In the future, EFRAG will pursue its effort to further develop its capacities in impact analysis as a wider mandate has been given to it as part of the EFRAG reform following the Maystadt report, EFRAG’s work will to a large extent be driven by the IASB’s standard setting agenda. 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. Furthermore, as part of the European Commission Action Plan on Financing Sustainable Growth, in 2018 EFRAG initiated a research project on the consequences of IFRS 9, Financial Instruments, on long term investment to finance the transition toward a sustainable economy. In 2019, EFRAG will carry on its analysis and consider possible improvements to the accounting treatment of equity instruments.

In September 2018, EFRAG set up the European Corporate Lab with a view to fostering innovation in the field of corporate reporting in light of the European Commission’s action plan on Financing Sustainable Growth. Following a call for candidates in December 2018, the first project task force was established and operational in February 2019.

**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).

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**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new “Single Market” programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

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**Voted budget execution (in EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1 100%</td>
<td>2016 99.9% 7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2 100%</td>
<td>2017 100% 7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2 100%</td>
<td>2018 100% 7.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 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 are applicable 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.

- In 2018, EFRAG worked on the endorsement advice on IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts underpinned by a major impact analysis. EFRAG has been successful in the IASB reopening its discussions on IFRS 17.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries using International Financial Reporting Standards</th>
<th>Standards endorsed in the EU compared to the number of standards issued by the IASB</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintain positive trend</td>
<td>96% out of 100% of standards endorsed</td>
<td>96% out of 100% of standards endorsed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) Average results 2014-2018
CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT
ENHANCING CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT IN EU POLICY MAKING IN THE FIELD OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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 two beneficiaries implemented successfully their 2017 work programmes, meeting the objectives laid down in the Regulation. The mid-year reports submitted last year showed satisfactory progress in accomplishing their planned activities for 2018. Research and advocacy activities were carried out in line with the work programme, achieving the targets set. Some concrete impact was achieved on EU policy-making in the area of financial services. The outputs of the communication activities are also positive and reflect a growing number of followers.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new “Single Market” programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1.1 100%</td>
<td>2017 100% 0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1.5 100%</td>
<td>2018 100% 1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LEGAL BASIS
Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on establishing a Union programme to support specific activities enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy making in the area of financial services for the period of 2017-2020

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2017 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!pD79WW
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.

Examples of achievements so far

Overall, the activities performed by the two beneficiaries helped strengthen the voice of consumers and other financial services end-users in policy making.

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).
- Expanded its Closet index trackers project and published the report "Fund Benchmark Disclosure Compliance", which focused on qualitative analysis.
- Stably participates in expert groups run by the European Commission on European Supervisors Authorities.

Finance Watch

- Continues to develop a comprehensive expertise in financial services policy.
- Having placed particular emphasis on sustainable finance in 2018, it published two editions of the Global Green Finance Index, an index measuring the "greenness" of financial centres.
- In 2018, Finance Watch ran a year-long, global campaign called "Change Finance" with the main message that the financial sector should above all serve the needs of people and the planet.
- Stably participates in expert groups run by the European Commission or European Supervisory Authorities.
DEFENCE PROGRAMME

EUROPEAN DEFENCE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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 rising 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 unlocking 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.

The Work Programme thematic priorities areas of the programme are:

- Preparation, protection, deployment and sustainability,
- Information management and superiority and command, control, communication, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, cyber defence and cybersecurity
- Engagement and effectors,
- Cross-domain capabilities.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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 EDIDP is a new programme starting in 2019.
• The proposed overall budget of the new EDIDP is EUR 500 million for the 2019-2020 period.
• To be eligible, projects would need to be undertaken by a consortium of at least three undertakings which are established in at least three different Member States whilst at least three of those undertakings established in at least two Member States should not be controlled by each other or by the same undertaking.
• 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.
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION

List of programmes

- European Social Fund ........................................60
- European Regional Development Fund ..................62
- Cohesion Fund ..................................................64
- Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived .............66
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 over 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 source of funding 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 not have 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 cycles). In particular, Administrative capacity building financed by the ESF has supported the implementation of the structural reforms.

Implementation status

The year 2018 has marked a further acceleration of implementation for all operational programmes despite important disparities between Member States and programmes.

The first years of a programming period require efforts from the managing authorities to set up programme structures and processes in order to ensure sound and quality investments. They include the designation of authorities, the mobilisation of stakeholders, the setting-up of IT systems, the establishment of monitoring committees, the definition of selection criteria and the launch of calls for proposals. By end 2018, all programmes’ designation packages were received. The lack of designation during the first years prevents Member States from sending payment applications to the Commission, it however did not prevent implementation on the ground.

In 2018, nearly EUR 12.1 billion has been paid for the 2014-2020’s ESF programmes (including pre-financing) and by the end of 2018 the absorption rate (interim payments vs. 2014-2020 allocation) for the ESF was 19.1%. By end of 2018, the average project selection rate on the ground had exceeded 68%, paving the way for a strong contribution of the ESF to the Europe 2020 objectives in these areas.

Concerning the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), a mature phase of implementation continued in 2018. By November 2018, the total eligible cost of YEI operations selected for support was EUR 8.8 billion and nearly EUR 5.4 billion had been declared by beneficiaries. By end 2018, the Commission had paid to the Member States nearly EUR 4.8 billion in relation to YEI (including interim payments and initial and annual pre-financing). By end 2017, around 2.4 million young people had been included in YEI-supported measures.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed a continuation of this programme under the name “European Social Fund+” for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.9%</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.9%</td>
<td>99.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>99.9%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://europa.eu/1F89Qm

http://europa.eu/1vw37rR
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 2017:
  - 15.3 million participants supported, including 7.9 million unemployed and 4.9 million inactive participants;
  - 2.8 million long-term unemployed participants supported;
  - Amongst all participants 1.4 million were in employment, 1.9 million have gained a qualification and 870 000 participants were in education or training thanks to ESF or YEI support. By end of 2017, 2.4 million young people had benefitted from the YEI.
  - In terms of financial implementation, the average project selection rate had exceeded 68%, which shows that implementation on the ground is well under way. Consequently, the level of ESF expenditure certified to the Commission increased significantly in comparison to 2017. A mature phase of implementation has been reached for the majority of programmes.

- Examples of projects under the employment, social inclusion and education objectives are included below. They were published in the ESIF Annual Summary Report 2018.
  - In Luxembourg, the ESF-funded project “Fit4Entrepreneurship” targets 200 job seekers willing to set up their own business. Managed by the Chambre de Commerce, the public employment service and the Chambre des Métiers, it includes a diagnosis of entrepreneurial skills, a training programme, individual support by entrepreneurs and post-creation assistance.
  - The ESF project “Second Chance School” in Gijón (Spain) offers vulnerable young people (low-skilled, early-school leavers, people lacking socio-family support, having health problems, etc.) practical and tailor-made trainings focussed on skills and abilities to help them reintegrate/stay in education or find a job. Between 2009 and 2017, 1 400 people participated.
  - In Latvia, the aim of one ESF-funded project is to increase the number of qualified VET students through participation in work-based learning (WBL) and practices (or traineeships) in enterprises. By May 2018, 1 400 enterprises, 34 vocational education establishments and 2 900 VET students were involved, out of which 640 were WBL students and 2 275 were involved in traineeships.
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 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.

Implementation status
Project selection rates have increased significantly since 2017 reaching 74% at end 2018, covering over 278 000 concrete projects, corresponding to EUR 205.7 billion allocated to specific projects supporting the EU 2020 objectives for jobs and growth at the end of 2018. The selection rate of operations provides a more comprehensive and accurate picture of implementation on the ground. 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 cohesion policy implementation as during the first half of the spending period EU payments tend to be low. This applies particularly to 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. EU payments to programmes stand at 23% at end 2018.

In terms of tracking performance, indicator targets are set in ERDF programming documents and forecasts are reported on an annual basis. Past evidence shows that the bulk of tangible achievements take place only in the second half of any programming cycle. Many of the operations funded by ERDF have a long implementation cycle or require comprehensive administrative organisations and arrangements be in place before they can start, this explains the time gap between the start of operations and the reporting of achievement.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>26 952 99.9%</td>
<td>83.6% 9 360.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>29 269 99.9%</td>
<td>99.9% 11 087.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>30 262 100.0%</td>
<td>100% 20 455.2</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.
- Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management.

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 third annual reporting exercise with the most recent data from the end of 2017 (transmitted by the Member States to the Commission at the end of May 2018) are below.

As regards ERDF achievements already reported by Member States up to end 2017, while implementation varies across and within Member States, in aggregate terms the actions financed have already delivered:

- Support to 193 365 enterprises, of which more than 50 000 are supported by financial instruments;
- More than EUR 2.54 billion of Private investment leveraged, matching public support to enterprises (grants);
- More than EUR 489 million of Private investment leveraged, matching public support to enterprises (non-grants);
- 42 745 jobs created along with 2 472 new researchers employed;
- 15 207 researchers working in improved research infrastructure facilities;
- 79 375 households with an improved energy consumption classification;
- 33 382 997 kWh/year of decrease of annual primary energy consumption of public buildings;
- 10.6 million people benefitting from improved health services;
- 1 409 317 Hectares of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status;
- 17.9 million people living in areas with integrated urban development strategies.
**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. The evidence from financial monitoring in 2018 showed that the project pipeline further accelerated reaching 87% allocated to specific projects by end-2018 compared to EUR 42.9 billion by end-2016 (64% of total). This corresponds to EUR 65.1 billion at the end of 2018 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, in fact, 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 surpassed the 25% mark during 2018.

**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.

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
Performance framework

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 ERDF/CF common indicators and programme specific indicators and receives annual monitoring data on indicator achievements. The data from the third annual reporting exercise with the most recent data from the end of 2017 (transmitted by the Member States to the Commission at the end of May 2018) are presented below:

- GHG reduction: estimated annual decrease of greenhouse gas emissions - 91 499 tonnes of CO2eq;
- Improved energy consumption classification for 5 490 households;
- Additional population of 174 570 served by improved water supply;
- Additional population of 53 391 served by improved waste water treatment;
- Increase of waste recycling capacity of 47 245 tonnes/year;
- 353 Hectares of habitats supported to attain a better conservation status;
- 336 km of new TEN-T roads and 287 km of reconstructed or upgraded roads;
- 281 km of reconstructed or upgraded TEN-T railway line.

Examples of achievements so far

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
**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 June 2018, Member States submitted their annual implementation reports for 2017, which show continuous progress in the implementation of programmes. FEAD helps to alleviate the worst forms of poverty in the EU such as food deprivation, child poverty and homelessness. Despite its limited scope, FEAD has shown that it truly complements national efforts to address material deprivation and combat poverty and social exclusion.

By the end of 2017, FEAD was achieving results in 26 Member States, either in terms of provision of material aid and social inclusion measures. The implementation on the ground of the FEAD is also reflected in the financial indicators: by the end of 2018 the Commission had made payments in the amount of EUR 1.37 billion, out of which EUR 955 million in the form of interim payments and 419.5 million in the form of pre-financing.

The outputs and results described above indicate that FEAD objectives are on track to be achieved, and with the exception of the UK, there is no case of de-commitment.

**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.

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new “European Social Fund+” programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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

The 2017 implementation reports point towards the following programme achievements:

- It is estimated that in 2017, 12.9 million people were supported by FEAD.

- As in previous years, about half of the end recipients are estimated to be women, 30% children aged 15 or below and about 10% are migrants, participants with a foreign background or minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma).

- Social inclusion support reached more than 36,000 persons.

- Over 1.3 million of tonnes of food were distributed cumulatively until end of 2017, and circa 370,000 tonnes alone in 2017.

- Compared to 2016, the value of basic material assistance increased by 25%.

By the end of 2018, 13 FEAD Network meetings were held, dedicated to different aspects of FEAD, including social inclusion, outreach to the most deprived, preventing food waste, homelessness and accompanying measures. 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 .......................70
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development ..........72
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund .......................74
- Programme for the Environment and Climate Action .........76
- Compulsory contributions to Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and other international organisations and Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements ................78
**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, since financial year 2017, the implementation is closer to normal rhythm and thanks to the Commission assistance is more and more uniform across Member States.

In general, implementation is on track with a positive evolution of the execution over the years, with a good progress noted for the use of the ceiling for the young farmers scheme.

**Market related expenditure**

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 restructureing 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 EU school fruit, vegetables and milk scheme, bringing together the former schemes under a single legal framework for greater efficiency, more focused support and an enhanced educational dimension, applied for the first time in school year 2017/2018.

Market support measures such as private storage aid and public intervention for certain dairy products or exceptional support measures for certain producers of fruit and vegetables decided as a consequence of the Russian import embargo since the second half of 2014 were progressively discontinued between 2016 and 2018 thanks to an improvement of the market situation in the sectors concerned. Public stocks of Skimmed Milk Powder bought in between 2015 and 2017 were placed back to the markets particularly in fall and winter 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.

**Outlook for the 2021–2027 period**

The Commission presented legislative proposals on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for the period post 2020. These proposals aim to make the CAP more responsive to current and future challenges such as climate change or generational renewal, while continuing to support European Farmers for a sustainable and competitive agricultural sector.

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**Voted budget execution (in EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>98.8%</td>
<td>98.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>98.9%</td>
<td>98.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>98.9%</td>
<td>98.5%</td>
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</tbody>
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**More Information**

http://europa.eu/!wm64UF

**Financial Programming (EUR Million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>43 778.1</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>43 454.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>43 233.1</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>43 191.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>43 887.5</td>
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</table>

*Total Programming: 302 375.3 EUR Million*

**Overview of Expenditure and Evaluation**

- Commitments
- Payments

**Evaluations/Studies Conducted**

A complete overview of the evaluations related to EAGF can be found: http://europa.eu/!Xq94Py
Performance framework

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

• 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 2017 (corresponding to financial year 2018), the third year of implementation of the reformed system, about 6.3 million farmers benefited from direct payments and the total determined area (154.1 million ha) covered some 86% of the EU Utilised Agriculture Area.

• 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.

• 80% of the total EU agricultural area is subject to at least one “greening” obligation, increasing the environmental impact of the measure

Market related expenditure
European agriculture showed its resilience after the recent crises, finding alternative domestic markets and abroad (in particular in Asia and the US), as evidenced by the trade statistics. 2018 corresponded to a substantial market stabilisation, with the end of exceptional measures in fruit and vegetables and important sales (over 357 000 t of public intervention stocks of skimmed milk powder, accumulated between 2015 and 2017).

• Total export values over the last 12 months reflect a consolidation in 2018 of the 2017 recovery (a decrease of EUR 645 million of agri-food exports for the 12 last months following an increase of EUR 6.4 billion between 2017 and 2016).

• The success of wine national support programmes is witnessed by the long-term development of EU wine exports which between 2012 and 2018, continued to increase in value from EUR 8.9 billion to EUR 12.2 billion and bring now a net contribution of EUR 9.5 billion to the EU trade surplus

• Exceptional support measures were adopted in 2018 to compensate farmers in France, Italy and Poland for the health and veterinary restrictions to address avian influenza.

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

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**

For the EAFRD, 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. Despite the late adoption of certain programmes, mainly due to the late adoption of the legislative framework, the implementation of the rural development programmes is generally on cruising speed.

In 2018, the Member States submitted their third Annual Implementation Reports (AIRs) on the implementation of the ESI Funds covering implementation until 31 December 2017.

EAFRD has already met the target of doubling the use of Financial Instruments (FI) as compared to 2007-2013. By end 2018, FIs are fully programmed in 30 RDPs in nine MS with a total public budget of EUR 730 million (EAFRD EUR 519 million, national co-financing EUR 211 million).

**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.

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

The European Commission presented legislative proposals on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for the period post 2020. These proposals aim to make the CAP more responsive to current and future challenges such as climate change or generational renewal, while continuing to support European farmers for a sustainable and competitive agricultural sector.
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
- Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry
- Enhancing farm viability and competitiveness of all types of agriculture in all regions and promoting innovative farm technologies and sustainable management of forests
- Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors
- Promoting food chain organisation, including processing and marketing of agricultural products, animal welfare and risk management in agriculture
- Promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas

**Examples of achievements so far**

The screening of the Annual Implementation Reports for 2017 confirms a steady acceleration in spending levels compared to the first years of implementation. This situation has permitted to catch up the initial delays linked to the relatively late starting of the 2014–2020 RDPs, when only 9 out of 118 RDPs were approved in 2014. The results and outputs achieved by the end of 2017 (latest figures available) are fully representative of what is expected from the implementation. A number of specific key achievements contributing to the resilience of the EU farming sector include:

- a total of 2.9 million hectares of agricultural and forest land was covered by management contracts contributing to carbon sequestration or conservation. This is 72.5% of the target of 4 million hectares in 2023.
- 283 000 hectares of irrigated land switched to more efficient irrigation systems. This is 22% of the target for 2023. Given the long time span between plans and the realised investments, this is well on track.
- 14.8% of agricultural land and 10.6% of forest areas were covered by management contracts contributing to biodiversity. This is close to the targets of 18% and 15% respectively for 2023.
- Measures to enhance farm viability and competitiveness and knowledge transfer in 2017:
  - the intermediate targets as defined for 2018 have been reached for the percentage of agricultural holdings with investments in restructuring and the percentage of agricultural holdings with a development plan for young farmers.
  - more than 1 million beneficiaries received vocational training in agriculture, almost 28% of the target set for 2023.

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

The "Progress towards the target" chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
EMFF
EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND

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
Overall, the implementation of the EMFF in 2018 has significantly accelerated compared to the previous years.

Shared management (90% of 2014-2020 envelope): In 2018, the remaining three Member States (Hungary, Italy and Poland) notified to the Commission the designation of authorities for the management of the fund and therefore met the prerequisite to submit interim payment applications. The amount of interim claims submitted by Member States during 2018 reached a record level: two and a half times as much as the amount of claims submitted for the whole programming period until the end of 2017.

Direct management (10% of 2014-2020 envelope): From 2017 onwards, the biggest part of the annual envelope is used for financing projects propelling the development of blue economy (e.g. innovative solutions for maritime challenges, sea basin-focused operations aiming at promoting job creations, innovation and entrepreneurship, etc.). In addition, the Commission continued to support the implementation of the CFP by funding Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, including the implementation of Malta MedFish4Ever and GFCM 2017-2020 strategy actions, as well as Advisory Councils and resorting to scientific advice in line with CFP obligations that was provided in particular through ICES sand STECF. In 2018 the Commission concluded successfully a contract for servicing the European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA), which is an important tool to increase market transparency and too enable direct monitoring of volumes, values and prices of fisheries and aquaculture products.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Executed Commitments</th>
<th>Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>891.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>911.7</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>933.4</td>
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</table>

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014-2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!PD84Nc
http://europa.eu/!Yd49Cf

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
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<td>2020</td>
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OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EUR Million</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014-2018</td>
<td>6 381.6</td>
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</table>

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
For further information on the implementation of the Common Monitoring and Evaluation System for the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, please consult:
http://europa.eu/PO84Nc

OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018 (EUR MILLION)

- 6 381.6 EUR MILLION
- 70% commitments
- 22% payments

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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

Over 7143 fishing vessels benefited from the EMFF, 50% of which belonged to the small-scale coastal fishing fleet. The support provided continues to promote sustainable balance between fishing fleets and resources and the protection of the marine ecosystems. The EMFF has also supported better management of more than 100 000 km² of Natura 2000 areas, and almost 95 000 km² of other marine protected areas.

By the end of 2017 the Managing Authorities selected:

- 342 operations supporting innovation and new technologies with an EMFF contribution of around EUR 5.2 million;
- 12 553 operations addressing SMEs or private persons;
- 985 operations supporting the promotion of human capital and social dialogue - training, networking and social dialogue with an EMFF contribution of around EUR 25.7 million (excluding CLLD actions);
- 536 operations supporting energy efficiency with an EMFF contribution of around EUR 74.7 million;
- 10 104 projects addressing environment and resources efficiency with an EMFF contribution of EUR 573.2 million.

The impact of these operations is delivered at the level of the coastal or maritime local communities. It is estimated that more than 35 000 fishermen, their spouses/partners, and members of producer organisations, benefit from the support, as well as 33 000 other persons (such as employees of processing companies and port users).

Direct management

The Commission continued its efforts in the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy and the Integrated Maritime Policy. Considerable progress has been made in fostering maritime innovation and skills by funding 15 projects relating to the Blue Careers (cooperation between industry and educational entities to create new courses and qualifications), the Blue Labs (innovative maritime ventures) and the Blue Technology (strategic partnership to bring research results faster to the market). In 2018 the Commission engaged actively, with important partners such as the US, Canada, Chile and Japan, in the area of ocean governance through the high-level dialogues. A particular highlight has been the successful negotiation of an EU-China Ocean Partnership. Since 2016, businesses have reported that the availability of quality-assured data via EMODnet [European Marine Observation and Data Network] is saving time and therefore money.

The Commission stepped up efforts in the area of maritime spatial planning. In May 2018 the International Forum of Maritime Spatial Planning, in cooperation with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO was launched. In addition, by the end of 2018, 10 interoperability projects were completed, increasing the potential of participating authorities to inter-connect within the future Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE). After 4 years of work, the EU/ISE2020 pre-operational validation project, involving 40 authorities from 16 Member States, which developed and tested at large scale the CISE network, is also heading towards finalisation (expected in March 2019).

The Commission has continued the management of the CFP in pursuit of MSY (Maximum Sustainable Yield) and sustainable fleet performance. The outcome of negotiations on the fishing opportunities, both in EU waters and in the northeast Atlantic international context, allowed for an increase of TACs to be fished sustainably in 2019 from 53 TACs to 59 TACs.

In 2018, the Commission adopted a proposal to revise the EU’s fisheries control system, which aimed to simplify it, to make it more effective and efficient and to ensure full compliance with the reformed CFP and equitable treatment of operators.
**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 to ensure 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 2014-2018 for traditional projects, about 5 000 proposals were received leading to the financing of 588 grants. Under the environment sub-programme, more than 4 310 project applications were received and 455 financed. Under the climate action sub-programme, more than 690 applications were received and 153 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, out of the 125 concept notes, 37 projects were financed in 21 Member States. With a LIFE co-financing of EUR 367.8 million, the integrated projects should leverage EUR 9.2 billion EUR in total, leveraged from other EU, public and private sources.

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. In fact, PF4EE is contributing to creating a new financial product in the market targeting energy efficiency and consequently directly contributing to the decarbonisation of our economy, in line with the COP21 goals. Thanks to the guarantee provided by the LIFE programme, the EIB can sign long-term loans with commercial banks that will enable them to finance financial recipients (i.e. residential housing companies and businesses) at more favourable conditions. By the end of 2018, 9 operations were signed with the following countries: Czech Republic, Spain, France, Belgium, Portugal, Italy, Croatia, Greece and Cyprus. The total amount committed by PF4EE to the Risk Sharing Facility is EUR 54.5 million, out of which EUR 17.2 million were effectively paid. The total amount of investment costs financed amounted to EUR 85.4 million.

### 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. Three new agreements were signed in 2018. Various new projects are in the pipeline for 2019.

### 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.

### Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposes to continue the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework (2021-2027). The proposal also includes transition to clean energy.

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**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014 – 2020

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://europa.eu/!wN47nW

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

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<td>522.8</td>
<td>558.1</td>
<td>579.6</td>
<td>3 455.4</td>
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</table>

**OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018 (EUR MILLION)**

3 455.4 EUR MILLION

67 %

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

The external and 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

**Voted budget execution (in EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>462.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>493.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>522.8</td>
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</table>
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.

• For a total financing of EUR 367.8 million, the 37 integrated projects financed should facilitate the coordinated use of about EUR 9.2 billion in total. This implies that for each euro the LIFE programme finances, it is expected that further 25 euros will be financed from other sources for environment and climate objectives.

• LIFE has supported the definition, agreement and development of some very valuable policy achievements, such as:
  • The 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) which 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 that sets three key targets for 2030: at least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions, 32% share for renewable energy, 32.5% improvement in energy efficiency.
  • The long-term strategy that confirms Europe’s commitment to lead in global climate action and presenting a vision that can lead to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 through a socially-fair transition in a cost-efficient manner.
**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 promote 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 (UNCLOS) 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 bilateral 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 competiveness of 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 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 2018, nine SFPA protocols were in force, compared to 12 in 2017.

In 2018, SFPA-related negotiations have taken place with a total of eight countries. They have been successfully completed for the renewal of the SFPA protocol with Ivory Coast, Morocco, Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau. In addition, a new Agreement and protocol has been agreed upon with The Gambia. Some negotiation rounds have taken place, without being completed yet, with Sao Tome e Principe (successfully completed in 2019), Kiribati and Madagascar.

Preliminary steps have been taken in view of obtaining a negotiation mandate with Mauritania, Seychelles and Senegal, through the launch of procedures for the ex-post and ex-ante evaluations of the SFPA Protocols with these countries.

The EU paid its membership contributions to 13 RFMOs and three other International Bodies (i.e. CMS, ITLOS, ISBA) in view of the EU’s membership to them in 2018.

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.

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period
The Commission proposed funding for the international dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy, as well as the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
Performance framework

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

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.

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

- More than 250 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.

- SFPAs have also been contributing to the development of the fisheries sector in the partner countries and to better governance of their fisheries sector. A significant part of the total EU budget for SFPAs 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. SFPAs also contribute to ensuring food security to local coastal communities.

- The projects financed by EU include the supply of fishing equipment for small fishermen, including localisation and safety kits, the reinforcement of sanitary control capacity in ports, landing facilities with storage and ice facilities, financing the acquisition of patrol boats and their maintenance, training of fisheries inspectors and observers, etc.

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

List of programmes

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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. AMIF offers important financial assistance to cope with emergency and longer-term actions related to the reception of asylum seekers and provision of advice and services to allow them to exercise their rights. 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 2018, AMIF national programmes (NP) were revised in order to increase the financial allocation to support measures on the integration of third-country nationals, and actions concerning the return of irregular migrants.

In December 2018, the article 18 of the AMIF Regulation was amended to allow the reuse of the non-consumed resources for relocation and legal admission.

End of January 2019, under AMIF Emergency Assistance, EUR 1 070 million has been awarded to Member States under migratory pressure for addressing the migration and refugee crisis, since 2015. In 2018, 16 awards were granted for a total of EUR 440 million, of which EUR 251 million for two actions under indirect management for Greece.

With regard to Union actions, actions under the 2015 and 2016 annual work programmes were implemented in 2018. The AMIF 2018 work programme for Union actions was adopted. In May 2018 a single call for proposal on transnational actions for Integration of Third-Country Nationals in the EU Member States and supporting legal migration, was published on five different priorities with a deadline of 31 January 2019. 174 applications were received and will be evaluated in the spring of 2019. It includes in particular a priority on the care for migrant minors, including unaccompanied minors.

AMIF continued to support the European Migration Network (EMN) and the corresponding 2019-2020 work programme was 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 and others) management.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed to replace the current AMIF by the Asylum and Migration Fund for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>97%</td>
<td>98.8% 900.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>98.9% 574.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>99.9%</td>
<td>99.2% 698.6</td>
</tr>
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LEGAL BASIS


PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

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

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

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<td>2020</td>
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<td>Total programming</td>
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OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018 (EUR MILLION)

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

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<td>2018</td>
<td>99.9%</td>
<td>99.2% 698.6</td>
</tr>
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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
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**

By end-December 2018, the resettlement scheme from September 2017 had helped approximately 21 000 of the most vulnerable migrants to find shelter in the EU. Resettlements continued under the EU-Turkey Statement with 6 930 resettlements in 2018, reaching a total of 18 640 (starting 4 April 2016).

In 2018, 228 579 asylum seekers received assistance in the area of reception and asylum system. Out of this category, 60 546 vulnerable persons and unaccompanied minors were delivered specific assistance. In the area of integration, in 2018, 2 million third-country nationals were assisted through integration measures, reaching a cumulative number of 4.9 million covering the period 2014-2018.

The AMIF provided also a substantial support to the front line Member States via the emergency assistance, in 2018, mainly to Greece and Italy.

As for example, in 2018, in Greece emergency assistance provided support:

- for OCAVRR, the only open centre where migrants can wait for their return and obtain voluntary return assistance.
- for site management for 1 500 places in the Kara Tepe reception centre in Lesvos and the catering services for about 4 500 persons of concern in both Kara Tepe and ten temporary places (Malakasa, Diavata, Vaiohori, Mesologgi, Elianoas, Oinofita, Elefsina, Volos, Kilkis, Veroia).
- to services and activities for children/unaccompanied minors: 520 accommodation places were operational throughout the year; 1 845 children were transported to public schools, 784 benefitted from accommodation and protection services, 472 received non-formal education.
- for transportation services, notably the transfer of 5 301 persons of concern from accommodation sites on the islands to the mainland and transportation for 41 855 asylum-seekers/migrants within islands in the framework of asylum processing.
- to alleviate the suffering of vulnerable migrants and refugees, the FILOXENIA project activated temporary shelter in 46 hotels in the mainland, transferring 5 081 persons away from the islands of Lesvos, Chios, Samos, Kos and Leros.
- for the improvement of the Greek Asylum Service, resulting in an increase of at least 15% beyond the 2017 capacity of about 1 200 cases per week until the end of 2018.
INTERNAL SECURITY FUND

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 Border(s) and Visa and ISF Police. ISF Border(s) 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
National programmes were revised in 2018 to include an overall amount of EUR 192.5 million allocated, in equal shares, to all the Member States participating in the ISF Border(s) and Visa instrument to cover certain costs for the implementation of the Entry-Exit System (EES).

The mid-term review process was concluded in 2018, taking into account the burden of MS in border management, threat levels at the external borders for the period 2017-2020 as well as factors that affected security at the external borders in 2014-2016, with the allocation of an additional overall amount of EUR 158.6 million (EUR 128 million foreseen in article 6(1)c) of ISF Border(s) and Visa regulation plus EUR 30.6 million as contribution from three Schengen Associated Countries) to the Member States participating in the ISF Border(s) and Visa instrument, through the revision of their respective National Programmes.

By March 2019, Member States have submitted their annual accounts covering the financial year 2018, all Member States together have requested a total amount of EUR 384 million (EUR 234 million for ISF Border(s) and Visa, and EUR 150 million for ISF – Police). By 31 March 2019, the Annual Implementation Reports for ISF were submitted by the Member States.

With regard to the funds managed directly by the Commission, all calls envisaged in the 2018 ISF Annual Work Programmes for Union Actions have been published. Under ISF Emergency Assistance, EUR 68 million – representing 12 grant agreements – were awarded to Member States to enhance their border control in light of migration pressure and EUR 4.8 million, representing 4 projects, under police emergency assistance. The total amount of emergency assistance since 2014 stands at EUR 390.2 million.

With regard to Union actions, actions under the 2015 and 2016 annual work programmes were implemented in 2018. Grant agreements were concluded for actions under the 2017 annual work programmes and their implementation has started.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
For the next Multiannual Financial Framework the Commission proposed to replace the current ISF by the Border Management and Visa Instrument (ex-ISF Border(s) and Visa) and the Internal Security Fund (ex-ISF-Police).
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**

In 2018, the Fund helped:
- to develop 19 consular cooperation activities, and
- to develop or upgrade 462 consulates.

Since 2014, the Fund helped:
- to develop 159 consular cooperation activities;
- to develop or upgrade 841 consulates;
- to train 7 591 staff in common visa policy related aspects, and
- to support 119 immigration liaison officers in third countries.

Member States continued to strengthen the operational capacities through training of staff (13 767 persons) in aspects related to border management.

- The number of border crossings of the external borders through the Automated Border Control (ABC) gates funded by ISF-Border(s) and Visa has had a constant ascending trend, reaching the value of almost 20 million in 2018 and a total of 55 million over the period 2014-2018. There also have been reported acquisitions of high-value assets essential in the effective management of the external borders (such as procurement of four Coastal Patrol Boats, two Coastal Patrol Vessels, three Fixed wing Aircrafts, three Thermal Vision Vehicles, and of dedicated IT systems, upgrade of patrol aircraft and vessels etc.).

- To date there are 34 European networks which are financed via direct grants under Union Actions ISF-Police (such as the ATLAS Network and the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) Network). The networks support co-operation between authorities across borders and carry out activities such as trainings and simulations, cooperation meetings, while producing together guidance manuals and operational tools.
**LEGAL BASIS**

**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**
2014 - 2020

**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

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**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 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 2014-2017 work programmes are finalised. The implementation of related projects and contracts is on-going. The 2018 work programme calls for proposals evaluation is being finalised. The 2019 work programme calls for proposals were published in January 2019.

During the period 2014-2017 there have been 290 actions grants and 56 operating grants awarded in total under all of the Work Programmes.

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, as well as the Victims’ Directive. In 2018, compliance assessment studies have been launched with the programme support in relation to the Directive on the European Investigation Order and the Framework Decision on Financial Penalties. The programme’s funding and framework has also helped Member States’ practitioners to become familiar with new instruments notably the European Investigation Order that entered into application in May 2017.

In 2018, the new legislative package on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) became fully effective, aiming to reduce the availability of those NPS that pose the most serious risks through swifter, more effective action on Union level compared to the currently applicable system. The package also strengthens the role of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) as regards the applicable procedures.

**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).

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**
The Commission proposed a continuation of this programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

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**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commitments</th>
<th>Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>44.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>46.6</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total programming**
338.7 EUR MILLION

**OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018 (EUR MILLION)**

- 73% commitments
- 43% payments

**VOTED BUDGET EXECUTION (in EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>51.12 99.4%</td>
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<td>53.52 99.7%</td>
<td>97.4% 36.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>47.15 99.6%</td>
<td>95.7% 47.38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 2018, the increase was almost tenfold compared to the 2012 baseline.

• The 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 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 Programme funds the extension of the e-Justice Portal, which facilitates access to Justice for citizens, businesses, legal practitioners and the judiciary. The Portal gives access to information on a number of EU cross-border proceedings, as well as national information such as sources of case law, information on judicial systems in the EU, rights of victims and defendants, training material and many others. The e-Justice Portal also provides several interconnections with national databases and directories. Close to 3 million hits were registered in 2018.

• In 2016, pursuant to the Council Conclusions from 9 June 2016 on the European Judicial Cybercrime, IT development activities have started towards the establishment of a common e-Evidence Digital Exchange system, enabling efficient and cheap electronic communication between the competent national authorities in the area of criminal procedural law. Work on this system continued in 2017 and 2018.

• By end 2017, 54 090 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, the key focus within the drugs-related objective continues to be on expanding the knowledge base on the phenomenon of New Psychoactive Substances (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, an emphasis was put on strengthening the capacity of civil society organisations to contribute to the implementation of the EU Drug Strategy 2013-2020 and its current Action Plan.
What the programme is about

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, 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 fight against racism focusing, among others, on antisemitism or anti-Muslim hatred, and fostering tolerance, via financing Member States’ authorities and civil society organisations. Projects should contribute to better implementation of existing EU legislation in the Member States, but also to support 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 promote non-discrimination, rights of persons with disabilities, equality between women and men, 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.

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 for the EU accession to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. The EU signed the Convention in June 2017. The REC funded awareness-raising activities including a video competition in 2018 for young professionals and students to raise awareness among bystanders of violence, as part of the #SayNoStopVAW campaign.

The Programme is also financing projects that contribute to the implementation of the Code of conduct on countering illegal hate speech online agreed between the Commission and online platforms, as well as to enhance the understanding of the phenomenon and to develop effective positive narratives, education and awareness raising activities.

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 new Directive on work-life balance for parents and careers.

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).

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period

The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new Rights & Values Programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>97.7%</td>
<td>98.2% 40.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>98.1% 49.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>99.7%</td>
<td>98.5% 72.8</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 prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance.

To promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

To promote equality between women and men and to advance gender mainstreaming.

To prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence.

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 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. It contributed to raise awareness and acceptance of LGBTI people across the EU by funding EU-wide awareness raising activities as part of the Commission’s List of actions to advance LGBTI equality (#EU4LGBTI). The creation of Roma National Platforms in 8 EU Member States was also financed last year.

• Actions in the area of the rights of the child have supported the promotion of child-friendly justice and, in particular, the protection of children when vulnerable through capacity building for integrated child protection systems.

• Several projects supported the inclusion of mobile EU citizens and their political and societal participation. In addition, a social media campaign on EU Citizenship Right to consular protection was launched, together with the related information website, raising awareness on EU citizens’ rights when living or travelling outside the EU.

• The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
**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 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 disseminating project results. Two calls for proposals were published in 2018, 1796 proposals submitted and 417 projects selected, ie 23% success rate.

**Who is in charge**

Directorate General for Migration & Home Affairs (DG HOME) is responsible for developing the Programme, guiding its implementation and evaluating its results. The European Commission has delegated the implementation of the Programme to the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new Rights & Values Programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

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**Voted budget execution (in EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.6%</td>
<td>98.6% 26.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>98.8% 28.6</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

• By working directly with citizens through a grassroots approach, the Europe for Citizens programme encourages civic participation and democratic engagement and supports the European integration process in the longer term.

• In the area of European remembrance, the Europe for Citizens programme promotes a European vision of history and offers a new approach through linking remembrance activities with civic participation and democracy.

• In the period 2014-2018, around 2 000 grants were awarded covering all countries participating to the Programme. More than 10 000 organisations were directly involved in the projects selected.

• In 2018, the Programme was implemented in 34 eligible participating countries. Out of 1 796 applications received, 417 projects were selected involving around 1.2 million participants in the activities of the programme.

• Examples of projects:
  • "Information vs manipulation – how to stand up against propaganda?" – One example of a remembrance project: Through this project coordinated by the Polish "Muzeum historii zydow polskich – POLIN" high school students from the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland improved their knowledge and skills to become critical analytical consumers of modern media and responsible citizens in a democratic society.
  • "Se souvenir de l’avenir" – One example of a network of towns. This wide network of partners involved more than 600 citizens from the 28 EU Member States as well as 1.252 participants from the host towns. The project revolved around 6 meetings where young people widened their knowledge of the EU, debated topics including migration and Euroscepticism and shared their hopes and fears for the future.
  • A Holocaust remembrance event was organised on 24 January 2018, while two Civil Dialogue meetings with civil society organisations were held 8 June 2018 and 28 November 2018.
  • As of 2017, the programme supported the implementation of the European Citizens’ Initiative, leading to a sharp increase in the number of requests for registration of initiatives in 2018. 750 citizens participated in events in 7 Member States; some 50 stakeholders promoted this unique instrument of participatory democracy at EU level through their networks (representing a potential reach of 500 000 people); more than 1 million citizens were reached through social media promotion.

The "Progress towards the target" chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

Participants who are directly involved in projects: 92 %
First time applicants in projects: >100 %
Persons indirectly reached by the Programme: 96 %
Transnational partnerships including different types of stakeholders: 100 %
Geographical coverage of the activities: 100 %

% of target achieved by 2018

1.2 out of 1.3 million participants
52% compared to 38% first time applicants
1.49 out of 1.55 million persons
2 out of 2 partnerships
28 out of 28 MS partners or co-partners

The "Progress towards the target" chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
CIVIL PROTECTION

UNION CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM– HEADING 3

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

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, North 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 (105 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).

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period
The Commission proposed funding related to the internal and external dimensions of civil protection to include in a specific cluster ‘Crisis Response’ in Heading 5 ‘Security and Defence’ for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
**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 enhance preparedness at Member State and Union level to respond to disasters.

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**Examples of achievements so far**

- In 2018, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) was activated to respond to a **total of 20 emergencies**, nine of which were inside the Union. These included forest fires (twice in Sweden, Greece, Latvia and Portugal), marine pollution (France, Bulgaria) and medical emergencies (Romania). An advisory mission on forest fires was also deployed in Portugal.

- The mechanism provided essential assistance to help Member States combatting forest fires in 2018. The double activation emergency assistance by Sweden was the **biggest UCPM forest fire operation** of the last decade in Europe. In terms of personnel deployed, it was the single biggest forest fire operation since the Mechanism was created in 2001. It comprised 7 planes, 6 helicopters, 67 vehicles and over 360 personnel deployed from Italy, France, Germany, Lithuania, Denmark, Portugal and Poland.

- 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.

- In relation to the Pool, the system of **Buffer Capacities** continued to be used by Member States, notably in relation to aerial firefighting capacities. For the 2018 forest fire season, two aerial firefighting capacities under the Buffer system were co-financed (Italy and Spain). The buffer capacity based in Italy was composed of two heavy amphibious planes and the one based in Spain consisted of two medium amphibious planes. In 2018, the EU-BUFFER-IT was deployed once in Sweden for 11 days. It ensured a total of 162 flight hours and 1 180 drops.

- Established in 2016 as a subset of the Voluntary Pool, the **European Medical Corps** continued to be solicited, mainly for operations outside the Union. At the end of 2018, 8 Member States had committed 10 capacities, including medical teams and mobile laboratories. The European Medical Corps capacities were deployed for Yellow Fever, Marburg and Ebola outbreaks.

- **Examples of achievements so far**

- 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.

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**Progress towards the target (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator and Target</th>
<th>Value as of 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member States that have made available a summary of their risk assessments</td>
<td>23 out of 28 Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects financed for prevention within the Union</td>
<td>4 out of 11 projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard response units registered in the EU’s Common Emergency Communication and Information System</td>
<td>174 out of 180 registered units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects financed for preparedness</td>
<td>4 out of 11 projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response capacities included in the voluntary pool</td>
<td>105 compared to 60 number of capacities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average speed of civil protection assistance interventions*</td>
<td>16.6 compared to 12 hours target</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Average 2014-2018

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
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

The Feed and Food programme consists of several programmes including 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.

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period

The Food and Feed Programme has been integrated into the Commission proposal for the Programme for single market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, and European statistics (SMP) through a dedicated food strand.

**Voted budget execution (in EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>99.5%</td>
<td>228.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.1%</td>
<td>239.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>99.6%</td>
<td>243.8</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.

To contribute to the timely detection of pests and their eradication where those pests have entered the Union.

To contribute to improving the effectiveness, efficiency and reliability of official controls and other activities carried out with a view to the effective implementation of and compliance with the Union rules.

Examples of achievements so far

The fight against **rabies** is among the most remarkable successes with a dramatic decrease in cases in wild life, from 2016 cases in 2014 to 8 in 2018. No cases of rabies in humans in the EU have been reported since 2015. Another success is the eradication Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in cattle, a disease transmissible to humans from the consumption of contaminated beef products. The long-term EU co-financed measures led to a drop in BSE cases from more than 2000 in 2001 to 0 case of the classical form of the disease in 2017. The EU response to the BSE crises restored consumer confidence: beef consumption, in fact, had dropped by up to 40% in late 2000, forcing prices steeply downward and requiring huge expenditure on market support measures at EU level.

A recent example is the fight against the epidemic of **Lumpy Skin Disease** (LSD). In 2016, this disease affected seven countries in the South East Europe, including Greece, Bulgaria and the Balkan region. With the support of an EU LSD vaccine bank, which was set up before the occurrence of the disease in the Union territory to be immediately used in case of emergency, vaccination campaigns resulted in the successful containment of the spread of the disease: no further Member States were affected, and the disease has not reoccurred in the vaccinated area.

Over the last years, EU co-financing of emergency measures made it possible to contain successfully **African swine fever** (ASF) introduced in the east part of the EU by wild boar movement from Belarus and Ukraine in four Member States. In 2018 there was a dramatic increase in ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs, mostly in Romania and mainly linked to human activities. Three Member States became newly infected in 2018 (Hungary, Bulgaria and Belgium); the occurrence of ASF in wild boar in Belgium demonstrated the possibility for long-distance transmission of the disease (from the East of the EU) related to human activity. The EU response to the ASF outbreaks limited the negative effects on the animal health and on the sustainability of the sector.

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 reduced over the years, and both the frequency and the severity of animal, plant, and food crises have decreased.

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**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 Commission has adopted the work programme for 2018 on 13 December 2017. It has focused on the continuation of the functioning of the European Reference Networks (ERNs) with 3-year grants covering the period until 2021, on implementation of best practices for health promotion and diseases prevention, and on a Joint Action bringing together previously separate streams of work, laboratories and general preparedness. It also included two calls for projects on specific best practices on health promotion and diseases prevention. The selected best practices were the Swedish Prescription of Physical Activity (PPA) initiative, which was identified as a particularly valuable one and has been already replicated in Iceland, and the Italian cardiovascular screening programme “CARDIO 50”.

Most of these actions will start in the first half of 2019, for a duration of three years and will start delivering at least one and a half year after the signing of the grant agreement.

In 2018 Framework Partnership Agreements were signed with 17 Non-Governmental Bodies. It is expected that the supported non-governmental bodies will assist the Commission with the information and advice necessary for the development of health policies and the implementation of the Health Programme objectives and priorities. It is also expected that non-governmental bodies will work on increased health literacy and promotion of healthy life styles, the organisation of science policy conferences and contribute to the optimisation of healthcare activities and practices. The Commission also encourages these non-governmental bodies to work together with the European Solidarity Corps, where appropriate.

**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.

**Outlook for the 2021–2027 period**

The Commission proposed to include this programme within the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) through a dedicated health strand for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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 coherent approaches and promote their implementation for better preparedness and coordination in health emergencies.
- 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.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

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 strengthen preparedness and response to infectious diseases outbreaks and other serious cross-border health threats.
- 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 of health professionals and other front-line staff. Protocols for age assessment into hotspots were developed, as well as a syndromic surveillance system.
- International cooperation with the OECD, the WHO and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies 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 and reflect shared objectives across the Member States, and reveal potential areas where the Commission can encourage mutual learning and exchange of good practices.
- The piloting of the EU cooperation on Health Technology Assessment 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.
- Member States authorities work together on the development and implementation of national strategies and action plans on antimicrobial resistance and healthcare associated infections in implementation of the EU One Health Action Plan against antimicrobial resistance. This provides added value to Member States in delivering innovative, effective and sustainable responses to the problem, focusing on the prudent use of antimicrobials for human and animals, infection prevention and control and inter-sectorial coordination.
- Finally, a Joint Action on vaccination recently launched brings together Member States authorities and other stakeholders to develop and exchange best practices related to national vaccination policies. This creates sustainable mechanisms of cooperation and maximizes synergies between vaccination and other policy areas like preparedness, antimicrobial resistance, health technology assessment, or eHealth, with a view to enhancing vaccine security, reducing the use of antimicrobials, and strengthening evidence and transparency of vaccine decision-making.
**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.

**Implementation status**
The implementation of the Consumer Programme 2014 – 2020 is well on track to meet its multiannual objectives. Most of the related performance indicators expected for 2014- 2018 have been achieved.

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).

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**
The Commission proposed to include this programme within the new “Single Market” programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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.
- **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.
- **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.

### PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>% of target achieved by 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety – rapid alert system for dangerous consumers products notifications*</td>
<td>96.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union-wide online dispute resolution system</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contacts with consumers handled by the European Consumer Centres</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visits to the website of the European Consumer Centres</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Average 2014-2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

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, 51 in 2015, 20 in 2016, 56 in 2017 and 14 in 2018) and of CPC officials (40 in 2014 to 55 in 2015, 72 in 2016, 34 in 2017 and 57 in 2018).
- 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). ECC-Net developed a “Travel App” in 2014 to help consumers exercise their rights while on holiday abroad. The ECC-Net IT Tool registered over 120 000 contacts with consumers in 2014 to help consumers exercise their rights while on holiday abroad.
- 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). ECC-Net developed a “Travel App” in 2014 to help consumers exercise their rights while on holiday abroad. The ECC-Net IT Tool registered over 120 000 contacts with consumers in 2014, a 20% increase from the numbers in the last two years.
- **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 1.97 in 2018. The number of notifications has stabilized at a regular rate with just over 2 000 per year. In 2018 alone, a total of 2 257 alerts were circulated. A quarter of the alerts in 2018 concerned the safety of toys.
- Since the launch of the **Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) platform** in February 2016, over 97 000 consumers decided to lodge a complaint and according to a survey about 37% 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 monitors the single market functioning (including in over 50 specific sectors) and provides with a solid evidence base for a broad range of policies at EU level and in Member States.
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 1.48 billion 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.

In 2018 the Programme saw the number of participating countries expand. After Tunisia joined the programme in 2017, Armenia and Kosovo signed their agreements in the first half of 2018. 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 2018 a total of 5,290 applications were submitted (748 under Culture and 4,542 under Media), of which 2,429 were selected for funding (234 for Culture and 2,195 for MEDIA). In MEDIA, the selection rate was as low as 19% in Development Single scheme. Budget restrictions also led to a drop in support to beneficiaries, notably Europa Cinemas whose cinema network has grown by over 22% whereas the budget diminished by 15%. In the case of high quality TV series, the level of financial support has not responded to the rising production costs. For example, the series Babylon Berlin cost an estimated EUR 40 million whilst the MEDIA contribution remained limited to EUR 1 million. 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, 424 co-operation projects were selected for co-financing in the period 2014-2018. Even if in 2018 it rose to 21.9%, the average success rate of 15.7% for the whole period indicates 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 in 2017 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 2016. Implementation of the CCS GF has made a strong start in 2017 and further built on the number of guarantee agreements with financial intermediaries during 2018.

Who is in charge

Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sports and Culture (DG EAC) is the lead DG for the programme implementation. The programme is implemented through direct (grants) and indirect (loan guarantees) management.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed a continuation of the programme for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>191.80 100%</td>
<td>99.1% 162.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>208.91 100%</td>
<td>99.0% 184.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>230.39 100%</td>
<td>99.3% 194.53</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.
- To strengthen the financial capacity of SMEs and micro, small and medium-sized organisations in the cultural and creative sectors.
- To foster policy development, innovation, creativity, audience development and new business and management models through support for transnational policy cooperation.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- In 2018 **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. It also supported a network of over 1,000 cinemas in 34 countries which give prominence to European films. For example, one of the most recognised European films of 2018 was Pawel Pawlikowski’s “Cold War”. This Polish-French-UK coproduction received the award for Best Director at the Cannes Film Festival in 2018, won the European Film Awards 2018 with 5 prizes and also has been nominated for three Oscar Awards.
- In 2018 a **prototype Directory of European Films (DEF)** was presented at the Lyon Film Festival in October 2018. DEF is one of the flagship actions of the Digital4Culture Strategy. It will be an online transparency tool providing constantly updated data on European films and their availability online in video-on-demand (VOD) services in Member States. The DEF will contribute to the visibility of European films on the VOD market and thus help the circulation of films.
- 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** 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.
- 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 1 billion in loans for cultural and creative sectors by end 2024. The new instrument has been well received by the market. By the end of 3rd quarter in 2018, the Facility had signed 10 guarantee agreements with 9 financial intermediaries from Spain, France, Romania, Czech Republic, Belgium, Italy and Poland. Two additional agreements are already approved and will be signed in early 2019.
- Overall about 630 loans were made under the scheme to final beneficiaries, of which 60% from the audiovisual sector and 40% from other cultural sectors. These results are very encouraging as 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 Cultural and Creative Sectors’ Guarantee Facility by EUR 60 million, equivalent to 50% of the first budget. The second top-up of additional EUR 70 million is being prepared. In addition, the Capacity Building Scheme which offers a technical assistance to financial intermediaries is operational as from mid-2018.
- **Creative Europe’s culture sub-programme**: an impressive mass of projects in the form of international co-productions, co-creations, tourings, residencies, literary translations or learning opportunities, have come into existence, showcasing the extraordinary creativity of European talents and boosting cultural diversity. Since 2014, the sub-programme has supported around 400 cooperation projects, connecting more than 2,500 organisations. It has also been offering long-term support and continuity to 28 pan European cultural networks, representing more than 3,000 cultural and creative organisations and more than 1,500 individual members across most of Europe.
- 2018 was also the **European Year of Cultural Heritage**, and the Culture sub-programme contributed to the resounding success of this Year that reached close to 10 million people through 18,000 events across Europe.

**PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>2018 Achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admission for non-national European films in Europe*</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
<td>98 compared to 71 million of admissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission for non-national European films in the 10 most important non-European markets*</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
<td>97 compared to 85 million of admissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of European audiovisual works in cinemas*</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
<td>66% compared to 59% of audiovisual works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of European audiovisual works on digital platforms (VOD)*</td>
<td></td>
<td>24% out of 27% of audiovisual works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participating MS making use of the results of the open method of coordination in their national policy development</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 out of 20 Member States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*data 2017

The "Progress towards the target" chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
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
Audio-visual productions and multimedia projects for the general public are clearly focused on the 10 priorities of President Juncker, entailing few productions of a high quality and serving general communication objectives.

Implementation status
The Work Programme 2018 was implemented as planned. The overall implementation rate of the operational budget is very close to 100%.

Modernisation of the web presence of the Commission continued in 2018. Through the strengthening of governance, better editorial and visual alignment of websites across the Commission and increased standardisation of IT solutions, the coherence, relevance and cost effectiveness of the Commission’s web presence on Europa has further improved.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed to include communication activities within Cohesion and Values for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.
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.
- Country specific information and analysis are fed into College's decision making process.
- A coherent and effective corporate communication is developed and maintained.

Examples of achievements so far

- In 2018 over 842 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 200 million unique visitors to the Europa website were counted in 2018.

- The Media Library increased the audio-visual material (audio, video and photo) made available to the public from 60 000 items in 2017 to 61 400 in 2018.

- Followers/fans/subscribers on social media corporate accounts increased by 14% in 2018.

- In 2018, 54 publications, including the General Report, where produced for which over 3.37 million 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 84% in 2018.

- In 2018, the number of events organised at Representations and European Public Spaces increased - with a 74% of participants agreeing that the event improved their knowledge on EU issues.

- 41 000 pupils were addressed during 789 “Back to school” visits in 2018.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

- EU citizens having a positive image of the EU: 43% out of 50% of citizens surveyed
- Multimedia productions downloads: 137 861 out of 140 000 downloads
- Satisfaction on queries to the EUROPE DIRECT Contact centre: 85% compare to 90% satisfaction rate
- Visitors to the Commission very satisfied with the visits: 89% out of 90% visitors
- Political and economic reports and analysis produced: 619 compared to 500 reports and analysis
- Unique visitors to the EUROPA website: 233 compared to 120 million unique visitors

* Average 2014-2018
List of programmes

- Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance .......................... 106
- Instrument of financial support for encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community ..... 108
- European Neighbourhood Instrument .............................. 110
- Development Cooperation Instrument ............................. 112
- Partnership Instrument for Cooperation with Third Countries .... 114
- European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights ........ 116
- Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace ................... 118
- Humanitarian aid .......................................................... 120
- Common Foreign and Security Policy ............................... 122
- Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation ....................... 124
- Union Civil Protection Mechanism – Heading 4 ................... 126
- EU Aid Volunteers Initiative ........................................... 128
- European Fund for Sustainable Development .................. 130
- Cooperation with Greenland .......................................... 132
- Financial Statement for the Macro Financial Assistance ....... 134

Spending under the European Development Fund is not included in this Overview
IPA II

INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE

What the programme is about
The Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) is the means by which the EU supports reforms in the candidate countries and potential candidates 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, North 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 Association 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
IPA II is building on the results obtained by the previous instrument, and dedicated more than EUR 12 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.

The 7-year Indicative Strategy Papers were reviewed at mid-term and revised. This review was coherent with the strategic orientations of the 2018 Communication on “A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans”, in particular as regards the implementation of the six Flagship Initiatives in support of the Western Balkans.

In 2018 eight annual action programmes (including one multi-country programme), three multi-annual programmes and nine cross-border cooperation programmes were adopted, with a total value of EUR 1.2 billion. Most of these programmes are at an early stage of implementation.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed establishing the new Instrument for Pre-Accession, IPA III.
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**

- 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. The EU has set aside up to EUR 1 billion for connectivity investment projects and technical assistance for the 2015-2020 period. It provided so far via the different Western Balkans Summits (Vienna 2015, Paris 2016, Trieste 2017, Sofia/London 2018) EUR 700 million for connectivity projects in the transport and/or energy sector, which leveraged overall investments of more than EUR 2.4 billion. The expected results are 450 km of electricity transmission lines and associated substations, 108 km of gas pipelines, 320 km of railway lines and connected stations, 141 km of motorways, two cross-border bridges as well as two ports.
- **Migration**, the EU continued providing financial support to the countries affected by migratory pressure along the Western Balkans route. The IPA funds allocated in 2017 (EUR 30 million) continue to be implemented, to support in particular Serbia and North Macedonia in managing the migration flow. The support now focuses more on a structural approach in order to improve the conditions in shelters. In parallel, 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. The construction of the Trans-Balkan Corridor electricity power has continued, contributing to the establishment of a power corridor that would connect the electricity transmission systems in the region. In Kosovo, EU investments support the reduction of the environmental impact of the largest power plant of the country (Kosovo B), and in Serbia environmental standards in terms of air and water quality are raised through the construction of wastewater treatment plant and the improvement of district heating systems.
- In the **Republic of North Macedonia**, IPA landmark investments in transport were finalised in 2018. The 28 km Highway Demir Kapija – Smokvica was put in operation and the rehabilitation of 22.4 km of highway Miladinovce-Kumanovo was completed. In the **environment sector**, EU investments resulted in putting in operations four waste water treatments plants in Kichevo, Strumica, Radovish, Prilep with a capacity to serve the equivalent of 230 000 citizens.
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 Turkish Cypriots, who are EU citizens. There is very little assistance from individual Member States due to difficult legal and political circumstances on the de-facto divided island. 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 2019, EUR 554.9 million was programmed for operations under the Aid Regulation. In the period of 2014-2019, the allocations amount to EUR 199.7 million. 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 1 048 TAIEX actions in 2014-2018.

The Committee on Missing Persons (CMP) has exhumed 1 202 sets of remains, of which 927 were genetically identified (by December 2018). 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.

Major infrastructure works mostly contracted in 2009 have been completed. Further infrastructure investments, with a strong environmental and bi-communal focus, are being 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 CMP 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, have been funded and opened in 2018.

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 grants) and indirect management (contribution agreements with International Organisations and Member States Agencies).

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period
The Commission’s proposed to include this instrument within the new “Cohesion and Values” programme for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.
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**

- 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. 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.

- The contract for the construction of the New Nicosia Trunk Sewer has been concluded in 2018 and the works are expected to be starting in 2019. The Nicosia branch includes the construction of approximately 13 km of sewers and force mains and 4 pumping stations. A contract for the irrigation works in Morphou has also been awarded in 2018.

- The European Commission concluded a new “Local Infrastructure Facility” contribution agreement with UNDP establishing a transparent mechanism for EU-funded infrastructure investments. The facility aims to provide support for the identification, screening, development, procurement, and physical implementation of relevant local infrastructure investments. The contribution agreement is for a value of EUR 17.7 million over a four year period.

- 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 2018, the programme has received nearly EUR 17.5 million of EU funds. By the end of 2018, 55 restoration works have been completed and over 75 cultural heritage sites have benefited from this assistance. Most recently the main highlights of the programme were the completion of the conservation works for the Monastery of Agios Pantalimonas and the completion of the Martinengo Bastion and a section of the walls of Famagusta. 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 1 400 Turkish Cypriot students and professionals since 2007. 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.

- 829 communication and visibility actions have been carried out in 2014-2018 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. The European Commission also signed a contribution agreement with Northern Ireland Cooperation Overseas (NI-CD) for EUR 3 million to implement a three year project for the establishment of an innovation centre in Nicosia Old Town to provide services to entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers.
**EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD**

**EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD INSTRUMENT**

### What the programme is about

The European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) supports implementation of 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 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 Partnership Priorities and Association Agendas, mutually agreed between the EU and each partner country. The Action Plan 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.

### 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 2018 EUR 2.4 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.

In 2018 a series of agreements with partner countries were reached: the EU and Tunisia agreed on Strategic Priorities for 2018-2020, the Single Support Framework 2018-2020 was agreed for Algeria, the EU-Morocco Action Plan implementing the advanced status was extended for one year and the EU-Jordan Association Council agreed on a two-year extension of the Partnership Priorities. In the East, Armenia and Azerbaijan agreed on Partnership Priorities with the EU.

### 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).

### Outlook for the 2021–2027 period

To streamline the existing instruments for EU external actions, the Commission proposed to include this programme within the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.

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**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2014-2020

**MORE INFORMATION**

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/

http://europa.eu/!hu77yp

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EUR Million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2 315.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2 385.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2 324.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2 480.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2 478.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2 677.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2 645.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>17 308.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OVERALL EXECUTION 2014–2018 (EUR MILLION)**

- **EXECUTED COMMITMENTS**
  - 2016: 99.6% (EUR 1 398.4 million)
  - 2017: 99.6% (EUR 1 398.4 million)
  - 2018: 99.7% (EUR 1 728.7 million)

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

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://europa.eu/!ck79gj

**STUDIES CONDUCTED**

http://europa.eu/!hU77yp
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.
- Achieving progressive integration into the Union internal market and enhanced sectoral and cross-sectoral cooperation.
- Creating conditions for the better organisation of legal migration and the fostering of well-managed mobility of people.
- Supporting smart, sustainable and inclusive development in all aspects.
- Promoting confidence-building, good neighbourly relations and other measures contributing to security in all its forms and the prevention and settlement of conflicts.
- Enhancing sub-regional, regional and European Neighbourhood-wide collaboration as well as Cross-Border Cooperation.

**Examples of achievements so far**

**The Eastern Partnership**

- The EU has supported more than 125 000 SMEs, backing EUR 2 billion worth of loans, and created more than 30 000 jobs in the last 10 years.
- From 2014, ERASMUS+ has enabled nearly 25 000 both-way academic mobilities with Eastern Partner Countries, and supported participation of over 30 000 young people in volunteering, exchanges and youth mobility projects.
- In 2018, the first European School outside EU borders successfully launched and welcomed its first 30 students in Tbilisi, Georgia. Enrolments for the second academic year are under way, and discussions among stakeholders are ongoing for the programming of the next phase.
- Over 400 municipalities, covering 40% of the population in the Eastern partner countries, signed up to the EU’s Covenant of Mayors. This will reduce their CO2 emissions by almost 20 million tonnes by 2020, which is equivalent to planting almost 500 million trees.

**The Southern Neighbourhood**

- Through the ENI, the EU has responded to the Syrian crisis by supporting the broader needs of the Syrian population inside the country and in neighbouring Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq. The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis aims to address longer-term resilience needs of the more than 5 million Syrian refugees in the region as well as supporting their host communities and local administrations.
- In Algeria, the EU continues to provide support to the diversification of the Algerian economy away from the hydrocarbon production through projects on improving business climate, on public finance reform, on renewable energies and energy efficiency and on the agricultural sector.
- In Tunisia, the programmes launched in 2018 reflect the ambition of the EU to promote a better inclusion of Tunisian youth in political, economic and social terms, particularly the most deprived ones.
- In Morocco, the EU provided a comprehensive package of EUR 182 million in support to inclusive socio-economic development.
- In Palestine, the EU continued to provide reliable support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). UNRWA makes a crucial contribution to the maintenance of the security, stability and development perspectives in the region.

**Migration**

- In 2018, the migratory pressure through the Central Mediterranean route substantially decreased as compared to previous years but the condition of migrants and refugees in Libya remained a source of great concern. The EU stepped up efforts towards the protection of vulnerable migrants in the region and cooperation to fight against trafficking and smuggling of human beings, including through support to border management.
**DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION INSTRUMENT**

**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 sustainable economic, social and environmental development as well as 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 unique 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 2014-2018 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.

In 2018 EU bilateral aid under the DCI is more focused on countries that need it the most, such as Least Developed Countries and Lower Income Countries, while the share of Upper and Middle Income Countries has been significantly reduced. Similarly, at country level EU aid is more focused with three or less sectors of concentration in each partner country. Among the sectors of concentration, DCI support is strongly focused on Inclusive and Sustainable Growth for Human Development, which is also a priority area of the Agenda for Change.

**Geographic programmes**: In Latin America, total available amount was committed and virtually all the countries of the region benefitted from new bilateral and/or regional programmes in key sectors such as water and climate change; private sector and investment; economic development; security, rule of law and governance. In Asia, budget support remained the preferred aid modality, working directly with country systems, reinforcing policy dialogue on key reforms and improving public financial management systems, domestic revenue mobilisation efforts, transparency and accountability. In 2018, two financing decisions for the South African component were adopted to support to the wine and spirit sector and to finance the gender equality and women empowerment programme.

The 2018 Annual Indicative Programme of Pan-African programme, has focused on: (i) the enhancement of young people’s employability and mobility, and the promotion of technological innovation; (ii) the facilitation of trade and investments and the contribution to the development of inter-regional infrastructure; (iii) the support to the dialogue on migration.

The mid-term review of the DCI concluded that the Global Public Goods and Challenges programme (GPGC) is highly relevant and coherent with stated EU policy objectives. It also highlighted the importance of the strong emphasis the Civil Society and Local Authorities (CSO-LA) programme has on improving governance and strengthening the rule of law by engaging civil society and work on Civil society roadmaps by EU Delegations.

**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.

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

To streamline the existing instruments for EU external actions, the Commission proposed to include this instrument within the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.

**Voted budget execution (in EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>98.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>99.2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>100 %</td>
<td>99.3 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

**PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Achieved</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of population below international poverty line*</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects to promote democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights</td>
<td>957 projects compared to 100</td>
<td>% of target achieved by 2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Due to the specificity and long term perspective of these contextual indicators, the baseline was taken into account while calculating distance towards targets.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- **EUROCLIMA** continued to provide assistance to Latin American countries in the development and implementation of their climate policies. 35 projects were selected for funding in the sectors urban mobility, forest, biodiversity and ecosystems, and disaster risk reduction.
- The Budget Support programme to the competitiveness of the **Colombian dairy sub-sector** increased sector productivity and reduced production costs, promoted cooperative and producer integration. More than 4 612 families benefited from the Programme, it also supported 85 “Productive Alliances”, more than one 200 dairy enterprises have benefitted of dairy supply chain improvements.
- Increased financial and technical support to support internally displaced persons, refugees and host communities in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Iran and Iraq. Afghans, the largest displaced population in the world, benefited from the largest part of fund. The support contributed to sustainable reintegration of Afghan returnees and to development of resilient communities. In 2018, 33 000 returnees benefited from rehabilitation of irrigation channels; 2 509 individuals received vocational training, of which 40% women; a well-being of 23 000 children was improved based on psychosocial support and the reunification of returned unaccompanied minors with their families.
- Strengthened democratic participation and civil society capacities in Myanmar and Cambodia in a challenging political environment as demonstrated by the Ronginya crisis and the restrictions in the political and civic space in Cambodia.
- The implementation of the Seventh Power Development Plan in **Vietnam** connected 22 600 additional remote households to the grid in 2017.
- EU-South Africa cooperation DCI contributed to increase by 14% the number of graduates qualifying as primary school teachers, while programmes to raise awareness and knowledge of constitutional rights reached more than 3 million vulnerable and marginalised South Africans. The **Teaching and Learning Development programme** contributed to establish a South African Journal of Childhood Education and the Centre for Visual Impairment Studies and develop 16 Technical and Vocational Education Training professional qualifications in 14 universities and 19 Continuing Education and Training professional qualifications in 10 universities.
- The establishment of an African Continental Free Trade Area is one of the flagship projects of the African Union. PanAF programme has successfully supported the AU in undertaking the negotiations of this important agreement which was signed in Kigali in 2018 and is now under ratification process at countries level.
- **AfricaConnect2** project allowed more than 830 African higher education and research institutions from 11 countries to benefit from improved and more affordable internet connectivity.
- In 2018, the **Global Climate Change Alliance** celebrated 10 years of cooperation and dialogue on climate change with a total of more than 70 projects of national, regional and worldwide scope funded under GPGC in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific (GCCA+ commitments amount to EUR 750 million for the period 2007-2020).
- Over the last 10 years, the EU has committed approximately EUR 300 million to the **SWITCH to Green initiative**, promoting the development of enabling frameworks and supporting the adoption of sustainable consumption and production practices by the private sector. This support, delivered through UN agencies, funded more than 150 ‘green business’ projects in some 45 partner countries. As a result, significant green economy policy reforms took shape and it created/sustained of approximately 350 000 jobs, and investments of more than EUR 1 billion by beneficiary.
- The Commission's contributions to the **Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria** (GFATM) and the Vaccine Alliance (GAVI) have been financed jointly through the DCI budget and the intra-ACP programme of the EDF. 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 7.9 million bed nets to prevent malaria. The Commission 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 resources spent by GAVI, which helped fully immunise 277 million children in 2011-2015 and another 300 million foreseen in 2016-2020.
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 its partners’ 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

2018 has been a productive year for the PI which has now reached full implementation speed. Besides the large stand-alone actions, the PI also offers support for short-term actions by means of its Policy Support Facility (PSF) and TAIEX.

In 2018, the adoption of the Annual Action Programme 2018 (AAP) as well as four individual measures and the timely contracting of actions under the AAP 2017 were the main policy and expenditure-related outputs for the PI. Additionally, the implementation and monitoring of actions under the AAPs 2014-2017 as well as the launch of the programming exercise for 2019 through the cluster modality were key efforts for PI implementation and planning.

The AAP 2018 was adopted in two phases: the first phase with a budget of EUR 81.9 million was adopted in July 2018 while the second phase with a total budget of EUR 26.9 million was adopted in November 2018. Four individual measures were also adopted in 2018, for a total budget of EUR 13.5 million. All 22 stand-alone actions included in the AAP 2017 were committed and signed by 31 December 2018.

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).

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

To streamline the existing instruments for EU external actions, the Commission proposed to include this instrument within the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>92.4 %</td>
<td>55.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>38.4 %</td>
<td>75.8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>99.5 %</td>
<td>117 %</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.

- Operating Emissions Trading Schemes for greenhouse gas mitigation (ETS) outside the EU/EEA
  - 24 out of 26 schemes
  - 82% of target achieved by 2018

- Local and regional authorities signing the Covenant of Mayors
  - 7,755 compared to 4,000 authorities
  - 100% of target achieved by 2018

- International agreements on Migration and Mobility signed with the strategic partners
  - 15 out of 20 agreements
  - 75% of target achieved by 2018

- Worldwide level of implementation of international safety standards in civil aviation
  - 65 out of 65 of implementation score
  - 100% of target achieved by 2018

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

**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:

- **Support to the Implementation of the Paris Agreement** (SPIPA) with major economies action aims at supporting and encouraging partner countries to successfully executing their climate change mitigation and adaptation policies. The aim is to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, adapting to the effects of climate change, and thus ultimately contributing to the long-term targets laid out in the Paris Agreement through their nationally determined contribution.

- **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. Through this action, cities from Europe and other global regions are paired together, jointly committing to design and implement pilot projects that enhance sustainable development at the local and regional levels. To date, over 60 pairings have been established between local governments through the programme.

- **The EU Gateway | Business Avenues** programme organised 54 business missions to China, Japan, Korea and South East Asia were conducted. 2,700 European companies participated in the programme and engaged into 54 missions in 9 target industrial and services sectors. The programme established a common monitoring methodology for assessing its contribution to the market entry to third markets.

- **Cultural Diplomacy Platform** provides support and policy advice to the EU institutions, including the EU Delegations, cultural stakeholders in Europe and outside, and set up a global cultural leadership training programme for young cultural managers. It contributed to increased mutual understanding and facilitated future cooperation among EU and the strategic partner countries. The third edition of the Global Cultural Leadership Training was organised as well as a global conference on the international aspects of the European Year of Cultural Heritage. The EU literature prize-winners participated in the Tokyo international book fair.

- In 2018, several actions dedicated to **Public Diplomacy** efforts were implemented in South and Central America, India, Japan, China, thus contributing to build mutual trust and understanding between the EU and the partner country, while enhancing the ability of the EU to engage with target audiences.
EIDHR
EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

What the programme is about
The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) is a programme designed primarily 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. 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.

The EIDHR delivers help worldwide, including the world’s most remote areas, thereby 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
Building on the past success and following the recommendations of the mid-term review, the 2018-2020 Multiannual Indicative Programme and the corresponding 2018-2020 Multiannual Action Programme were adopted in 2018. The EIDHR actions followed five axes of work, as per 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 19.95 million), the Human Rights Crimes Facility (EUR 13.3 million), and the EIDHR Emergency Fund allowing rapid support through targeted low-value grants to individual human rights defenders in emergency situations (EUR 4.3 million) have been established.

2) Supporting civil society organisations on the ground in promoting human rights priorities of the European Union. Under this priority, more than 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 316.4 million). In addition, annual Global Calls for proposals (EUR 111 million) covering the main EU priorities in the field of human rights, allowing for a more long-term response, 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. In 2018, the programme ‘INTER PARES’ (EUR 5 million) was added to the mix with the objective of strengthening the capacity of parliaments in partner countries.

4) Contributing to increasing transparency and trust in the electoral process: around 7 fully-fledged Election Observation Missions (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) for EUR 19.6 million, the International Criminal Court (ICC) for EUR 3 million, the worldwide and regional networks of National Human Rights Institutions (EUR 6 million), or the ‘Global Campus’ for higher education which now covers seven regions of the world (EUR 26.3 million).

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 management (mainly through grants addressed to civil society organisations) and indirect management with international organisations.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
To streamline the existing instruments for EU external actions, the Commission proposed to include this instrument within the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.
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 other priorities of the Union in the fields of human rights.
- 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 now considered the EIDHR flagship, providing 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 main programmes:
  - The EU comprehensive HRD Mechanism set up in 2015, with a budget of EUR 19.9 million over three years, entitled ProtectDefenders.eu, brought 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 4.3 million) provided fast emergency grants of up to EUR 10 000.

- Between 2014 and 2018, 4 485 HRDs at risk were supported by these two programmes (1 300 HRDs in 2017).

- The **EIDHR Human Rights Crises Facility** was set up in 2014 to provide a flexible funding modality in order to respond to situations where there is a serious lack of fundamental freedoms, where human security is most at risk, where human rights organisations and defenders work in exceptionally difficult conditions. For the annual allocation of EUR 3.5 million, twenty projects have been supported in the Enlargement region, the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhood, Central Asia, Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia.

- **‘Supporting Democracy’** programme, under the umbrella of the Democracy Initiative, focusing on support to the EU Delegations in the areas of civil society participation in democratic processes. Achievements so far include the Citizen Observers Forum in 2016, bringing together 250 domestic observer organisation from all over the world, facilitating peer to peer exchanges and promoting the Declaration of Global Principles for Electoral Observers, or the launch of an annual worldwide ‘EU4Democracy’ campaign promoting 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’** is a unique global network of more than 100 universities teaching and promoting human rights and democracy. Supported by the EU/EIDHR from its beginnings, the Global Campus confers masters degrees in human rights and democracy on more than 150 students a year, covers seven regions in the world and represents a beacon of excellence in human rights and democracy education.

- The EIDHR-financed **EU Election Observations Missions** (EU EOMs) are well established trademarks of the EU democracy support worldwide and a major flagship of EU external relations implemented hand in hand with the European Parliament and the EU Member States. In 2014-2018, EU EOMs observed elections in several geopolitically important countries and developed cooperation with other international bodies undertaking election observation. In total, 33 electoral missions comprising over 800 international mission staff were deployed.
STABILITY AND PEACE

INSTRUMENT CONTRIBUTING TO STABILITY AND PEACE

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 facility comparable in scope to the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace.

Implementation status
Throughout 2018, IcSP remained a key tool for EU diplomacy in crisis contexts and in its quest for conflict prevention, stability, conflict resolution and peace-building. In accordance with the IcSP Regulation, the first objective under Article 3 - Response to situations of crisis or emerging crisis - is not programmable as the actions depend on developments in the international arena, in particular in terms of conflicts and crises. At least 70% of the financial envelope of the IcSP is allocated to this objective. The second objective under Article 4 – Assistance for conflict prevention, peace building and crisis preparedness (9% of the overall financial envelope), and the third objective under Article 5 - Assistance to address global and trans-regional threats – are both subject to programming.

In 2018, a total of EUR 360 million was committed under the IcSP: EUR 254.1 million under the short-term crisis response component (Article 3), EUR 33.7 million under the structural peace-building component (Article 4) and EUR 72.2 million was committed to address global, trans-regional, and emerging threats (Article 5).

The IcSP programme is implemented in line with the relevant Multi-Annual Indicative Programme and 100% of allocated funds have been committed. Any challenges met are being addressed continuously to avoid any impact on the implementation of the programme.

In the period 2016-2018, EUR 207.7 million was committed under the IcSP Article 5 for actions that have focused on providing assistance in addressing global, 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 (CBRN) 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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
To streamline the existing instruments for EU external actions, the Commission proposed to include this instrument within the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.
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.

**PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)**

- Number of processes and entities with strengthened capacity: 96%
- Biological threats – Number of facilities upgraded to international standard level: 83%
- Countering Terrorism: partner countries covered by countering terrorism activities: >100%

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

Examples of achievements so far

- Throughout 2018, IcSP remained a key tool for EU diplomacy in crisis contexts and in its quest for conflict prevention, stability, conflict resolution and peace-building. All of the 42 new crisis response actions adopted in 2018 respond directly to EU political priorities. At the end of 2018, there were 276 on-going actions operating in 64 countries. Examples of timely EU responses to high-priority crises on the EU political agenda are given below. Information on the actions funded by the Instrument under Articles 3 and 4 are available for the general public through the following online tool: https://icspmap.eu/.

- Under the IcSP long-term conflict prevention component, a three-year action was approved to train 800 military personnel of the armed forces of countries in crisis (including Burkina Faso, Iraq, Lebanon, Mali, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia and South Sudan) in the areas of health, mine clearance, civil protection and peacekeeping.

- 2018 was the first year of implementation of Capacity Building in support of Security and Development (CBSD) actions. So far, eight CBSD actions have been launched in four countries (Central African Republic, Mali, Somalia and Lebanon) to build regional training centres for training in the areas of health, mine clearance or civil protection for military actors.

- In 2018, the IcSP launched its first intervention in the north-eastern part of Syria in areas liberated from Daesh by the Global Coalition. The mine action project (EUR 10 million) aims to improve physical safety conditions and to facilitate access to land and infrastructure – including through mine risk education for returnees, displaced people and host communities. It represents the first EU non-humanitarian intervention in the area since the conflict erupted and it forms part of the stabilisation efforts conducted by the EU and its Member States in the framework of the Global Coalition against Daesh.

- Under programmable actions for conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness, a total of 994 processes and 598 entities benefited from IcSP funding in 2018. This allowed the EU to engage with its partners – international, regional, sub-regional organisations, Member States and civil society actors – on structural measures to support peace-building in a more comprehensive manner.

- The IcSP continued to promote the responsible sourcing and trading of minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas through the implementation of a programme on the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals, in particular for tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold. The main objective of the programme is to break the link between mineral extraction and trade, and conflicts in fragile countries. The programme has provided market access to an estimated 80 000 artisanal and small-scale miners in Africa’s Great Lakes Region, who support an estimated 400 000 dependents.

- Counter-terrorism (CT) and the Prevention and Countering of Violent Extremism (P/CVE) remained high priorities in 2018 with continued investment in global projects that strengthen the resilience of communities and governments against violent extremism and terrorist attacks. Specific examples include a EUR 16 million global action on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing (AML/CFT).

- The CBRN Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CBRN CoE) Initiative continued supporting interregional cooperation and enhancing third countries’ capabilities to prevent and manage incidents involving CBRN-E agents. In the area of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) risk mitigation, the Centres of Excellence Initiative have been strengthened. In 2018, the programme continued to develop into a worldwide network.
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 has 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.

The annual working programme – called “General Guidelines for Operational Priorities for Humanitarian Aid (GGOPHA)” – establishes priorities based on the assessment of foreseen humanitarian aid needs. The working programme provides sufficient flexibility to adapt priorities to new crises and evolving humanitarian aid needs. Between 15% and 20% of the budget is set aside as an operational reserve for unforeseen needs.

In 2018, almost 50% of the budget went to most vulnerable countries and 33.9% was allocated to forgotten crises. In addition, the Union is committed to build capacity and resilience of vulnerable communities and has continued implementing the resilience action.

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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
No specific proposal has been adopted by the Commission for the new Multiannual Financial Framework as the current basic act is not time-limited and does not contain provisions specifying the overall budgetary allocations.
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

- In 2018, the European Commission provided over EUR 1.5 billion (including EDF and externally assigned revenues) in aid to the most vulnerable across more than 90 countries, reaching over 144 million beneficiaries – 28 of which resulting from Disaster Preparedness Programme (DIPECHO) actions in disaster prone regions.
- In 2018, more than 50 % of the Humanitarian budget went to most vulnerable countries and an additional 33.9 % was allocated to forgotten crises (crises with little media attention and poor coverage). 62% of the contracts were issued within a very short timeframe (11 days). 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.
- Education in Emergencies remained more than ever a flagship policy in 2018, 8.5% of the budget was dedicated to it, and more than a million boys and girls benefited from it in over 30 countries. Moreover, the EC continued chairing the “Call to Action” on protection from gender-based violence in emergencies and continued scaling up the use of cash assistance.
- In 2018, the EU continued guaranteeing fast and safe access to the field. ECHO Flights continued supporting Humanitarian Aid Transport Services by transporting more than 26 000 humanitarian aid workers and more than 230 tons of cargo.
- The EU’s principled and needs-based approach to humanitarian aid also includes addressing ‘forgotten crises’. EU was present in every significant humanitarian crisis in 2018 with a variety of adapted funding tools. In larger crises, the EU consistently responded to situations where other donors were not present and often played the role of coordinator and catalyst.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

* Average for 2014-2018

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)

- 71% out of 95% agreements signed
- 144 compared to 77 million beneficiaries
- 51% out of 56% annual funding
- 20% compared to 15% annual funding
- 53% compared to 50% operations

* Of target achieved by 2018

By way of an example of the EU’s response to major crises, the Union continues to deliver life-saving assistance and support to millions of people across Syria. The EU’s humanitarian assistance is carried out in a principled manner to fulfil the needs of the most vulnerable Syrians throughout the country. 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. In Turkey and Jordan, the EU supports the most vulnerable refugees inter alia through cash assistance, as this is considered the most cost-efficient and dignified method. Furthermore, the Union contributes to the renewed Partnership Programmes (“compacts”) with Lebanon and Jordan.

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.
CFSP
COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY

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 CFSP for the European Union which aims to promote peace, security and progress in Europe and the World. The CSDP 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 EU is in a uniquely neutral and impartial position to deliver on external action on behalf of and with Member states, lending enhanced credibility in the countries in which it works. It is best placed to take the role of global leader on behalf of its citizens.

Implementation status
Due to the rapid evolution of political situation in the world, EU actions have to be reactive and adapted quickly. Therefore, many of the actions that the EU undertakes to implement the CFSP cannot be programmed in advance. Between 2014 and 2018 thirteen CSDP missions were operational. Three of them are now closed: EU Aviation Security Mission in South Sudan, EU Police Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the EU Police Mission in Afghanistan. Three new missions started: the EU Advisory Mission in Ukraine (2014), the EU Capacity Building Mission in Mali (2014) and the EU Advisory Mission in Iraq (2017).

In addition, the CFSP Budget funded two Article 28 TEU actions: one for stabilisation in the Malian regions of Mopti and Ségou in 2017 and another one in Yemen for the support of the UN Verification Mechanism based in Djibouti in 2018.

As regards work of the European Union’s Special Representatives (EUSR), eleven were active over the period 2014-2018. EUSRs for the African Union, for the Southern Mediterranean region and for Afghanistan came to an end during that period while the other eight remain active during the whole period. Among them the EUSRs for South Caucasus and for the crisis in Georgia, the Sahel, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the Horn of Africa, and Human Rights.

In addition, the CFSP also supports projects to promote disarmament, non-proliferation and arms export control (NPD projects) as well as horizontal measures contributing to security and peace. During the period 2014-2018, 29 different NPD projects started and another 22 were completed.

The CFSP budget also finances the Warehouse II project providing civilian Missions and EUSRs with strategic equipment, the Mission Support Platform (MSP) providing support and advice to Missions in various areas (finance, procurement, logistics, IT, etc.), the European Security and Defence College as well as the Kosovo Specialist Chambers based in the Netherlands.

Who is in charge
Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) 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.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
CFSP will remain a separate tool, but complimentary with other conflict and crisis response instruments, e.g. rapid response pillar of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
Given the specific nature of CFSP actions, the annual reports on the implementation of the CFSP are produced. For further information please consult:
http://europa.eu/!B37Tp

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>95.2 %</td>
<td>218.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.8 %</td>
<td>258.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>99.9 %</td>
<td>292</td>
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FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Total programming (EUR million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>301.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>270.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>202.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>286.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>348.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>334.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>351.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2 095.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014-2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!Dh87hn

http://europa.eu/!kB37Tp
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.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- The achievements of the CSDP missions are numerous and reflect the diversity of the actions undergone. The two civilian CSDP Missions in the Sahel are making important contributions to the security of the region.
- The support of the Mission in Niger has contributed to the overall institutionalisation of the interoperability of the Internal Security Forces. The reinforcement of the technical capabilities of the Internal Security Forces showed encouraging results in their fight against drug and arms trafficking. The Mission has also helped providing tactical equipment to the National Guard of Niger to handle terrorist attacks more efficiently.
- The expansion of the already ongoing initiative towards regionalising the efforts of both Missions across the 5 countries in the Sahel region is yet another stepping stone to help making this region safer. In this context, the Mission in Mali will see its mandate further extended.
- While a limited presence was established in 2017 in Tripoli the mandate of EUBAM Libya has been substantially expanded in 2018 and today EUBAM Libya is the only EU presence active on the ground, helping the Libyan authorities to improve integrated border management.
- In the Western Balkans, EULEX Kosovo continued to support selected Kosovo rule of law institutions on their path towards increased effectiveness, sustainability, multi-ethnicity and accountability, free from political interference and in full compliance with international human rights standards. This support is based on monitoring selected cases and trials in Kosovo's criminal and civil justice institutions and mentoring and advising the Kosovo Correctional Service. In December 2018, EULEX Kosovo handed over the prosecution and police files to the Kosovo authorities, after carrying out a risk assessment.

**Non-proliferation and disarmament projects.** The EU supports international and regional safety and security via its contribution to 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. Between 2014 and 2018:

- 6 countries have ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (bringing the total to 167);
- 27 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 35); and
- 95 State have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (bringing the total to 100).

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
NUCLEAR COOPERATION

INSTRUMENT FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY COOPERATION

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, it is in the EU interest 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 Commission adopted 36 actions for the period 2016 – 2018 to be implemented in Armenia, Belarus, Egypt, Iran, Indonesia, Jordan, Thailand, Vietnam, Mongolia, the Philippines, Georgia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ghana as well as regional projects in Central Asia, Southern Africa, the Balkans and Gulf countries.

These actions are distributed in line with the multi-annual indicative programme around the four pillars: promotion of nuclear safety culture (16 actions), safe management of spent fuel and radioactive wastes (10), nuclear materials safeguards (6) and support measures (4).

The Annual Action Programme 2018 consists of the following Actions: addressing the promotion of the nuclear safety culture (6 actions), the safe management of radioactive wastes (5), the nuclear safeguards (3) and the support measures (1). The Actions will be implemented in Ukraine (2), Ghana, Iran, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central Asia (2), Emergency Preparedness and Response, Training and Education (4), cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and support measures). One of the project with Ukraine failed to be implemented, the Programme has been amended to contribute to the Environmental Remediation Account for Central Asia. The contribution to this fund managed by the EBRO has been paid in 2018. All actions subject to N+1 rule will be contracted before the end of 2019. Several projects, subject to the N+ 3 rule, will be contracted by the end of 2022 (five contracts).

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) is the lead DG for the directly managed programme implementation.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed a continuation of this programme as a European Instrument for Nuclear Safety complementing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (EINS) for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Executed Commitments</th>
<th>Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>71.1 %</td>
<td>99.7 % 113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>51.4 %</td>
<td>98.6 % 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>33.0 %</td>
<td>98.0 % 27.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)
**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**

**Promoting the nuclear safety culture**

- Competence of the staff working in the nuclear area is of utmost importance to ensure that the use of nuclear technology is safe. Confirming the success of the programme, the Training and Tutoring (T&T) actions transferring the EU knowledge to students and young professionals has trained 2256 staff in the beneficiary countries during 2014-2018 period, of which 39% of women contributing to the gender goal in a highly specialised scientific area.

**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. The EBRD, upon the European Commission request, established in 2015 a dedicated multi-donor Environmental Remediation Fund. The European Commission has organised in 2017 and 2018 a very successful side event during the 72nd and 73rd United Nations General Assembly in New York, the latter with the participation of Commissioner Mimica. A donor’s conference has been held on 8 November 2018 at the EBRD in London where six donors pledged EUR 17.16 million. It is scheduled for completion by the end of June 2019 with an official hand-over to the Ukrainian government.

**The Capacity Building**

- The first project supporting the Iranian Nuclear Regulatory Authority was kicked-off in July 2017 and is running smoothly in a very cooperative atmosphere. A follow-up project will participate to the establishment of the nuclear safety center in Tehran, in compliance with the EU commitment to the implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.
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, North 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
In 2018, there were 11 requests for assistance from emergencies outside the EU. The UCPM has delivered effectively on its primary role of facilitating the delivery of in-kind assistance from EU Member States to disasters outside Europe, and it notably coordinated assistance for disasters in Papua New Guinea, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Guatemala, Nigeria, India, Indonesia and Bangladesh. Selected prevention and preparedness actions were moreover implemented in eligible third countries (candidate, potential candidates 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.

The strategic re-thinking of the Prevention and Preparedness Projects (Call for Proposal) carried out in 2018 in line with the recommendations of the Interim Evaluation of the UCPM has also targeted the eligible third countries. The 2018 Call has placed a stronger emphasis on the involvement of third country partners in the design and implementation of the projects and this will become an even stricter requirement in the 2019 Call. All the 4 Prevention and Preparedness projects awarded in 2018 for eligible third countries can become “seed funds” for leveraging a larger impact by the end of the project (e.g. including via EU programmes for the Neighbourhood and other international donors).

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).

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed funding related the internal and external dimensions of civil protection included in a specific cluster ‘Crisis Response’ in Heading 5 ‘Security and Defence’.

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

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)

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<td>149</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018

(EUR MILLION)

- 102.7 EUR MILLION
- 57% commitments
- 41% payments

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

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>81.0% (991)</td>
<td>70.5% (8.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>98.3%</td>
<td>71.2% (6.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>60.0% (999)</td>
<td>59.3% (10.7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://europa.eu/!vF44kU
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 facilitate rapid and efficient response in the event of disasters or imminent disasters.
- To increase public awareness and preparedness for disasters.
- To enhance preparedness in third countries to respond to disasters.

Examples of achievements so far

- In 2018, there were 11 requests for assistance from emergencies outside the EU (21 in 2017). The Mechanism facilitated the provision of assistance to the following countries outside the EU: Papua New Guinea, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Guatemala, Nigeria, India, and Indonesia. Expertise in the form of preparedness and prevention (advisory) missions was provided to Bangladesh. Assistance deployed included water purification, tents and power generators (Indonesia), water and sanitation experts (India), environmental and dam integrity experts (Colombia), medical teams and equipment (DRC).

- The second phase of the Programme for the Prevention Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters (PPRD) in the East went on and the third phase of the PPRD South in the countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy started. The regional programme IPA floods ended and the programme on Disaster Risk Assessment and Mapping continued.

- An important element to highlight is the resuming of the Peer Review programme, which helps identify possible weaknesses in propose solutions for improvements to the civil protection authorities of third countries. In 2018, peer reviews were carried out in Tunisia and in the Republic of North Macedonia, reinforcing the international cooperation of the UCPM with our closest neighbours.

- Third countries have benefited also from the collaboration with Participating States during the implementation of the UCPM exercises funded by the EU. In 2018 a sub-regional exercise EU-ALSEIMEX was implemented in Algeria by France, with the participation of Spain, Algeria, Italy, Tunisia and Poland aimed at improving international co-operation with the simulation of a devastating earthquake. Another exercise EU CHEM REACT was organized in Ukraine, with participation from Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania and the Czech Republic and tested planning and preparedness to Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear threats.

- The use of Copernicus Emergency Management Service is becoming much more frequent as part of the UCPM actions. The rapid mapping services can support civil protection operations. This service provides timely and very precise geospatial information that is used to plan disaster relief operations.
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 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.

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 in 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 of the EU Aid Volunteers initiative was adopted in January 2018. It 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 training of candidate volunteers, external evaluation of applications in response to the two calls for proposals, the evaluation of requests for certification and re-certification, the organisation of info days as well as support measures as for example the continuous development of a platform for project management and networking, communication and outreach activities. The calls were published as planned. The Annual Report on the implementation of the initiative 2017 was adopted on 3 August 2018.

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).

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed to integrate humanitarian volunteering in the European Solidarity Corps for the next Multiannual Financial Framework. This integration will contribute to streamlining and increasing the synergy of volunteering programmes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voted budget execution (in EUR million)</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>97.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>93</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>99.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018
(EUR MILLION)

62% commitments
42% payments

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
The mid-term evaluation of the programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:
http://europa.eu/!K39JQ
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

- In 2018 six projects for capacity building (69 participating organisations), one project for technical assistance (4 participating organisations) and eleven deployment projects aiming to deploy 368 EU Aid Volunteers in 2019 were selected. The deployment of 175 volunteers selected from the 2017 call for proposals also started in 2018.

- Until the end of 2018, 6 new sending and 57 new hosting organisations completed successfully their certification. Two networking events were organised in 2018 with an overall participation of 159 representatives of sending and hosting organisations and EU Aid Volunteers. The feedback from volunteers received at the event about their deployment was published as a guide with tips and advice for prospective volunteers (https://europa.eu/!UM76Pk) and will also be distributed at the training.

- The deployment target set in the annual work programme 2018 was 250 volunteers (after 175 in 2017) which was considerably exceeded with 368 volunteers as a result of the 2018 call for proposals. In 2019 these volunteers will be deployed to 51 countries all over the world, the majority in Africa (40%) followed by Latin and Central America (20%), Asia (15%) and Middle East (11%).

- Eight face-to-face training sessions were organised in 2018 with 295 candidate volunteers attending. The satisfaction of candidate volunteers with their online and face-to-face training continues to be high with an overall satisfaction rate of 87% (out of 100%) in 2018 (90% in 2017).

- Overall, the trend with regard to the certification of new sending and hosting organisations is stable with 62 organisations certified in 2016, 63 in 2017 and 63 in 2018.

- Since the start of the initiative, the skills areas of volunteers most often requested have been in communication (17%), disaster risk management (11%), finance (10%), capacity building (10%), project management (9%), community-based development (7%), gender equality (7%), monitoring and evaluation (4%) and climate change adaptation (4%). This indicates that volunteers are sought for capacity building functions that organisations are looking for.

- Also the subscription to EU Aid Volunteers vacancies increased from 1 100 subscribers beginning of 2018 to 2 650 at the end of the year which reflects an increasing awareness of the initiative among citizens thanks to a social media campaigns to promote the vacancies. However, most citizens still rather consult the national pages of the participating organisations.

- Stories about volunteers activities have been published: https://europa.eu/!Rf68Nh (96 stories so far).
**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 form 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.

**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**

For the EFSD guarantee, the entire available budget of EUR 1.54 billion was allocated in 2018 to selected proposals and the first guarantee agreement was signed in Vienna on 18 December 2018 with the Dutch Development Bank FMO for the NASIRA Risk-Sharing Facility.

In addition, the EU approved EUR 2.2 billion to support blending projects in 2017-2018, out of which EUR 1.45 billion for projects in sub-Saharan Africa and EUR 0.75 billion for projects in the EU Neighbourhood.

**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.

**Outlook for the 2021-2027 period**

To streamline the existing instruments for EU external actions, the Commission proposed to include this instrument within the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.

**Voted budget execution (in EUR million)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>275 100 %</td>
<td>25 100 % 275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>25 100 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LEGAL BASIS**


**PERIOD OF APPLICATION**

2017-2020

**OVERALL EXECUTION 2014-2018 (EUR MILLION)**

350.0

86% commitments
86% payments

**EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED**

None

**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING (EUR MILLION)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EUR Million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>275.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total programming</td>
<td>350.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

The Commission is in the process of establishing the Results Measurement Framework for the EFSD, based on the existing monitoring framework used for blending operations as well as a new scheme to be used for the EFSD Guarantee. This Results Measurement Framework will be used to monitor the implementation of the EFSD and will serve as a basis for reporting on the progress of supported operations. It will cover three levels:

1. the EFSD as a whole, including both the EFSD Guarantee and the blending operations;
2. the Investment Platforms and Investment Windows;
3. the Investment Programmes under the EFSD Guarantee and the projects under the blending operations.

The Commission will be responsible for monitoring and reporting under the first two levels, based on a set of pre-defined indicators. At programme and project level, the reporting on expected and actual operational results will be the responsibility of the lead Financial Institution. The list of indicators, the frequency and format of reporting will be part of the contracts signed with the eligible counterparts. The Commission expects to finalise the list of indicators for the EFSD by mid-2019.

**Examples of achievements so far**

- Overall, programmes and projects validated by the EFSD governance by the end of 2018 are expected to mobilise around EUR 37 billion of investments, bringing the EU close to its target of unlocking EUR 44 billion by 2020.

- The Commission established a first set of **Investment Windows for the EFSD Guarantee**, taking due account of the advice provided by the Strategic Board, and after consulting the Operational Board. The Investment Windows 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. The response by the eligible counterparts was very positive: the Commission received 46 proposals from 12 partner institutions for a total value above EUR 3.5 billion, thus exceeding the current entire capacity of the EFSD Guarantee by over EUR 2 billion. In June 2018, the EFSD Operational Board involving the EU Member States gave its green light to a first set of twelve guarantee tools to be supported under the EFSD, accounting for approximately EUR 800 million. Sixteen additional guarantee tools were approved by the EFSD Operational Board in November 2018, thus exhausting the present capacity of the EFSD Guarantee (i.e. EUR 1.54 billion until 2020). Taken together, these guarantee tools are expected to trigger estimated investments EUR 17.5 billion, out of which almost EUR 11 billion are to be invested by the private sector.

- The first guarantee agreement was signed in Vienna on 18 December 2018 with the Dutch Development Bank FMO for the **NASIRA Risk-Sharing Facility**. As a result, the EU will extend a guarantee of up to EUR 83 million to FMO (including up to EUR 8 million for Technical Assistance). This will enable FMO to mobilise investment of between EUR 500 million and EUR 1 billion, and contribute to addressing the high risks involved in lending to under-served entrepreneurs in partner countries across Africa and the EU’s Neighbourhood. It will benefit people who currently have difficulty borrowing money at affordable rates, such as:
  - People who have been forced to flee other parts of their countries (internally displaced people) or to leave their country all together (refugees)
  - Those who had fled but have recently returned to rebuild their lives (returnees)
  - Women and young people aged 18-30
LEGAL BASIS
Council Decision 2014/137/EU of 14 March 2014 on relations between the European Union on the one hand, and Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark on the other

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/dR38cH

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/yX64kb

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 Performance Contract.

After Financing Agreements for the years 2014 to 2017, the Financing Agreement for the 2018 budget was signed with the Government of Greenland on 14 November 2018. The Annual Work Plan 2018 was presented and approved by the Government of Greenland. Subsequently, the fixed tranche for the 2018 programme was paid in December 2018.

Two Policy Dialog Meetings were held - one in Greenland, the other in Brussels.

Who is in charge
Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) is the lead DG for the programme implementation through budget support.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission has proposed to include this programme within the new Overseas Countries and Territories for the new Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>31.4 99.9 %</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>31.9 99.9 %</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>32.4 99.9 %</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

• Following the results achieved in the Greenland Education Programme phase 1 (2007-2013), the capacity of the education system has been maintained, with attendance to educations after elementary school maintained at 3,856 in 2013 to 3,710 in 2017 and targeted at 3,856 in 2020;

• Overall, the instrument has contributed to improving educational attainment and administrative capability in Greenland. The following changes could be observed:
  • 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 999 in 2017 and targeted 1,110 in 2020;
  • increasing initiatives to reduce the dropout rate, including in vocational education and training (VET);
  • 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 59.25 in 2017 and targeting 63.00 in 2020;
  • increasing the ability of the system to accommodate and include students who are in need of special attention;

• improving the number transitions from elementary school to high school from 35.4% in 2013 to 40.0% in 2017 and targeted at 48% in 2020

• improving the number of transitions from high school to higher education from 64.1% in 2014 to 46.3% in 2017 and targeted at 72% in 2020

• reducing the number of 16–18 year olds outside the education system from 61.6% in 2013 to 60.1% in 2017 and targeted at 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 330 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

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE MACRO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

What the programme is about
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 disbursing 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 to 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.

Implementation status
During the course of 2018, the Commission made important progress in the implementation of a number of MFA operations. These include:

(a) two MFA operations for which the Commission’s legislative proposals were adopted by the co-legislators in 2016 and are being implemented: Jordan II (EUR 200 million, in loans) 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 2019, provided that the IMF programme is on track and the necessary conditions have been met; and Tunisia II (EUR 500 million in loans) adopted in July 2016. The first tranche of EUR 200 million was disbursed in October 2017. The disbursement of the second and third tranches are envisaged in 2019, provided that the IMF programme is on track and the necessary conditions have been met.

(b) 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) adopted in September 2017. The first tranche of EUR 30 million may be disbursed in the first half of 2019, provided that the IMF programme is on track and all the necessary conditions have been met.

(c) two follow-up MFA operations for which the Commission’s legislative proposal were adopted by the co-legislators in 2018: Georgia II (EUR 45 million, including EUR 10 million in grants) adopted in April 2018. The first tranche of EUR 20 million was disbursed in December 2018. The second instalment of EUR 25 million (EUR 20 million in loans and EUR 5 million in grants) is envisaged in mid-2019, subject to fulfilment of a set of policy conditions laid down in the MoU; Ukraine IV (EUR 1 billion in loans) adopted in July 2018. The first tranche of EUR 500 million was disbursed in December 2018. The second tranche of EUR 500 million in loans is expected to be disbursed in the first half of 2019, provided that the IMF programme is on track and that pending conditions are fulfilled.

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).

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period
The Commission proposed for MFA to maintain its current legal status, with assistance granted on case-by-case basis.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>% Executed Commitments</th>
<th>% Executed Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>89.9 %</td>
<td>83.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>99.7 %</td>
<td>99.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>97.3 %</td>
<td>50.1 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

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 4.2 billion have been disbursed and additional EUR 1.025 billion have been committed for and are expected to be disbursed between 2019 and 2020 (not considering the new MFA operations to be adopted soon or currently in the pipeline).

- MFA was particularly instrumental in helping Ukraine to stabilise the macro-economic situation and undertake the necessary reforms to consolidate a stable, democratic and prosperous country. Indeed, since 2014, a total of EUR 3.3 billion was disbursed to Ukraine under four MFA operations. Under the fourth MFA operation – adopted in 2018 for an amount of EUR 1 billion – another EUR 500 million have been committed for and are expected to be disbursed between 2019 and 2020 (not considering the new MFA operations to be adopted soon or currently in the pipeline). In effect, MFA has proven to be an important tool to address an acute balance of payments crisis and support reforms in public finance management, anti-corruption, financial sector restructuring, trade and taxation and energy.

- In the southern neighbourhood, MFA was also instrumental in helping Tunisia respond to the economic downturn it has faced following the 2011 revolution and the economic and political transition process that ensued. Indeed, since 2014, EUR 800 million have been made available to Tunisia under two MFA operations (EUR 500 million disbursed to date). The programmes helped redress Tunisia’s fiscal and external balances, whilst having a considerable focus on policies to foster employment and provide financial support to the poorer sections of society.

- Additionally, in Jordan, a total of EUR 380 million have been made available under the two MFA programmes since 2014, (EUR 280 million disbursed to date). The assistance has helped the country to deal with pressing economic and social issues arising from regional conflicts and the refugee flows from Syria and Iraq. More generally, the assistance helped Jordan to address immediate external and fiscal financing needs, whilst encouraging structural reforms and contributing to macro-economic stability in a very challenging economic and regional context.

- As outlined in the independent ex-post evaluation reports carried out so far, evidence shows that 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.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

The % of target achieved by 2018
SPECIAL INSTRUMENTS

- European Globalisation Adjustment Fund ................. 138
- European Union Solidarity Fund ......................... 140
EGF
EUROPEAN GLOBALISATION ADJUSTMENT FUND

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 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 2018 a total of 51 applications have been submitted by 12 Member States (BE, DE, EE, ES, FI, FR, GR, IE, IT, NL, PT and SE) out of which 3 have later been withdrawn. The other 48 applications met the funding criteria, therefore resulted in the mobilisation of EUR 155.3 million from the EGF funding in 5 Member States for 44 962 targeted workers and 4 099 NEETs (Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training).

Out of 48 accepted applications, 29 were submitted under the trade-related globalisation criterion and 19 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 programming 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, the Commission also intensified its guidance measures to Member States and opting for further reduction of the applications' processing time.

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 two years.

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period
The Commission has proposed a continuation of this programme with a much larger scope and flexibility.
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 from 2014 until 2018, it can be observed that on average 53% of the targeted workers have taken up new employment following EGF intervention, a figure that in the general rises during the six to twelve months after the end of EGF support. As regards the final reports received in 2018, the re-employment rate is significantly higher and reaches on average 67%, however it varied from 41% to 84%. Taking into consideration that the beneficiaries supported by EGF co-funded measures are usually among those facing the greatest difficulties on the labour market, these results are very encouraging.

It is worth pointing out that 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, it may considerably differ depending on the specific economic sector, and the area concerned.

Furthermore five Member States (BE, IE, GR, ES and PT) have targeted 4,099 NEETs (Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training) through EGF measures.

- In terms of both operational effectiveness and efficiency, the EGF Computer programming case in Finland can be regarded as a very successful project and best practise example. At the end of implementation period, 83% of the workers who benefited from the assistance have found reemployment. One of the challenges was that the eligible workers were employed by 69 companies located in 4 regions. That requested a huge organisational and coordination workload for the implementing bodies. Other key elements that played an important role in providing such good results were:
  - proactivity and early respond which helped to reach workers fast;
  - training based on market needs;
  - partnership between the private and public sector;
  - genuine cooperation and sharing of good practices between different regions which helped to generate good ideas for ways to find employment for the target group.

The “Progress towards the target” chart presents a snapshot of the selected programme indicators providing a consistent presentation across all spending programmes. It displays the share of the factual indicator value achieved with respect to the target set.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Redundant workers reintegrated into employment following EGF supported measures</th>
<th>PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET (2020)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>67% compared to 50% redundant workers reintegrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% of target achieved by 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall aim of each case is to ensure that the largest possible number of beneficiaries find sustainable employment as soon as possible.
SOLIDARITY FUND
EUROPEAN UNION SOLIDARITY FUND

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 2018, the Commission received four applications, namely from Bulgaria relating to flooding in 2017, from Cyprus relating to the drought in 2017-2018, from Italy relating to the floods of 2018 and from Romania relating to flooding of 2018. Bulgaria received the payment of the EUSF financial contribution amounting to EUR 2.258 million in November 2018. The assessment of the 3 other cases continued into 2019.

In 2019, the Commission, so far, received only one application, namely from Austria relating to floods and extreme weather at the end of 2018 and is currently being assessed.

None of the EUSF cases from 2015 and 2016 have been closed yet as the financial contribution from the Fund is to be used within 18 months from the date on which the Commission has disbursed the full amount of the assistance.

Since 2015, under the terms of the EUSF Regulation as revised in 2014, Member States, when submitting their EUSF application, have the possibility to request an advance payment of 10% of the anticipated aid amount, limited to a maximum of EUR 30 million. The applications received during 2018 did not request the payment of an advance or did not meet the requirements of the Regulation.

The occurrence of natural disasters cannot be predicted and applications are submitted when an eligible Member State decides to make an application following the ad hoc nature and impact of such natural disasters.

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.

Outlook for the 2021–2027 period
The Commission proposed to include the fund within the Instruments outside the MFF ceiling for the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EUR MILLION</td>
<td>1267</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>815</td>
<td>1241.2</td>
<td>1816</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1813.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*EUSF can be activated in case of need and as such are not predictable and programmable. The instrument has a ceiling of EUR 500 million per year, of which unused parts can be carried- over to the following year under specific conditions.

EVALUATIONS/STUDIES CONDUCTED
An external in-depth ex-post evaluation to assess the financial assistance provided by the EUSF over the period 2002-2016 was launched and is expected to be completed in 2019.

LEGAL BASIS

PERIOD OF APPLICATION
2014 - 2020

MORE INFORMATION
http://europa.eu/!NT86TG

YEARLY EXECUTED COMMITMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>% EXECUTED COMMITMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>81.5 40.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>1816.4 86.5%</td>
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</table>

YEARLY EXECUTED PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>% EXECUTED PAYMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>47.9% 32.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>100% 1241.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>86.0% 176.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

140
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

- It should be noted that the EUSF was not set up with the aim of meeting all the costs linked to natural disasters. The Fund is limited in principle to non-insurable damage and does not compensate for private losses. Long-term action – such as lasting reconstruction, economic redevelopment and prevention – are not eligible for EUSF aid. In most of the above cases, the beneficiary States decided to dedicate EUSF aid for the restoration of public infrastructure.

- In 2018 the Commission paid out EUSF contributions totalling EUR 151.8 million for 9 applications relating to disasters which all occurred in the course of 2017: namely one case from France (hurricanes Irma and Maria), two cases from Greece (earthquakes in Lesbos and Kos), Latvia (flooding), Lithuania (flooding), Poland (storm), Portugal (major forest fires), Spain (fires in Galicia) and Bulgaria (flooding).

- Additional amounts totalling EUR 4 million had already been awarded as advance payments to France, Greece and Portugal during 2017.

- 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. However as, by its nature, the EUSF cannot follow the programme approach (unlike the ESI Funds), 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.
### Abbreviation Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<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 Agriculture and rural development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ECHO</td>
<td>Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG EMPL</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ENER</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Energy</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG ENV</td>
<td>Directorate-General for the Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESTAT</td>
<td>Eurostat</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG FISMA</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union</td>
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<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>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>OLAF</td>
<td>European Anti-Fraud Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG REGIO</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG RTD</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Research and Innovation</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG SANTE</td>
<td>Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>SG</td>
<td>Secretariat-General of the European Commission</td>
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<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>
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</table>

### Programme Title Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Programme Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEF</td>
<td>Connecting Europe Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>CF</td>
<td>Cohesion Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAGF</td>
<td>European Agricultural Guarantee Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAFRD</td>
<td>European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ERDF</td>
<td>European Regional Development Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESF</td>
<td>European Social Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horizon 2020</td>
<td>The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation</td>
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</table>
### KEY DEFINITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEFINITION</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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| 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            | 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 Execution             | Consumption of the budget through expenditure and revenue operations.                                                                            |
| Budgetary commitment         | A budgetary commitment is a reservation of appropriations to cover for consequent payment expenses.                                             |
| Direct Management            | Direct management (selecting contractors, awarding grants, transferring funds, monitoring activities, etc.) of a fund or programme by the European Commission or one of its agencies (centralised indirect 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'). Once adopted, the voted budget will be available in the following year for the intended purpose. |
| 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. 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 Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF), the headings are groups of EU activities in broad categories of expenditure. The current MFF (2014–2020) is composed of six headings:  
  • Heading 1 – Smart and Inclusive Growth, with two sub-headings: (1a) Competitiveness for growth and jobs and (1b) Economic, social and territorial cohesion;  
  • Heading 2 – Sustainable Growth: Natural Resources: agriculture, fisheries and the environment;  
  • Heading 3 – Security and citizenship;  
  • Heading 4 – Global Europe;  
  • Heading 5 – Administration;  
  • Special Instruments: outside the MFF ceilings. |
| Implementation rate          | Share of available amounts committed or paid vis-à-vis the voted budget.                                                                       |
| 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). |
| 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 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. |
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