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**European Union – West Africa  
Regional Indicative Programme  
2014 – 2020**



## GENERAL CLAUSES

The European Union and West Africa, represented by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (known by its French acronym, UEMOA), hereby agree as follows:

(1) The Economic Community of West African States, represented by Kadre Désiré Ouédraogo, President of the ECOWAS Commission, the West African Economic and Monetary Union, represented by Cheikhe Hadjibou Soumaré, president of the UEMOA Commission, and the European Union, represented by Neven Mimica, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, hereinafter referred to as the Parties, have laid down the general guidelines for cooperation in the period 2014-2020.

These guidelines are set out in this Regional Indicative Programme on EU aid to West Africa, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2 of Annex IV to the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement with the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000, as revised and signed in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005, and as subsequently revised and signed in Ouagadougou on 22 June 2010.

West Africa includes the following countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. However, the Parties will consider in the course of the programming and subsequent implementation whether other countries should be associated in order to take account of certain regional issues that fall outside the scope of the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) in its current composition.

The Regional Indicative Programme is annexed hereto.

(2) As regards the indicative programmable financial resources which the European Union intends to make available to West Africa for 2014-2020, **EUR 1 150 million** will be provided for the allocation referred to in Article 9(2)(a) of Annex IV to the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement (the A envelope). A B envelope, as referred to in Article 9(2)(b), may also be established if unforeseen needs arise. This allocation shall amount to zero euros until such need arises. These allocations are not an entitlement and may be revised by the European Commission following the completion of mid-term and end-of-term reviews, in accordance with Article 11 of Annex IV to the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement.

(3) The Indicative Programme shall cover the resources allocated. This allocation is intended to cover economic integration and trade support, sectoral policies, and programmes and projects at regional level in support of the priority sectors for EU aid. It does not pre-empt financing decisions by the Commission.

(4) The B envelope is intended to cover unforeseen needs such as humanitarian aid, emergency and post-emergency assistance where such support cannot be financed from the EU budget, contributions to internationally agreed debt relief initiatives and support to mitigate the impact of exogenous shocks. The B envelope shall be established on the basis of specific mechanisms and procedures and so is not yet an integral part of the programme.

(5) Following the entry into force of the Internal Agreement between the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Union, meeting within the Council, on the financing of European Union aid under the multiannual financial framework for the period 2014 to 2020, funding decisions for projects and programmes may be taken by the Commission at the request of regional organisations within the limits of the A and B envelopes. The relevant projects

and programmes shall be implemented in accordance with the Implementing Regulation and the Financial Regulation applicable to the 11th EDF.

(6) The European Investment Bank may contribute to the implementation of this Regional Indicative Programme by means of operations financed from the Investment Facility and/or from its own resources, in accordance with Articles 2c and 3 of the 11th EDF Multiannual Financial Framework for the 2014-2020 period.

(7) In accordance with Article 11 of Annex IV to the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement, the Regional Indicative Programme and the A and B envelopes may be revised after the mid-term or end-of-term reviews or on an ad hoc basis.

Done at .....

By the Commission  
for the European Union

For the West Africa region

## Abbreviations

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific States
ADB	African Development Bank
AFD	French Development Agency
AGIR	Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
BCEAO	Central Bank of West African States
CAEMC	Central Africa Economic and Monetary Community
CAP	Common agricultural policy (EU)
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CDP	ECOWAS Community Development Programme
CET	Common external tariff
CFA franc	African Financial Community franc
CIP	UEMOA Interparliamentary Committee
COS	Comité d'Orientation Stratégique (Strategic Orientation Committee)
CTS	Comité Technique de Suivi (Technical Monitoring Committee)
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DFID	Department for International Development (UK cooperation agency)
DMRO	Duly mandated regional organisation
EBA	Everything but Arms
EBID	ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development
EC	European Commission
ECOPAS	Ecosystèmes Partagés d'Afrique Soudano Sahélienne (Protected Ecosystems in Sudano-Sahelian Africa)
ECOWAP	Agricultural policy of the Economic Community of West African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ECOWAS-RAAF	ECOWAS Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food
ECREEE	ECOWAS Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
EDF	European Development Fund
EEAS	European External Action Service
EIB	European Investment Bank
EIG	Economic Interest Grouping
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
EPADP	Economic Partnership Agreement Development Programme
ERERA	ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority
EU	European Union
FAIR	Regional Integration Support Fund (UEMOA)

FAO	UN Food and Agriculture Organisation
FPCN	Food Crises Prevention Network
FRDC	ECOWAS Regional Development Fund
FTA	Free Trade Area
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HIPC	Highly indebted poor countries
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INTERPOL	International Police organisation
IRED	Initiative Régionale pour l'Énergie Durable (Regional Initiative for Sustainable Energy)
ISRT	Inter-State Road Transport
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
IUU fishing	Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
LLDC	Least developed countries
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MRU	Mano River Union
NAIP-FSN	National Agricultural Investment Programmes on food security and nutrition
NAO	National authorising officer
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NIP	National Indicative Programme
NSA	Non-State Actors
OHADA	Organisation pour l'Harmonisation du Droit des Affaires en Afrique (Organisation for Harmonising Business Law in Africa)
PACITR	Programme d'Actions Communautaire des Infrastructures et du Transport (Community Action Plan for Road Infrastructure and Transport)
PALOP	Países Africanos de Língua Oficial Portuguesa (Portuguese-speaking African countries)
PAP	Priority action programme
PARI	Programme d'Appui Régional à l'Intégration (UEMOA regional integration support programme)
PAU	UEMOA Agricultural Policy
PCS	Prélèvement Communautaire de Solidarité (Community Solidarity Levy)
PICDCS	Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel
PIDA	Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa

PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PSRSA	Programme Sous-Régional de Sécurité Alimentaire (Subregional food security programme)
RAIP	Regional Agricultural Investment Programme
RAO	Regional authorising officer
REP	UEMOA Regional Economic Programme
RIP	Regional Indicative Programme
RSP	Regional Strategy Paper
SE4ALL	Sustainable energy for all
SIIEAU	Système Intégré d'Information sur l'Eau (Integrated Information System on Water)
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SRAP/CD	Subregional Action Programme to Combat Desertification
SRDO	Senegal River Development Organisation
SSATP	Sub-Saharan Africa Transport Programme
TCI	Taxe Conjoncturelle à l'Importation (UEMOA special import tax)
TDP	Taxe Dégressive de Protection (UEMOA degressive protection tax)
UEMOA	West African Economic and Monetary Union
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAT	Value Added Tax
WABN	West African Business Network
WADB	West African Development Bank
WAHO	West African Health Organisation
WAMI	West African Monetary Institute
WAMU	West African Monetary Union
WAMZ	West African Monetary Zone
WAPIS	West African police information system
WAPP	West Africa Power Pool
WTO	World Trade Organisation

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## **O. SUMMARY**

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Six years after the signing of the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) for the 10<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF), the region still faces key challenges that must be overcome in order to strengthen the integration process. Some of these are having an increasingly direct impact on cooperation with the European Union. The implementation of the 10th EDF RIP has suffered from major delays, but these have been addressed and remedied through an ambitious roadmap for the mid-term review.

Some of these challenges have increased at an alarming rate. Food and nutrition insecurity is endemic in the Sahel, endangering human life and the development of a significant number of vulnerable groups, especially women and children. While the long-running crisis in Côte d'Ivoire has apparently been resolved after more than ten years, Mali – previously considered an example of stability – has been rocked by an unprecedented institutional and security crisis, provoked not just by internal governance issues but also new, outside elements of destabilisation: the fallout of the crisis in Libya and the Al Qaeda-linked terrorist movements (also present in the Sahara area) which endanger the whole of the subregion. In addition to the new threats to security, peace and stability in the region linked particularly to maritime piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, Boko Haram continues to terrorise northern Nigeria (which, since the end of 2013, has been the richest country in sub-Saharan Africa) and the region as a whole.

From an economic point of view, the region has not suffered as much from the financial crisis of 2007-2008 as most other parts of the world. But despite recent performances, the West African economies are poorly integrated into the world economy and have poor economic links between themselves. The main economic challenges in the region include the need for better value-chain integration at global level, a more welcoming business climate, particularly the legal framework, diversification of exported products and, in particular, an increase of intra-regional trade. Climate change and the protection of biodiversity are also challenges that need to be addressed. At this time of economic and climate vulnerability, action at regional level is expected to provide the best guarantee for a stimulus package which should lead to fair, sustainable and inclusive growth. This should help to reduce poverty in the region, which still has some of the poorest countries in the world.

These challenges are interrelated and the proposed strategy to respond to them as part of the 11th EDF RIP is in line with Article 11 of the Cotonou Agreement, as revised in Ouagadougou on 22 June 2010, which emphasises the interdependence of development, peace and security. The crisis resulting from the Ebola virus is of an unprecedented scale and the continuing plight of migrants crossing the Mediterranean, at the time of finalising this programme, highlights the relevance of such a comprehensive approach and the need for coordinated action, with interventions at different levels in line with the principles of complementarity and subsidiarity.

The scale of current challenges and progress in strengthening regional integration in West Africa, supported by the strong resolve of Heads of State and Government in the region, have led the European Union to double the RIP budget under the 11th EDF, which now stands at EUR 1.15 billion for the period 2014-2020. Implementation of this substantial allocation will be improved through a new approach that has three main characteristics: a new institutional governance focused on effectiveness; greater and easier access to regional funds for National Authorising Officers (NAOs); and the financing of regional infrastructure investment through loan-grant blending.

The focal sectors of the 11th EDF RIP are governed by the need for continuity with the previous RIP, but have a stronger focus on three aspects in particular: peace, security and stability; resilience; and, lastly, consolidation of the common market, notably by building on the Economic Partnership Agreement and the Common External Tariff. The three focal sectors are: 1 – Peace, security and regional stability, 2 – Regional economic integration and aid for trade, and 3 – Resilience, food and nutrition security and natural resources.

## **I. BROAD OUTLINE OF EU SUPPORT TO THE REGION**

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### **1. THE POLICY AGENDA FOR THE REGION**

The regional integration process in West Africa is supported by ECOWAS and UEMOA, working alongside specialised technical agencies and sub-regional institutions. ECOWAS, UEMOA and their member states have made significant progress on improving regional integration, particularly with regard to policies and institutions.

ECOWAS is an intergovernmental organisation established on 28 May 1975. Its 15 member states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo) cover an approximate area of 5 million km<sup>2</sup> and have a combined population of around 320 million. Its objective is to promote cooperation and integration, with the aim of establishing a West African Economic and Monetary Union. Mauritania has observer status and participates in several ECOWAS projects and policies, including free movement between countries and the EPA with the EU.

The Treaty creating the UEMOA was signed on 10 January 1994. The Union covers an area of about 3.5 million km<sup>2</sup>, with a combined population of approximately 107 million inhabitants in eight countries (all are also members of ECOWAS): Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo. The UEMOA is an integrated economic area with a common currency, governed by a separate treaty, a common market and a customs union (Common External Tariff). The CFA franc, which pre-dates the creation of the regional organisation as all its member states already belonged to the franc zone, is managed by the BCEAO and guaranteed by the French Treasury. This common currency and regional monetary policy is an important asset for UEMOA and its Commission, allowing it to concentrate its initial efforts on promoting a common market.

In 2007 the Conference of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS drew up its vision for 2020, with the ambition of transforming ECOWAS from an 'ECOWAS of States' into an 'ECOWAS of people'. Its aim is to create a prosperous, peaceful and harmonious area without borders, based on good governance, where people can access vast resources and create value from them. This is to be achieved by generating opportunities for sustainable development and the preservation of the environment. The plan identifies three main areas for action: (i) creating a commercial, monetary and economic union in West Africa, (ii) promoting sustainable development and eradicating poverty, (iii) ensuring peace and regional security.

One of ECOWAS's major objectives is to promote peace and stability in the region. In carrying out its mandate, it has developed capacity in areas such as maintaining regional stability, by launching ECOMOG (a military intervention force given permanent status in 1999), prevention, through preventive diplomacy and mediation, and political and humanitarian crisis management (e.g. Mauritania and Niger in 2009, Guinea Conakry in 2010, Côte d'Ivoire in 2011, Guinea-Bissau and Mali in 2012-2014 and Burkina Faso in 2014). ECOWAS has adopted political and legal instruments at the highest level, including the Protocol Relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, Resolution, Peace-Keeping and Security (1999), the Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance (2000), the Conflict Prevention Framework (ECPF 2008), the ECOWAS strategy on security sector governance, the regional maritime security strategy, the counter-terrorism strategy (2013), the Humanitarian Policy, the Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and the Policy on Protection and Assistance to Victims of Human Trafficking in West Africa.

The ECOWAS agenda on security and governance is mainly based on three priorities: implementation of the conflict prevention framework; the operationalisation of the standby force

from 2015 (the West African pillar of the African Peace and Security Architecture); the consolidation of good governance and the rule of law; and tackling the various threats to regional stability (e.g. the fight against terrorism, maritime crimes, arms trafficking and drugs).

The UEMOA peace and security policy was approved in May 2011 by the Conference of Heads of State and Government with the objective of making the Union an area of stability, security and peace conducive to the development of economic activities. The priority areas include guaranteeing the free movement of persons and goods, notably through building the capacity of the security forces, and social cohesion, in particular through the development of border regions.

From an economic point of view, one of the main achievements in the region has been the UEMOA customs union, introduced in January 2000, allowing tariff dismantling on internal trade and the introduction of a common external tariff. In October 2013 ECOWAS adopted the ECOWAS-CET, which has been in effect since 1 January 2015. In July 2014 the region's Heads of State and Government approved the Economic Partnership Agreement signed with the EU on 30 June. Other challenges for economic integration include the establishment of ECOWAS's trade liberalisation scheme, an essential step towards the completion of a common market and a monetary union by 2020, and the harmonisation of macroeconomic policies through multilateral surveillance and harmonising indirect taxation.

Convergence of sectoral policies is also a major challenge. Achievements to date include formulating and implementing the ECOWAS agricultural policy (ECOWAP) in 2005; the political influence of the Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative in the Sahel and West Africa; policies on energy efficiency and renewable energy; and the regional programme on facilitating road transport and transit in West Africa. The UEMOA has instruments in various areas. In 2001, the UEMOA Commission adopted a strategy and a community action programme for infrastructure and road transport (PACITR), as well as a common agricultural policy (PAU) and, in 2013, UEMOA member states adopted an additional act establishing UEMOA's common policy on peace and security.

### **1.1. THE FUTURE FOR REGIONAL POLICY**

West Africa has strategic frameworks in place to strengthen both economic integration and its insertion into the world economy, and to take advantage of the EPA.

The Community Development Programme (CDP) has been set up to implement ECOWAS's 2020 vision. It aims to draw up a coherent programme of activities that will realise this vision. Adopted by the Conference of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government in July 2013 in Accra, Ghana, the CDP is scheduled for implementation in the period 2014-2018 and will be based on priority projects which have been identified in four priority areas: (i) integration of peoples, governance and human development; (ii) consolidation of economic integration; (iii) development of infrastructure and wealth creation; and (iv) cooperation and financing.

The UEMOA Commission has also adopted a 2011-2020 Strategic Plan containing five strategic priorities: 1) common market and prosperity; 2) performance of member states; 3) synergies and partnerships; 4) outreach and communication; 5) organisational performance. The objectives of the plan are to be implemented through the Regional Economic Programme (PER II, 2012-2016), amongst others. The aim of this Programme is to address the new challenges facing the Union, i.e.: access to energy, food security, water management, the development of deprived areas and the installation and use of efficient production equipment.

A collaborative platform (PER-PCD) is helping to align the Community Development Programme with the Regional Economic Programme and other regional programmes, in particular the

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The 12th session of the ECOWAS/UEMOA interinstitutional meeting, held in Ouagadougou from 24 to 30 June 2014, saw the signing of an agreement setting out the arrangements for cooperation between the Regional Economic Programme (UEMOA) and the Community Development Programme (ECOWAS). Lastly, mention should be made of the ECOWAS Sahel Strategy, adopted in July 2013. The action plan of this strategy, finalised in October 2014, includes actions over the period 2015-2019 in the sectors of connecting infrastructure, agriculture, resilience and food security, education and accompanying measures in the area of peace and security.

- **1.2 THE MEDIUM-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF REGIONAL POLICIES**

The challenges facing the region are enormous and tackling them forms part of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, with particular emphasis on the shared values of democracy, respect for human rights, the rule of law, good governance, and the right to development.

ECOWAS has a central political role to play in addressing current and future political, security, social and humanitarian challenges. ECOWAS's Sahel and maritime strategies provide reference frameworks that tie in with the priorities laid down by the EU in its strategies for the Sahel and the Gulf of Guinea. Regional cooperation achievements should be built upon, in particular by implementing ECOWAS conflict prevention measures, making the West African Standby Force operational, fighting terrorism in the Sahel and combating maritime crimes. These efforts need to be coordinated with Central Africa. Liaison with various ongoing initiatives (including the G5 and the Nouakchott Process) will also be sought. The EU is working with countries in the region to deal with these threats, in particular by supporting the development of an integrated security and development strategy which would mobilise the various instruments coherently, in close cooperation with countries in the region, ECOWAS, the African Union and the UN.

On the economic front, work needs to be done to support the creation of a common market, the implementation of the ECOWAS CET and the EPA together with freedom of movement and right of establishment in the ECOWAS area, while ensuring that that this freedom does not lead to a greater risk to regional security and stability. This should be accompanied by improvements in the competitiveness of productive sectors, the development of human resources and the development of regional transport and energy infrastructures. Growth and sustainable economic integration also require a strengthening of the legal framework and an impartial, competent and effective judiciary. These challenges will not be overcome without member states taking ownership and making a strong commitment to apply Community decisions and implement reforms linked to the governance of these sectors.

To address the rising number of people suffering from food and nutrition insecurity arising from the gap between production and consumption caused by demographic pressure and urbanisation, West Africa needs to step up its agricultural production, increase the integration of producers and producers' organisations in the regional and global markets, and improve its people's access to high-quality food. This must be done without jeopardising the survival of small producers or the sustainability of natural resources (which are already fragile, particularly in the Sahel region). Through the Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative in the Sahel and West Africa (AGIR), the EU aims to strengthen people's resilience to food crises, in a context where high price volatility, environmental degradation and climate variability have an impact on productive potential. Measures to conserve and increase biodiversity and reduce vulnerability to climatic and environmental risk must be supported to strengthen resilience in the region.

## **2. THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES PURSUED BY THE EU IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE REGION AND THE CHOICE OF PRIORITY AREAS**

The 11th EDF RIP's strategic priorities reflect the interdependence of development, peace and security, referred to in Article 11 of the Cotonou Agreement, as revised in Ouagadougou on 22 June 2010. Three focal sectors have been selected for 2014-2020, in line with the EU's Agenda for Change and West Africa's '2020 Vision'. These priorities are also included in the EU and West African strategies for the Sahel, the Gulf of Guinea, and in that of AGIR.

1- The first focal sector is peace, security and stability, including efforts to combat global threats affecting the region, which often have dramatic consequences and repercussions for people in the region and directly affect the EU. These threats are a concern shared by the EU and West Africa.

Crossborder crime and terrorism are growing and becoming increasingly problematic, expanding to affect neighbouring countries in Central Africa, for example Boko Haram in Chad and Cameroon. There is growing insecurity in the Sahel and Sahara region linked to terrorist groups such as AQIM, Boko Haram and traffickers of all types. Coastal countries also face growing crossborder insecurity due to a lack of checks in these areas and an increase in maritime piracy and other maritime crime. Uncontrolled and illegal fishing is another global threat to the region, with a direct impact on resilience (see Sector 3).

2- The second focal sector is regional economic integration, including trade-related assistance, support for the private sector and infrastructure development.

The economic development of the region is limited by poor economic diversification and productivity, coupled with relatively high production costs, an incomplete infrastructure network in poor condition and a lack of decent work. There is great, untapped potential for economic growth via regional integration in West Africa, with a potentially substantial impact on reducing poverty and inequality. The average cost of transport in the region is still one of the highest in the world, and is about four times higher than the average cost of transport in the EU. Regional infrastructure networks are essential to drive trade and investment and encourage peace and stability.

The RIP will support the consolidation of the common market, the implementation of the CET and the EPA between West Africa and the EU and the approximation of economic policies, with particular emphasis on trade facilitation, improving domestic-resource mobilisation, tax shifting and strengthening of the judicial system. It will also aim to improve the competitiveness of the productive system and human resources, and to develop the regional infrastructure network. For infrastructure, the RIP will focus on the use of loan/grant blending that can act as a lever by linking development financing institutions and the private sector.

3- The third focal sector will support the management of regional public goods and the resilience agenda, notably through AGIR.

Over the past decade, in 2005, 2010 and 2012, the Sahel experienced food and nutrition crises of varying severity, and many countries in the region were also affected by rising world food prices in 2008. In 2011 approximately 40 to 45 % of children under five in the Sahel suffered from stunted growth, a rate that has remained unchanged since 1990. Outside the Sahel region, in countries such as Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone, the prevalence of child malnutrition is also worrying. Food and nutrition insecurity in the Sahel must be understood in a broader regional context. West Africa is an area of interdependence and complementarity, in which the member states of ECOWAS, UEMOA and the CILSS must act together to eradicate food insecurity and nutritional vulnerability.

Better management of natural resources and conservation of biodiversity are also key factors that will increase resilience. West Africa is a region vulnerable to various challenges such as population pressure, the pillaging of natural resources and climate change. Biodiversity has decreased continuously over the last century as a result of rapid population growth in the region, agricultural expansion, the development of the road network which fragmented the territory, poaching, the illicit trade in wild species and hunting in all its forms. The RIP will help maintain and improve biodiversity, improve the governance of natural resources in protected areas and the management

of forests, fish and wildlife, and reduce the region’s vulnerability to climatic and environmental risks.

The gender dimension will be a crosscutting element of the RIP through its integration in all RIP sectors and activities and by maximising the use of gender disaggregated indicators and/or statistics.

**Considering the importance of information and communications technologies (ICTs) and their applications as proven drivers of inclusive and sustainable growth, of innovation, including modernisation of the public sector, and of entrepreneurship in developing countries, particular attention will be paid in the identification of specific measures in the RIP's three focal sectors (priority areas) to the establishment of ICTs adapted to the local context and to the full exploitation of their potential to facilitate effective solutions in all areas of work, including institutional support measures for regional organisations/TCF.**

## II. THE RIP BUDGET

The indicative allocation of the RIP for West Africa is EUR 1.15 billion. This allocation is provisionally broken down as follows:

Priority areas	indicative budget (€ million)
<b>Priority area 1: Peace, security and regional stability</b>	<b>250</b>
Specific objective 1.1: Strengthening regional mechanisms to promote and maintain peace and stability and post-crisis operations	50
Specific objective 1.2: Support for regional initiatives to address the main threats to peace, security and stability	200
<b>Priority area 2: Regional economic integration and support for trade</b>	<b>575</b>
Specific objective 2.1: Establishment of an integrated regional economic area	50
Specific objective 2.2: Supporting private sector competitiveness	125
Specific objective 2.3: Support for the transport sector	200
Specific objective 2.4: Support for the energy sector	200
<b>Priority area 3: Resilience, food and nutrition security and natural resources</b>	<b>300</b>
Specific objective 3.1: Resilience and food and nutrition security	200
Specific objective 3.2: Protection of the environment, biodiversity and climate change	100
<b>Non-focal sector: Institutional support for regional organisations/TCF</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1150</b>

## **1. PRIORITY AREA 1: PEACE, SECURITY AND REGIONAL STABILITY**

West Africa is facing recurrent situations of fragility and instability. Several countries have experienced military coups d'état or seizures of power through unconstitutional means in recent years. Others are still marked by past conflicts or facing situations of fragility due to weak democracy, a lack of rule of law, and poor economic and political governance which have led to the marginalisation of certain groups and youth unemployment.

The region has also faced many security threats in recent years, including arms trafficking, money laundering, human trafficking, drug trafficking, piracy, illicit maritime activities, and terrorism. Even more worryingly, the people and organisations involved in these activities have used them for political purposes and to threaten security and stability in the region by committing terrorist acts.

ECOWAS is strongly committed to combating these challenges through legal and political measures at the highest level. The region will continue to implement the relevant components of the ECOWAS conflict prevention framework and related documents, including the protocol on conflict prevention, management and resolution, peacekeeping and security; the additional protocol on good governance; the additional act establishing UEMOA common policy in the area of peace and security; a common approach on migration; the regional action plan to combat drug trafficking, organised crime and drug abuse (the 'Praia action plan'); the maritime anti-terrorism strategy; the ECOWAS convention on small arms and light weapons, their ammunition and other related materials; the ECOWAS humanitarian policy and action plan; the disaster-risk reduction policy; and the policy on protection and assistance to victims of human trafficking. The region will also tackle new threats to peace and security by implementing an ECOWAS integrated maritime security strategy (EIMS, adopted in March 2014) and the ECOWAS strategy for the Sahel, while paying special attention to recovery, reconstruction and post-conflict reconciliation in some member states.

The EU is already strongly engaged in these issues through its strategy for security and development in the Sahel, adopted in 2011 and extended in 2014, and the Gulf of Guinea strategy, adopted in 2014. The RIP will help to ensure coordination and complementarity between actions taken regionally and those of the EU.

**EUR 250 million will be provisionally reserved for this area.**

**The overall objective for support in priority area 1 is to foster peace and stability and to contribute to the prevention and management of conflicts and security threats in West Africa.**

### **1.1 Specific objective 1: Strengthening mechanisms to promote and maintain peace and stability and post-crisis operations**

The first objective is to support ECOWAS in fulfilling its mandate to promote and maintain peace and stability. This will be done primarily by implementing the protocol on conflict prevention, management and resolution, peacekeeping and security, the additional protocol on democracy and good governance and some aspects of the conflict prevention framework. It will also be done through post-crisis responses and operations.

**The duly mandated regional organisation tasked with meeting this objective is ECOWAS. The West African States and other regional organisations and the development agencies of EU Member States may, in agreement with the DMROs, be authorised to act as project supervisor of certain actions at regional and national levels.**

The planned support will be provided through the following components:



### **Component 1 – Building capacity and developing the expertise of ECOWAS's Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security**

- Development of the necessary sectoral expertise in implementing its mandate and coordinating the activities of the national institutions concerned
- Development of effective strategic and legal frameworks for cooperation and coordination between countries in the region and of regional responses to various instability factors
- Support for national institutions in compliance with OECD DAC codes.

### **Component 2 – Support for ECOWAS in the exercise of its mandate in the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture**

- Strengthening collaboration and coordination with the African Union and countries in the region to deal with collective security challenges and to make the African Peace and Security Architecture operational, including the areas covered by the Akosombo declaration and the EU-Africa Summit
- Establishment of the conditions necessary to make the West African Standby Force fully operational
- Financing and mobilising regional training centres in compliance with OECD DAC codes.

These activities will be developed in close coordination with and as a complement to those financed by the EU under the Peace Facility in Africa, which acts to strengthen the link between the African Union and its subregions.

### **Component 3 – Building ECOWAS's capacity in the areas of prevention and mediation**

- Improving the regional early warning mechanism and expanding its network of national correspondents
- Strengthening ECOWAS's preventive diplomacy and mediation processes, with an emphasis also on promoting the participation of women and the development of expertise on gender issues in the field of conflict prevention and management, and education in peace.

### **Component 4 – Developing ECOWAS's efforts to strengthen stability, democracy and the rule of law**

- Support for ECOWAS electoral observation missions
- Support for ECOWAS's efforts on behalf of its member states in preparing for and monitoring elections
- Promotion of the rule of law, an independent, competent and efficient judiciary, respect for human rights (including support for a regional observatory on human rights), including the gender dimension and cultural diversity.

### **Component 5 – Support for interventions in crisis, post-crisis and conflict situations**

- Support for the actions of ECOWAS with a view to the consolidation of peace, democratic institutions and strengthening the rule of law

- Support for actions to respond to crises and post-crisis situations, including health emergencies (for example Ebola).

### **The main expected results are:**

- the Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security in the ECOWAS Commission has greater capacity to develop approaches to conflict prevention and management, and post-conflict assistance;
- ECOWAS has effectively implemented peacekeeping, stabilisation and crisis management operations in the region, within a framework agreed with the African Union and UN;
- political and security crises are prevented, reduced or avoided through ECOWAS interventions.

The main indicators for measuring these results can be found in the logical framework at annex.

### **1.2 Specific objective 2: Support regional initiatives to address the main threats to peace, security and stability**

The second objective is to build the necessary West African capacity for tackling organised crime and the specific security threats which continue to destabilise the region, including: acts of terrorism; money laundering; corruption; trafficking in drugs, human beings, firearms and cultural goods; trafficking of migrants, irregular migration; and illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing or other maritime crimes. Projects and programmes will be carried out as part of strategies approved by ECOWAS and under the additional act establishing a common policy for UEMOA in the area of peace and security and in full complementarity with EU strategies, in particular the Sahel strategy and the strategy for the Gulf of Guinea. Consistency will also be sought with other regional initiatives (e.g. those of the Sahel G5) and with the 11th EDF RIP for Central Africa. Contributions from several NIPs and RIPs may be mobilised to address issues common to other regions, such as the Sahel border areas, the Gulf of Guinea and the Lake Chad basin.

The planned activities must also take account of the actions of other instruments and other development partners, in particular EU Member States and the World Bank.

**The duly mandated regional organisations tasked with meeting this objective are ECOWAS and UEMOA. The governments of West African States and other regional and international organisations, together with the development agencies of EU Member States, may be authorised to supervise some actions at national and regional levels.**

The planned support will be provided through the following components:

#### **Component 1 – Strengthening coordination and cooperation in security**

- Harmonisation of the relevant legislative and regulatory frameworks to effectively respond to security threats
- The West African police information system (WAPIS) is up and running in the 15 ECOWAS member states; interconnecting databases
- Effective implementation of the ECOWAS protocol on freedom of movement and the common approach on migration; ensuring the security of travel documents
- Promotion of the rights of migrants and information campaigns about irregular migration, plus schemes to assist return and reintegration;
- Capacity-building for integrated border management
- Building capacity to combat organised crime and terrorism through training and professionalisation of the internal and crossborder security forces (including joint patrols, a

code of conduct and a vetting system, in compliance with OECD DAC codes), and of the judicial authorities, especially with regard to respecting and protecting human rights in carrying out security measures.

### **Component 2 – Implementing the ECOWAS strategy for the Sahel**

- Building the capacities of national administrations involved in the management and control of borders (e.g. the police, the gendarmerie, the national guard, customs services);
- Support for the redeployment of State services (administration, security, basic services, etc.)
- Promotion of crossborder initiatives run by local authorities (under the CCT UEMOA and ECOWAS crossborder initiatives)
- Strengthening national and regional frameworks for international protection Development of capacity for hosting, determining status and implementing sustainable solutions

This component will be implemented in line with the Sahel strategy of the EU and its action plan.

### **Component 3 – Implementing the ECOWAS strategy on maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea**

- Support for the implementation of the action plan of the ECOWAS integrated maritime strategy and the Yaoundé Agreement on maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea, in line with the 2050 African Integrated Maritime Security Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy); this entails establishing links between the inter-regional coordination centre, based in Yaoundé (CIC), and the regional centre for maritime security in West Africa (CRESMAO), whose location is yet to be decided
- Support for the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
- Building capacity in national administrations (customs, police, justice, port authorities, ministries of fisheries, etc.) to implement the Code of Conduct agreed at the Yaoundé Summit of June 2013
- Zones E, F and G made operational.

This component will be implemented in line with the EU strategy on maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea and its action plan.

### **Component 4 – The fourth component will cover the implementation of programmes to deal with other specific threats facing the region**

- Support for the fight against terrorism, religious radicalisation, maritime crime, drug trafficking, corruption and money laundering, and the proliferation of small arms
- Support for the fight against organised crime, including human trafficking and in particular the trafficking of women.

### **The major policy measures to be taken by ECOWAS, UEMOA and their member states to achieve these specific objectives are:**

- ensuring respect for and the protection of human rights in security measures;
- ensuring effective cooperation between ECOWAS member states in the security, police, judicial and customs sectors, etc., and improving the exchange of information that supports this.

### **The main expected results are:**

- security is improved in the Sahel region, the Gulf of Guinea and the Lake Chad basin through the elimination of the main threats;
- capacity in national administrations is increased, enabling the effective implementation of regional strategies on security, especially in border areas (both land and sea borders);
- increasing the number of convictions for such offences;
- security cooperation is improved through exchanges of information, allowing states to combat the various threats more effectively;
- the ECOWAS member states are able to fulfil their international obligations as flag states, coastal states and port states. Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing declines, enabling coastal communities and States in the region to derive the full benefit of their fishery resources.

The main indicators for measuring these results can be found in the logical framework at annex.

## **2. PRIORITY AREA 2: REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND SUPPORT FOR TRADE**

Better economic integration should enable West African countries to take advantage of the opportunities of the regional common market and globalisation and to enjoy economic gains in terms of inclusive growth, diversification of productive activities, and decent jobs.

Significant progress has been made in recent years in constructing a common market. Key milestones include the adoption of an ECOWAS common external tariff at the extraordinary summit of the Heads of State of the region on 25 October 2013 in Dakar, which has been in effect since 1 January 2015, and the final approval of the EPA by ECOWAS Heads of State and Government on 10 July 2014. The region and its member states are also engaged in the integration process of the African Union, including the Continental Free Trade Area. Another major achievement is that of the free movement of persons, with the elimination of visa requirements between member states and the establishment of an ECOWAS passport and travel permit.

Despite these achievements, not enough has been done to implement regional regulations on the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons into national law. This is partly due to a lack of communication about and dissemination of these regional regulations to businesses, public administrations and citizens in the region.

Intra-community trade, which is largely informal and is based on a wide range of products with low added value (in particular agri-industrial products), remains weak. Trade in services is increasing, while trade in industrial products is very low. The competitiveness of West Africa's economies and their integration into the world market is a crucial issue. The business environment in which productive sectors operate is unattractive<sup>1</sup>. To increase the region's participation in global value chains, significant efforts will need to be made to increase industrial competitiveness (e.g. by improving quality and sanitary standards, upgrading and improving access to finance) and the development of human resources. Poor transport and energy infrastructure, including a lack of regional interconnectivity and management deficiencies<sup>2</sup>, poses another major challenge.

The RIP will provide support for the completion of the common market and the harmonisation of economic policies, the harmonisation and strengthening of the legal framework, improvement of the competitiveness of the productive system and development of the regional infrastructure network. It forms part of the Community Development Programme and the Regional Economic Programme and will contribute to the implementation of the EPA Programme for Development (PAPED). Over the next five years (2015-19), the EU has pledged to provide at least EUR 6.5 billion for PAPED-related activities from all of its financing instruments, including through the RIP, and those of its Member States and the European Investment Bank<sup>3</sup>.

The new approach taken by the RIP is designed to support the implementation of actions within ECOWAS member states, thereby respecting the principle of subsidiarity. Support will also be given to the regional organisations (ECOWAS and UEMOA) so that they can fully exercise their mandate and carry out their role of providing impetus, harmonisation and coordination for the process of economic integration.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the 2014 Doing Business report, the West African countries are ranked between 67 and 180 out of 189 countries. The 2013-14 Global Competitiveness Report ranks the West African economies between 113 and 147 out of 148 countries.

<sup>2</sup> According to the Logistics Performance Index, the West African countries are ranked between 67 and 150 out of the 155 countries surveyed.

<sup>3</sup> Council Conclusions of 17 March 2014.

**EUR 575 million will be provisionally reserved for this area.**

**The general objective of Sector 2 is to contribute to economic development and to reduce poverty by strengthening regional economic integration.**

The RIP will provide support for the completion of the common market and the approximation of economic policies, strengthen the competitiveness of the productive system and develop the regional infrastructure network.

### **2.1. Specific objective 1: Establishment of an integrated regional economic area**

The first specific objective requires different types of actions to be implemented at the appropriate levels (i.e. regional and national) in accordance with the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity.

Regional organisations have an important role to play in the coordination, harmonisation, convergence and monitoring of regional policies. It will be essential to build the capacity and improve the governance and steering of these regional organisations in line with international standards.

But integration will not happen unless regional decisions are implemented at national level. The application of the rules on the free movement of goods, services, capital and the mobility of workers should be improved at national level to stimulate investment, and thereby support economic growth and poverty reduction. The expected results will focus on measurable progress in the member states' implementation of regional policies and decisions. Consistency will be sought with continent-wide African Union policies.

The activities planned must take into account the actions being taken through other instruments and by other development partners to support economic integration, in particular actions by the EU Member States, the World Bank (notably through the Facility for trade facilitation), the African Development Bank (regional integration strategy for West Africa 2011-2015), etc.

**The duly mandated regional organisations tasked with meeting this objective are ECOWAS and UEMOA. The West African States and other regional and international organisations and the development agencies of EU Member States may be authorised to act as project supervisor of certain actions at regional and national levels.**

The planned support will be provided through the following components:

#### **Component 1 – Expanding the common market and 'Aid for trade'**

- Support for the implementation of the ECOWAS trade liberalisation system, the common external tariff and free movement
- Support for the implementation of trade facilitation reforms (in line with, but not limited to, the trade facilitation agreement concluded in Bali in December 2013), including: harmonisation of codes and standards, revision and simplification of customs procedures (Community Customs Code, Code of Customs Procedures), improvement of customs interconnection, development of 'one-stop-shops', etc.
- Support for the harmonisation and liberalisation of the market for services, especially those related to logistics chains, access to financial services and capital
- Support for the harmonisation and implementation of trade policies.

## **Component 2 – Supporting implementation of the EPA**

- Support for the institutional framework for implementation of the EPA
- Support for implementation of EPA commitments
- Support for a tax shift as part of EPA implementation and regional trade-liberalisation policies (capacity-building in tax administrations, control and expansion of the tax base, etc.)
- Support for negotiations on expansion of the EPA in line with the rendezvous clause (services, investment, intellectual property, public procurement, sustainable development, etc.).

## **Component 3 – Free movement and the right of establishment of persons, and the mobility of workers**

- Support for the free movement and the right of establishment of people (e.g. institutionalisation of the use of biometric travel documents for intra-regional movements, development of a common visa, protection of citizens' rights)
- Support for mobility of workers and their families (e.g. progress on labour migration programmes, the facilitation of remittances from migrant workers, development of professional services, including centres of excellence, equivalence of qualifications, etc.).

## **Component 4 – Convergence and monitoring of regional integration**

- Support for the mechanism for monitoring progress in regional integration and the application of regional regulations, including the observatories set up in each member state
- Promotion of convergence between ECOWAS and UEMOA economic integration policies and programmes, and with African Union policies
- Strengthening and harmonising the tools for multilateral monitoring of national economies and statistics
- monitoring reform mechanisms; supporting information and awareness-raising campaigns on regional integration for national administrations, the private sector, social partners and citizens
- Support for public finances at regional level (AFRITAC regional centres, network of courts of auditors and parliamentary committees, etc.).

### **The major policy measures to be taken by ECOWAS, UEMOA and their member states to achieve this specific objective is:**

- implementation of the common external tariff by member states;
- application by member states of ECOWAS Community provisions on trade facilitation;
- ratification and implementation of the EPA between West Africa and the EU;
- implementation of reforms by member states as part of the tax shift in preparation of trade liberalisation between the EU and West Africa;
- implementation of the roadmap towards greater convergence and institutional complementarity between ECOWAS and UEMOA.

### **The main expected results are:**

- the ECOWAS common market is consolidated;



- the services in charge of trade facilitation and the transit of goods are more efficient and respond to demand;
- the EPA is implemented and its institutional framework is up and running;
- the harmonisation of public finance and statistics is improved and, in particular, the implementation of tax-shift-related reforms raises domestic taxes;
- the roadmap for convergence between ECOWAS and UEMOA is applied and greater convergence and complementarity are ensured;
- the mechanism for monitoring the process of regional integration is improved.

The main indicators for measuring these results can be found in the logical framework at annex.

## **2.2 Specific objective 2: Supporting private-sector competitiveness**

The private sector in West Africa faces major difficulties, mainly because of the unfavourable business environment. Regionally, this means that rules on competition, investment, intellectual property, etc. are not properly harmonised or applied, although OHADA (Organisation for the harmonisation of company law in Africa) has made some progress in drafting and implementing company law. Another challenge is to integrate economies into international value chains, particularly agri-industrial chains, by making business more competitive.

Under the 10th EDF private-sector development was singled out by 10 of the 16 West African countries (ECOWAS plus Mauritania), with a total commitment of almost EUR 110 million under the NIPs and a regional allocation of EUR 20 million. This support was focused on strengthening public institutions and professional organisations, improving the business environment (e.g. ECOWAS's investment policy) and the quality of infrastructure, and support to SMEs.

In line with the main guidelines of the EU's 'Agenda for Change' and its communication on 'Strengthening the role of the private sector in achieving inclusive and sustainable growth in developing countries', measures under the 11th EDF RIP will support in particular the EPADP, the private-sector support strategy currently before the ECOWAS statutory bodies (*Regional Strategic Framework and Policy for Private Sector Development and Enterprise Promotion – RS-PSD*), and the industrial development strategy being drawn up to implement industrial policy.

Efforts under the RIP should focus on areas where they can provide real added value, notably: harmonisation of the business environment, regional infrastructure related to quality enhancement and support for the development of regional sectors and centres of growth so as to improve intraregional trade and the place of West African economies in global value chains. Emphasis will be placed on support for SMEs.

RIP-funded activities will complement programmes identified under the new strategy to support the private sector in the ACP States, avoiding overlaps and creating synergies. Here the issue of access to financing for business, a major impediment to private-sector development, will be taken into account at intra-ACP level through loan/grant blending operations.

**The duly mandated regional organisations tasked with meeting this objective are ECOWAS and UEMOA. The West African States and other regional and international organisations and the development agencies of EU Member States may be authorised to act as project supervisor of certain actions at regional and national levels.**

The planned support will be provided through the following components:

### **Component 1 – Improving the business climate**

- Development, harmonisation and application of rules on competition, intellectual property, investment (and UEMOA's public procurement code)
- Support for reform of the financial sector (to build the financial market and improve access to financial services); support for the integration and interconnectivity of financial markets (regional stock market, regional payment system, etc.)
- Support for judicial reforms.

### **Component 2 – Support and streamlining of infrastructure/good institutions at regional level**

- Support for the setting-up of regional reference laboratories
- Support for the harmonisation and the application of standards (SPS) in export-oriented priority sectors
- Promotion of quality and creation of an ECOWAS quality label.

### **Component 3 – Strengthening support services for SMEs and developing networks/clusters for regional growth**

- Strengthening regional industrial policy and priority value chains with a regional dimension (link with EPADP), in particular in agri-industry (link with focal sector 3 of the RIP)
- Organising and professionalising logistics chain services (i.e. customs declaring agencies, transporters, etc.)
- Support for production and import/export infrastructure/strategies and information systems (market access) for SMEs (procedures, trade information, customs, crossborder transport)
- Capacity-building and modernisation of enterprises, including promotion of non-financial support services for regional/exporting SMEs, and the setting-up of business development centres, etc.

### **Component 4 – Supporting the public-private dialogue and business networking**

- Building the capacity of regional intermediary organisations (e.g. regional chambers of commerce, professional associations for business development, employer organisations, trade unions, etc.) and setting up intelligence networks for the private sector
- Developing business partnerships, support for business and investment forums of interest to West African companies (e.g. the EU-West Africa Business Forum, the Africa Business Forum and the EU-Africa Business Forum).

### **The major policy measures to be taken by ECOWAS, UEMOA and their member states to achieve these specific objectives are:**

- implementation by ECOWAS and its member states of the priorities set out in the EPADP;
- adoption and implementation of the Regional Strategic Framework and Policy for Private Sector Development and Enterprise Promotion – RS-PSD;
- adoption and implementation of ECOWAS's investment policy and Community Investment Code.

**The main expected results are:**

- an improved business environment;
- SMEs in priority sectors are more competitive, comply with international labour standards and have better access to regional and international markets;
- more inclusive and equitable value chains, including those of women, especially in the agri-industry;
- more private investment (both domestic and international);
- greater intra-regional investment and capital flows;
- creation of decent jobs (including employment for women and young people).

The main indicators for measuring these results can be found in the logical framework at annex.

**2.3. Specific objective 3: Support for the transport sector**

With the goal of reducing poverty, 10 of the 15 ECOWAS countries chose transport as a focal sector for their national 10th EDF allocations. Taking into account regional funding, a total of more than EUR 1.170 million was committed to the transport sector in West Africa under the 10th EDF, and more than 2 700 km of roads were built or renovated.

In view of the EU's development policy (the 'Agenda for Change'), the focal sectors concerned with economic growth under 11th EDF national indicative programmes are focused on agriculture/food security or energy. On the basis of this strategic repositioning, it was decided that support for the transport sector should focus on continental and regional corridors with high economic potential. Interventions will supplement the relevant national indicative programmes to remove bottlenecks (where sections of roads are missing or in poor condition), while taking into account the principle of multimodality.

The corridors targeted are those provided for in regional (ECOWAS and UEMOA) and continental (Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa - PIDA) strategies. The aim is to make the use of mixed loans/grants (blending) systematic for financing investments and to take into consideration all modes of transport, including multimodal transport. Particular attention will also be paid to the preparation of these investments (preparatory studies).

In follow-up to criticisms made by the European Court of Auditors in its 2012 report on roads in sub-Saharan Africa, to the ECOWAS Supplementary Act relating to Axle Load Control Standards and to UEMOA Regulation 14, the RIP will aim to improve sectoral governance and increase long-term investment. To do this, the campaign against excessive axle loads must be stepped up and spending on the maintenance of selected routes increased. However, measures to improve sectoral governance must also include the boosting of business and trade along the corridors and routes in question and improved access to them.

The main aim of measures in this sector will be to boost trade, mobility, business and regional economic growth through a reduction in transport costs along the main regional transport corridors. Actions in this area will take account of environmental impact studies in order to avoid building roads in protected areas or areas with special environmental importance, which could lead to the uncontrolled and illegal exploitation of natural resources.

The preferred approach for achieving this objective is indirect management with financial partners and mixed funding (blending) facilities. Traditional indirect management involving national

authorising officers, combined with co-financing (or parallel financing) with other financial partners (including the private sector) may also be considered. Traditional indirect management with national or regional authorising officers will be the preferred approach for governance initiatives.

The planned support may be provided through the following components:

**Component 1 – Investment (including technical studies) with a view to finalising the main regional corridors targeted**

- Contribution to the financing of investments, especially through blending facilities with one or more partners, taking into account the principle of multimodality.

The principal regional transport corridors targeted in accordance with the PIDA are:

1. The West Africa coastal corridor (connecting Nouakchott and Lagos, including maritime connections with the Cape Verde islands).
2. The West Africa trans-Sahel corridor (connecting Dakar, Bamako, Ouagadougou and Niamey).
3. The main North-South corridors (e.g. Abidjan-Ouagadougou-Bamako included in the PIDA Priority Action Programme (PAP), Tema-Ouagadougou-Bamako-Niamey and Lomé-Ouagadougou-Bamako).

**Component 2 – Support for regional organisations and their member states in improving the sustainability of the main regional corridors and the flow of trade**

- Support for the setting-up of supervisory bodies (e.g. observatories, joint customs posts, traffic and maintenance management and multimodal transport strategies)
- Support for the drafting and/or implementation of regional regulations (e.g. regulations to reduce red tape or prevent the overloading of vehicles)
- Building regional capacity to prepare projects
- Strengthening governance at national level (e.g. enforcing limits on the weight of vehicles using roads, financing and implementing maintenance work, opening up markets to competition, etc.), including countries which do not have a specific financial allocation for transport
- Study facility.

**The major policy measures to be taken by ECOWAS, UEMOA and their member states to achieve this specific objective are:**

- prevention of overloading by the West African States: implementation of the roadmap of March 2010 on the implementing provisions for Regulation 14/2005/CM/UEMOA on axle loads, signed by the UEMOA member states and Ghana; implementation of Supplementary Act ACT/SP/17/02/12 on a regulation on the reduction of axle loads in West Africa, adopted by the Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS on 16-17 February 2012;
- the financing and implementation of road maintenance by member states;
- facilitation of regional transport (reducing red tape, joint border controls, etc.) and extending measures to tackle abnormal practices on all regional corridors.

**The main expected results are:**

- better interconnection of the existing transport infrastructure;
- improved accessibility and sustainability of the primary transport system;
- improved interregional transport management leading to greater regional integration (trade, mobility, etc.);
- lower costs and shorter journeys on the main regional transport corridors, including port transit;
- greater regional capacity for project preparation and an increased number of bankable projects.

The main indicators for measuring these results can be found in the logical framework at annex.

**2.4. Specific objective 4: Support for the energy sector**

West Africa's energy system faces the interconnected challenges of providing access to energy (only 20 % of households have access to electricity), ensuring energy security and tackling environmental degradation (in particular caused by deforestation and climate change). In recent years the region has experienced an energy crisis, which has hampered economic and social development, hitting people with low incomes particularly hard. There are a number of reasons for this: political crises, growing electricity demand, higher oil prices, increased electricity production costs, higher consumer prices, under-investment and foot-dragging in introducing sector reforms at national level.

The region has set specific targets for access to energy, the proportion of energy to be produced from renewable sources and energy efficiency. ECOWAS's energy efficiency policies, combined with policies on access to energy services and renewable energy, such as UEMOA's regional initiative for sustainable energy (IRED), constitute a comprehensive strategic framework to ensure access to sustainable energy for all by 2030.

The energy mix will have changed significantly in most countries by 2030. This will be thanks to opportunities for developing and using gas and hydroelectric energy, and also to opportunities for using other renewable and sustainable energy sources. Support for generating capacity and the development of electricity interconnections within the West African Power Pool will help create a regional energy market that will reduce energy bills and promote energy independence.

Actions under the RIP will support the creation of a functioning electricity market and establishment of a shock absorption mechanism, and will help countries to achieve the objectives of access to sustainable energy for all (SE4ALL) and energy efficiency. The RIP could contribute to actions and projects carried out at national level but having a regional character, such as: ensuring the complementarity, compatibility and environmental sustainability of the energy choices of member states of the region, ensuring a regulated and fair distribution of energy resources for all, reducing disparities between countries and regions, and ensuring the supply of more balanced energy services in the long term.

Promoting access to sustainable energy for local people, ensuring environmental sustainability and encouraging good governance within the sector will be crosscutting priorities. These objectives will be pursued through actions linked to: regional regulations and regional coordination; the preparation and follow-up of projects; the involvement of and investment by the private sector; the dissemination of knowledge and capacity-building; and strengthening of the energy information system.

The preferred approach for achieving this objective is indirect management with financial partners and mixed funding (blending) facilities. Private-sector capital combining loans and grants will also

be considered. The regional organisations (WAPP, ERERA and ECREEE) will be partners in capacity-building, coordination and planning. Traditional indirect management with national or regional authorising officers will be the preferred approach for governance initiatives.

The planned support will be provided through the following components:

**Component 1 – Support for the development of production, transmission and distribution capacity and for promoting energy efficiency**

- Support for the development of infrastructure that will favour regional integration, with priority given to PIDA, WAPP and ECREEE projects
- Support for the creation of infrastructure to foster the development of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency in order to meet ECOWAS and UEMOA objectives
- Promotion of private-sector investment, including the generation and marketing of electricity, in order to increase access to sustainable energy in the region and reduce disparities in access.

**Component 2 – Support for governance and regulation of the sector, market integration and capacity-building**

- Improving regulation at regional level and support for the implementation, harmonisation and monitoring of policies at national level
- Support for sector reforms, particularly of electricity companies and energy providers at all levels (economic, commercial, financial and technical)
- Creation and/or harmonisation of technical standards, including standards for construction, transport and manufacturing
- Support for regional transfers of technology, knowledge and expertise; facilitating technology exchanges between the EU and West Africa, including twinning projects and knowledge transfers
- Study facility.

**Component 3 – Mobilising, supporting and incentivising the private sector with a view to creating a dynamic regional market and attracting investment**

- Support for creating an environment that will create a dynamic regional market attracting private investment and for the replication of innovative and appropriate investment models
- Support for the creation of a functional energy market that will meet future needs and ensure energy security and social and economic development
- Improving technical and commercial capacity through vocational training and the promotion of appropriate technologies
- Support for the creation of clusters of excellence and incubation centres for the private sector operating in the field of sustainable energy.

**The major policy measures to be taken by ECOWAS, UEMOA and their member states to achieve this specific objective are:**

– commitments to achieve SE4ALL objectives and to promote investment in rural electrification;

- implementation of regional strategies to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- implementation of reforms in energy sectors at national level, while retaining the objective of better access;
- development of the regional electricity market and implementation of the relevant domestic sectoral reforms.

**The main expected results are:**

- better access to energy services for the public and business and a reduction in national disparities;
- a greater proportion of the energy mix produced from renewable sources across the region in order to achieve ECOWAS and UEMOA objectives;
- increased energy efficiency, achieved through investment and the introduction of regional standards;
- improvements in the governance of the sector, especially energy companies, including electricity companies;
- operational regional electricity market.

The main indicators for measuring these results can be found in the logical framework at annex.

**3. PRIORITY AREA 3: RESILIENCE, FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Millions of vulnerable people in West Africa depend on the production, sale and consumption of products of agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry, and natural resources. They regularly face environmental shocks and degradation, which jeopardise their livelihoods and their food and nutritional security.

The number of people experiencing food and nutrition insecurity in West Africa has risen sharply as a result of the emerging gap between (albeit higher) food production and consumption (with a deteriorating quality of food) caused by demographic pressure and urbanisation. Around 80 % of the food produced in the region comes from small-scale producers, who account for the majority in the region. The approach to increasing production in West Africa has been based on extensive models requiring additional space. West Africa therefore needs to intensify production, improve the market access of producers and producer organisations and increase people's access to good quality food, without jeopardising the survival of small producers or the sustainability of natural resources.

Biodiversity has fallen continuously over the last century as a result of the rapid population increase and agricultural expansion, development of the road network leading to fragmentation of the territory, unsustainable exploitation of wood, particularly for energy, and all forms of hunting. Climate change and climate variability have also taken their toll on the environment. For example, the level of forest cover in West Africa, already in decline, fell again by around 20 % between 2000 and 2010; a growing number of species are under threat and desertification is progressing, worsening soil erosion and decreasing water supplies. Despite these serious constraints, there remain areas rich in natural resources. These resources should be protected and developed at regional level on the basis of the principles of sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity.

Since the early 2000s the West African States and their intergovernmental organisations have made efforts to formulate and implement regional policies and strategies. Several strategic policy frameworks for food and nutrition security are in place (ECOWAP, PAU, etc.) and the West African States have joined the AGIR alliance which was launched in 2012 in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), the four pillars of which are: (i) restore, strengthen and secure livelihoods and improve social protection for the most vulnerable groups; (ii) improve health and nutrition; (iii) sustainably increase food production and improve access to it for the most vulnerable; (iv) strengthen governance for food and nutrition security.

With regard to environmental issues, all ECOWAS and UEMOA member states have ratified the main multilateral agreements on the conservation of natural resources and the protection of the environment from pollution and other damage, including the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. The regional policy and strategic framework for environmental management has been structured around: (i) the strategic programme to reduce vulnerability and adapt to climate change in West Africa, (ii) the regional programme to combat desertification and adapt to climate change, and (iii) the convergence plan for managing forests, wildlife and ecosystems.

**EUR 300 million will be provisionally reserved for this area.**

**The main objective of Sector 3 is to support vulnerable populations' resilience by improving their livelihoods and their means of production. It places particular emphasis on gender issues, the sustainable management of natural resources and the preservation and promotion of biodiversity, and the reduction of vulnerability to climatic and environmental risks.**



### **3.1. Specific objective 1: Resilience and food and nutrition security**

Between 2004 and 2012 the region experienced four major food and nutrition crises (2005, 2008, 2010 and 2012) which severely damaged the livelihoods of many households, both in rural and urban areas. This situation has been compounded by fluctuations and steep rises in food prices, which have limited the ability of governments and businesses to anticipate and manage the crises. The number of people suffering from food insecurity is increasing rapidly, and chronic and acute malnutrition are prevalent.

Since the early 2000s the West African States and intergovernmental organisations have put effort into developing a regional food and nutrition security programme. This has involved the drafting of national agricultural investment programmes on food and nutrition security (NAIP-FSN) and a regional agricultural investment programme (RAIP). The overall thrust of the regional agenda does not, however, sufficiently address the challenges of resilience. The AGIR alliance, launched in 2012 in Ouagadougou, is therefore aimed at combining the efforts of the countries, regional organisations and partners concerned so that emergency and longer-term interventions are better coordinated.

The RIP's objective of 'resilience and food and nutrition security' will help the region to formulate policies in accordance with the priorities of AGIR and ECOWAS's Sahel Strategy priorities, and their application in individual countries. Support under the 11th EDF RIP will enable the key institutions (ECOWAS-RAAF, UEMOA and the CILSS) to assume responsibility for leadership, coordination, technical assistance and the mobilisation of resources for the member states. Promoting access for the most vulnerable, including women, inclusiveness, the protection of small producers, diversification and sustainability, will always be important considerations. Activities in this priority area will also make a contribution to the implementation of the EPA Development Programme (EPADP).

Actions will take account of progress in the food-reserve project (10th EDF RIP) and designed in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity: interventions at national level (14 of the 16 countries have a 'resilience' focal sector) will be coordinated with those at regional level.

**The duly mandated regional organisations tasked with meeting this objective are ECOWAS and UEMOA. The West African States and regional and international organisations, together with the development agencies of EU Member States, may be authorised to act as project supervisor of certain actions at regional and national levels.**

The planned support will be provided through the following components:

#### **Component 1 – Food supplies: supporting sustainable, high-quality agri-food production**

- Promotion of sustainable fisheries and fish farming through support for the formulation and implementation of a regional policy (covering production, marketing and processing)
- Support for pastoralists and transhumance, in particular support for knowledge and the setting-up of a platform to monitor and speak on behalf of pastoralists; development of a livestock and meat value chain; support for crossborder epidemiological monitoring and cooperation on animal diseases that are dangerous and/or have an impact on public health
- Support for disseminating and implementing at regional level best practices for sustainable agricultural intensification suited to the production methods of small producers. This support will target priority strategic sectors (in particular rice, manioc, maize, and

millet/sorghum). Dissemination and implementation of more appropriate technologies for sustainable agriculture, in synergy with each country's NIP

- Support for production of good quality food: pooling of experiences and upgrading of regulatory standards with the aim of diversifying the food products marketed, meeting dietary and nutritional needs and complying with sanitary, phytosanitary and environmental standards. Strengthening the quality system, in particular by creating a quality label for processed products and promoting geographical indications (in liaison with Objective 2.2 on infrastructure and quality standards).

### **Component 2 –Access to food and improving nutrition**

- Support for the development of sustainable social transfer mechanisms. Consolidation of the work of the support programme for the Regional Food Security Reserve
- Support for a regional social protection policy linked to resilience and harmonisation of national social protection frameworks in coordination with the efforts of states and the relevant international organisations
- Improved functioning of the regional food market (strategic monitoring of trade policies and measures, advocacy to remove barriers to trade and strengthening of government policies to make regional trade rules predictable).

### **Component 3 – Regional governance**

- Support for the effective functioning of information and early warning mechanisms to prevent crises and to mitigate their consequences. Strengthening support measures introduced under the 10th EDF, in particular by collecting good quality data
- Building the capacity of the regional organisations' commissions (ECOWAS/RAAF, CILSS and UEMOA) so that they are better able to coordinate and align actions and monitor/evaluate regional policies, etc.
- Support for regional professional organisations in their role as advocates and providers of support for producers.

### **The major policy measures to be taken by ECOWAS, UEMOA and the CILSS and their member states to achieve this specific objective are:**

- implementation of a regional fisheries and aquaculture policy;
- implementation of the Charter for Food Crisis Prevention and Management (PREGEC Charter) and any necessary measures in response to the recommendations of the Food Crisis Prevention Network and in line with AGIR;
- upholding the principle of the free movement of food products between the countries of the region, particularly at times of food crises;
- creation of a social-protection framework in all countries of the region leading to a regional policy in this area.

### **The main expected results are:**

- sustainable production methods, especially those based on local practices, are enhanced and help to boost the resilience of agricultural producers (farmers, pastoralists and fishermen) and preserve the environment;
- the local population becomes more resilient and food and nutrition security is improved;
- information, monitoring and preventive mechanisms relating to food and nutrition security make for rapid and reliable decision-making;
- non-tariff barriers at intra-community frontiers restricting the import of agricultural food products are abolished;
- agricultural governance and the capacity of the Regional Food Security Reserve are strengthened, so improving the response to food and nutrition crises;
- the principles of decent work in the food sector, including the employment of women, are complied with;
- a regional social protection policy, including gender aspects, is drawn up with country action plans.

The main indicators for measuring these results can be found in the logical framework at annex.

### **3.2 Specific objective 2: Protection of the environment, biodiversity, and tackling and adapting to climate change**

The state of biodiversity in West Africa, in particular timber resources, wildlife and ecosystems, including mangroves and protected areas, is cause for concern. Biodiversity has decreased continuously over the last century for a number of reasons, including: rapid population increase in the region, agricultural expansion with concomitant land-ownership issues, encroachment of agriculture into protected areas, poaching and environmental crime, uncontrolled bushfires, silting and pollution of surface waters, climate change and variability, the unsustainable harvesting of forest products and fisheries resources, etc.

Some areas still very rich in natural resources and assets need measures to protect them and enhance their value. These resources are a common West African good that need to be managed at supranational level, this being beyond the capacity of individual countries.

This regional programme will build on a growing crossborder dynamic and the achievements of the 10th EDF, taking into account past and present strategies. The objective is to contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources in protected areas and of shared fragile ecosystems by combating the illegal exploitation of natural resources and reducing West Africa's vulnerability to climate change. In particular, these measures will be implemented in the framework of the convergence plan for managing West African forests, wildlife and ecosystems, the regional programme to combat desertification in West Africa, Chad and Mauritania, and the subregional strategic programme to reduce vulnerability and adapt to climate change in West Africa. The social and economic impact of climate change is becoming increasingly worrying and is leading to environmental migration in the region.

**To achieve this objective the designated duly mandated regional organisations are ECOWAS and UEMOA. The West African States and other regional and international organisations and the development agencies of EU Member States may be authorised to act as project supervisor of certain actions at regional and national levels. A number of partners, such as public administrations, NGOs specialised in the management of natural resources and biodiversity, local communities and interest groups, will be asked to participate in the programme.**

The support may be provided through the following components:

### **Component 1 – Maintaining and developing natural resources, protecting species and tackling desertification**

- Support for conservation of biodiversity and the natural heritage in 'ecoregions' (deserts, mangroves, forests and savannahs)
- Support for the maintenance and promotion of ecosystem services, particularly in crossborder areas, and for the regeneration of ecosystems
- Promotion of the economic exploitation of forest resources and the development of ecotourism
- Support for action to save vulnerable species at risk of extinction.

### **Component 2 – Strengthening regional governance with a view to resilience and natural-resource management**

- Strengthening action to tackle environmental crime and illegal use of resources
- Support for local NGOs involved in biodiversity conservation and the fight against desertification in West Africa
- Promotion of public-awareness, information and environmental-education campaigns
- Support for regional structures designed to ensure better coordination and complementarity of regional and national initiatives in the field of environmental management
- Support for the regional commissions and the member states in applying laws and regulations on biodiversity conservation and preservation of the environment and for judicial actions in synergy with other ongoing programmes
- Tightening up measures and building monitoring capacity in the fight against poaching and wildlife crime.

These actions will be coordinated with efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing provided for in Sector 1.

### **Component 3 – Reducing vulnerability to climate-related and environmental risks**

- Support for the development and integration of climate information in regional and national planning, in close coordination with the global framework for climate services
- Support for the implementation of the regional programme to reduce vulnerability and adapt to climate change in West Africa
- Support for the integrated management of the water resources of crossborder river basins and for the creation of an integrated water information system (SIIEAU) in four pilot ECOWAS countries.

### **The major policy measures to be taken by UEMOA and ECOWAS for this specific objective are:**

- implementation of existing legislation on the management and conservation of biodiversity and natural resources;
- effective implementation of the provisions of the revised ECOWAS Treaty on developing cooperation between ECOWAS member states with a view to managing natural resources and the environment;
- strengthening cooperation in combating environmental crime in West Africa;

- harmonisation and strengthening of national political, institutional and legislative frameworks for the management and conservation of biodiversity and natural resources with a view to the sustainable management of protected areas;
- strengthening the frameworks for dialogue and cooperation agreements between all potential stakeholders in the management of protected areas with the aim of involving and mobilising communities to act in a responsible manner and so minimise their negative impact on biodiversity and maximise the beneficial impact in terms of the sustainable management of ecosystems.

**The main expected results are:**

- ECOWAS regional directives on conservation and sustainable management of crossborder protected areas are drawn up, adopted and incorporated into national legislation;
- national legislative and institutional frameworks are updated to comply with regional directives and operational at national level;
- more sustainable and efficient management of the environment and natural resources, organised in such a way as to deliver long-term ecosystem services to the local population;
- wildlife and fisheries are better protected from over-exploitation, poaching and environmental crime;
- internal security is strengthened and tighter laws on environmental protection are adopted and implemented;
- the activities of the network of local NGOs involved in biodiversity conservation in West Africa are further developed;
- cooperation and partnership in exchanging information are improved;
- vulnerability to climate variability and climate change is reduced.

The main indicators for measuring these results can be found in the logical framework at annex.

#### **4. NON-FOCAL SECTOR: INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT TO REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

Institutional support to two regional organisations is necessary in view of their experience of managing the 10th EDF RIP, the doubling of the 11th EDF allocation and the importance attached to the role of the duly mandated regional organisations in managing and monitoring some of these funds.

It is therefore planned to pursue efforts to get support units for the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions up and running. This will help them assume their roles of authorising officer and duly mandated regional organisation. The support unit for the UEMOA Commission has been set up and is in the process of becoming operational. The legal provisions for the ECOWAS Commission are being drawn up.

EUR 25 million will be provisionally reserved for this area.

**The main objective is to support the institutional reform of the regional organisations and ensure more efficient use of European aid.** Capacity-building for these regional organisations concerns the work of identifying, implementing and monitoring RIP actions, aligning policies and strategies and carrying out visibility/communication actions about regional integration.

**The duly mandated regional organisations tasked with meeting this objective are ECOWAS and UEMOA.**

The support may take the following form:

##### **Component 1 – Supporting ECOWAS and UEMOA institutional reforms**

- Support for the ongoing reform process taking place within the organisations to bring their internal administrative systems – especially the organisational, budgetary and accounting systems for audits, supervision, procurement and human resources management – into line with international standards (the seven-pillar audit).

##### **Component 2 – Support for implementation, steering and monitoring of the RIP**

- Continued support for the setting-up and running of support units for the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions in order to ensure better management and more effective monitoring of the EDF
- Investment-financing support to financial institutions in the form of loan-grant blending
- Greater complementary of national and regional actions (RIP/NIPs)
- Continued support to the joint technical secretariat to promote the convergence of ECOWAS and UEMOA policies and strategies.

##### **Component 3 – Visibility of measures**

- Promotion of information campaigns to increase the visibility of RIP projects.

##### **Component 4 – Technical Cooperation Facility**

- Support for the identification, drafting and implementation of the RIP
- Mobilisation of short-, medium- and long-term expertise
- Studies, seminars.

**The major policy measures to be taken by ECOWAS and UEMOA for this specific objective are:**

- implementation of institutional reforms;
- provision of the human resources needed to staff the RAOs' support units;
- implementation of the roadmap towards greater institutional convergence and complementarity (in liaison with Objective 2.1.).

**The main expected results are:**

- institutional reforms have been completed and the objectives achieved;
- the ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions have successfully passed the 7-pillar audit;
- the ECOWAS and UEMOA support units are up and running;
- the RIP is implemented properly;
- RIP/NIP consistency and complementarity with other partners is strengthened;
- ECOWAS and UEMOA revise their mandates and strategies with a view to greater complementarity and become more visible to national governments, economic operators and local people.

### III. DULY MANDATED REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND REGIONAL AUTHORISING OFFICERS

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The regional organisations mandated to **approve/sign** and subsequently amend the indicative programme are ECOWAS and UEMOA.

In order to ensure that the actions set out in the current indicative programme are implemented, the DMROs and the governments concerned shall designate regional authorising officers, which designation is formalised by the signing of the RIP. The function of regional authorising officer is defined by analogy to that of national authorising officer, as described in the Cotonou Agreement (Articles 14(3) and 35 of Annex IV).

### IV. ANNEXES

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#### Annex 1– Logical Intervention Framework

Results, indicators and means of verification indicated in this annex may need to be revised in light of developments during the programming period.

Where missing, baselines will be added to the action documents at a later stage.

<b>Sector 1: Peace, security and regional stability</b>		
<b>Specific objective 1: Strengthen mechanisms to promote peace-keeping and stability</b>		
<b><u>Expected results</u></b>	<b><u>Indicators</u></b>	<b><u>Means of verification</u></b>
(a) The ECOWAS Commission's Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security has greater capacity to develop approaches to conflict prevention and management and post-conflict assistance	(a1) number of intervention strategies concerned with prevention and crisis management produced by ECOWAS.	ECOWAS reports
(b) ECOWAS effectively mounts, in a framework agreed with the AU and the UN, peacekeeping, stabilisation and crisis-management operations in the region	(b1) number of peacekeeping and crisis-management operations mounted by ECOWAS in the region	ECOWAS reports EU reports press
(c) Political and security crises are anticipated, mitigated or avoided thanks to an ECOWAS intervention	(c1) number of preventive interventions carried out by ECOWAS	ECOWAS reports EU reports



	(c2) number of elections monitored and supported by ECOWAS  (c3) ranking of countries in the region according to the Ibrahim Index of African Governance and/or Transparency International	press
<b>Specific objective 2:</b> Support regional initiatives to address the main threats to peace, security and stability		
<b><u>Expected results</u></b>	<b><u>Indicators</u></b>	<b><u>Means of verification</u></b>
(a) Security is improved in the Sahel and Gulf of Guinea areas following eradication of main threats	(a1) number of piracy incidents and maritime crimes	ECOWAS reports  EU reports  Report of the International Maritime Organisation
(b) Security cooperation is strengthened by information exchanges and threats addressed more efficiently	(b1) number of countries with WAPIS up and running and a system for exchanging information between defence and security forces	ECOWAS reports
(c) ECOWAS member states are able to fulfil their international obligations as flag states, coastal states and port states. Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing declines, enabling coastal communities and States in the region to derive the full benefit of their fishery resources.	(c1) number of countries having a national action plan to combat illegal fishing that is operational	FAO site listing national action plans  Interpol and Maritime Organisation reports

**Sector 2: Regional economic integration and support for trade**

**Specific objective 1:** Establishment of an integrated regional economic area

<b><u>Expected results</u></b>	<b><u>Indicators</u></b>	<b><u>Means of verification</u></b>
(a) The ECOWAS common market is consolidated	(a1) number of countries applying the Common External Tariff and the degree of compliance in its implementation	national legislation
(b) The EPA is implemented and its institutional framework is operational	(b1) number of meetings of institutions under the EPA and progress in/time taken for implementation of EPA undertakings	minutes of meetings, recommendations and decisions of the EPA institutions
(c) The supply of services for trade facilitation and goods transit is more efficient and responds to demand	(c1) Trading Across Borders ranking	Doing business
(d) The harmonisation of public finance and statistics is improved and, in particular, the implementation of fiscal-transition-related reforms increases domestic taxation	(d1) number of community acts transposed by member states	national legislation

**Specific objective 2:** Private-sector support

<b><u>Expected results</u></b>	<b><u>Indicators</u></b>	<b><u>Means of verification</u></b>
(a) Business climate is improved	(a1) Doing business index	Doing business
(b) Greater private investment (both domestic and international)	(b1) amount of private investment (domestic and direct international investment) in the region	trade and industry ministries national statistics

**Specific objective 3:** Support for the transport sector

<b><u>Expected results</u></b>	<b><u>Indicators</u></b>	<b><u>Means of verification</u></b>
(a) Better interconnection of the existing transport infrastructure	(a1) length of roads built, rehabilitated and maintained with EU support (km)	reports/evaluations of projects
(b) Lower costs and shorter journeys on the main regional transport corridors, including port transit	(b1) unit costs and length of journeys on main regional corridors	reports/ad hoc studies  observatory of abnormal practices or equivalent

**Specific objective 4:** Support for the energy sector

<b><u>Expected results</u></b>	<b><u>Indicators</u></b>	<b><u>Means of verification</u></b>
(a) Better access to energy services for the public and a reduction in national disparities	(a1) level of access to sustainable energy services	reports of energy ministries/WAPP/ERE RA
(b) A greater proportion of the energy mix produced from renewable sources across the region in order to achieve ECOWAS and UEMOA objectives	(b1) share of renewable energy in the energy mix (%)	reports of energy ministries/WAPP/ERE RA
(c) Improvements in the governance of the sector, especially energy companies, including electricity companies	(c1) average cost of electricity	reports of energy ministries/WAPP/ERE RA
(d) Functioning of the regional electricity market	(d1) number of regional interconnections  (d2) number of participants in the	reports of energy ministries/WAPP/ERE RA

	regional electricity market	
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**Sector 3: Resilience, food and nutrition security and natural resources**

**Specific objective 1:** Resilience and food and nutrition security

<b><u>Expected results</u></b>	<b><u>Indicators</u></b>	<b><u>Means of verification</u></b>
(a) Sustainable production methods, especially those based on local practices, are enhanced and help to boost the resilience of agricultural producers (farmers, pastoralists and fishermen) and the most vulnerable groups and to preserve the environment	(a1) number of sustainable agro-pastoral practices set up under the RIP for West Africa (ha) compared with the baseline situation	reports of ECOWAS and national administrations
(b) The local population becomes more resilient and food and nutrition security is improved	(b1) proven reduction in the prevalence rate of malnutrition (moderate, severe) among children under five (%) (b2) proven reduction in the prevalence rate of chronic malnutrition among children under five (%)	national statistics or statistics issued by international organisations and NGOs  EU/ECOWAS reports
(c) Information, monitoring and preventive mechanisms relating to food and nutrition security make for rapid and reliable decision-making	(c1) number of countries that have adequate standing capacity to measure food and nutrition vulnerability and insecurity	EU/ECOWAS reports  national administrations

**Specific objective 2:** Protection of the environment, biodiversity and climate change

<b><u>Expected results</u></b>	<b><u>Indicators</u></b>	<b><u>Means of verification</u></b>
(a) More sustainable and efficient management of the environment and natural resources, organised in such a way as to deliver long-term ecosystem services to the most vulnerable and at-risk sections of the population	(a1) number of hectares of protected areas preserved with EU support	EU/ECOWAS reports  national administrations  ad hoc studies

(b) Wildlife and fisheries are better protected from over-exploitation, poaching and environmental crime	(b1) number of key species at risk of extinction	idem
(c) Vulnerability to climate variability and change is reduced, particularly for the sections of the population most at risk	(c1) number of national action plans for adaptation to climate change developed and implemented	idem

## Annex 2 – Indicative schedule of 11th EDF RIP commitments (€ million)

<b>TOTAL COMMITMENTS</b>	<b>Indicative allocation (EUR million)</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Priority area 1: Peace, security and regional stability</b>	<b>250</b>			<b>60</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>
Specific objective 1.1: Strengthen regional mechanisms to promote peacekeeping and stability	50			20		20		10
Specific objective 1.2: Support for regional initiatives to address the main threats to peace, security and stability	200			40	45	35	45	35
<b>Priority area 2: Regional economic integration and support for trade</b>	<b>575</b>		<b>170</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>135</b>	
Specific objective 2.1: Establishment of an integrated regional economic area	50		20		20		10	
Specific objective 2.2: Private-sector support	125		50		50		25	
Specific objective 2.3: Support for the transport sector	200		50	50		50	50	
Specific objective 2.4: Support for the energy sector	200		50	50		50	50	
<b>Priority Area 3: Regional natural resource management</b>	<b>300</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>
Specific objective 3.1: Resilience and food and nutrition security	200			40	70	30	30	30
Specific objective 3.2: Protection of the environment, biodiversity and climate change	100			50		50		
<b>Non-focal sector: Institutional support for regional organisations/TCF</b>	<b>25</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>5</b>	

<b>Total commitments</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>50</b>
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The amounts in this table are indicative