EU EMERGENCY TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA

The European Union and Africa enjoy a long-standing and comprehensive partnership, which has deepened and diversified over decades and in particular since the first Africa-EU Summit in 2000. The Valletta Summit in November 2015 complemented already existing processes with African Countries, focusing on different aspects of migration.

The EU Emergency Trust Fund was established at the Valletta Summit on 12 November 2015 to address the migration crises in the region of Sahel/Lake Chad, Horn of Africa and North Africa encompassing a total of 23 countries. The Trust Fund is aimed at supporting all aspects of stability and to contribute to better migration management as well as addressing the root causes of destabilization, forced displacement and irregular migration. It will do so by promoting resilience, economic and equal opportunities, security and development and addressing human rights’ abuses. The Trust Fund is meant to complement existing EU instruments, national and regional frameworks, and bilateral programs of EU Member States by providing a swift and flexible answer to migration-related challenges.

The initial resources allocated to the Trust Fund for Africa amount to €1.88 billion – with €1.8 billion from different financial instruments under the EU budget and the European Development Fund, and €81.8 million from Member States contributions. In the context of the Migration Partnership Framework proposed by the European Commission, it further proposes to strengthen the Trust Fund for Africa by €0.5 billion from the European Development Fund (EDF) reserve.

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THE AIM OF THE EU EMERGENCY TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA

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The Trust Fund benefits a wide range of African countries that encompass the major migration routes to Europe. These countries are among the most fragile and affected by the migration crisis and will draw the greatest benefit from EU assistance. Eligible countries are:

- Sahel region and Lake Chad: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, the Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal.
- Horn of Africa: Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.
- North of Africa: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt.

Neighbouring countries of the eligible countries may benefit, on a case by case basis, from Trust Fund projects with a regional dimension in order to address regional migration flows and related cross-border challenges.

The main beneficiaries are refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees and the local communities hosting them, and other vulnerable or marginalised populations such as victims of human trafficking and smuggled migrants, youth, women and children. Civil society actors such as community or women’s organisations will also be supported.

**THE STATE OF PLAY OF THE EU EMERGENCY TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA**

To date, **59 programmes** worth around **€930 million** have already been approved to fund specific programmes in favour of the Sahel and Lake Chad, the Horn of Africa and the North of Africa regions.

**THE STATE OF PLAY OF THE EU EMERGENCY TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA**

**Establishing Inclusive Economic Programmes** that create employment opportunities, especially for young people and women in local communities, with a focus on vocational training and creation of micro and small enterprises.

- **Niger - Job creation in transit zones (€30 million):**
  With the aim to support agriculture in Tahoua and Agadez regions, this project will be implemented by the French cooperation agency (AFD). In this region, economies are highly dependent on migrant smuggling and the activities it generates. This action will create long term opportunities for migrants in transit.

- **Ethiopia - SINCE (Stemming Irregular Migration in Northern and Central Ethiopia) (€20 million):**
  By enhancing the living conditions of potential migrants and returnees this project aims to address the root causes of irregular migration in the regions of Tigray, Ahmara, SNNPR and Oromia. This will be done by prioritising the creation of economic opportunities and job skills for vulnerable groups, in particular women and the youth. The project is being implemented by the Italian Development Cooperation, IDC. It is expected to provide at least 80% of the target population (a substantial amount of which will be women and under 25-year-olds,) with improved access to livelihood and Income Generating Activities, as well as a 30% improvement in beneficiaries’ income.

**Supporting resilience in terms of food security and of the wider economy,** including basic services for local populations, and in particular the most vulnerable, notably refugees and displaced people, including through community centres or other means of providing them with food and nutrition security, health, education and social protection, as well as environmental sustainability.

- **Senegal - Strengthening resilience of the most vulnerable populations to nutritional and food crises in the departure areas of Podor, Ranérou, Matam and Kanel (€ 8 million)**
  Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable populations as well as improving their access to basic services and living conditions to prevent irregular migration will be the aim of this project, implemented by the Spanish cooperation agency (AECID).
South Sudan – Health Pooled Fund (€20 million)
The objective of this project is to increase health service delivery, to strengthen health systems at State and County level. Among other outcomes, for example, this project is expected to raise the percentage of women with consistent access to antenatal care during pregnancy, or to triple the proportion of newborns delivered in the presence of a skilled health personnel. Further, the project is expected to increase access to nutrition services and to ensure the availability of essential medicines. Activities are already ongoing under the implementation of the Department for International Development (DFID).

Improve migration management in all its aspects in line with the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, and the Rabat and Khartoum processes, including by contributing to the development of national and regional strategies on migration management, containing and preventing irregular migration and fight against trafficking of human beings, smuggling of migrants and other related crimes, effective return and readmission, international protection and asylum, legal migration and mobility, enhancing synergies between migration and development. Based on these strategies, the EU is currently discussing with African partners a number of projects proposed by the latter on migration management:

Niger - Response mechanism and resources for migrants (€7 million)
This project aims to support the country in the management of migration, to promote sustainable alternatives to illegal migration from Niger and to foster economic and social development through circular migration in the region. It will be implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Three projects (€27.5 million) have been adopted under the North of Africa window of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa to improve migration management:

- Enhancing the response to Migration Challenges in Egypt (ERMCE)
- Strengthening protection and resilience of displaced populations in Libya
- DEV-pillar of the regional Development and Protection Programme in the North of Africa (regional programme)

Regional - Better Migration Management (€46 million)
This project aims to better manage migration at regional level in the Horn of Africa. This will be done through the provision of capacity building to government institutions, developing and harmonizing policies and legislative frameworks on trafficking and smuggling, ensuring protection of victims, and raising awareness about the perils of irregular migration and options for legal migration and mobility. The project will be implemented by German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ).

The ultimate beneficiaries of BMM are potential and actual migrants, victims of trafficking and smuggling and other vulnerable groups such as children and women.

Supporting improvements in the overall good governance area, in particular by promoting conflict prevention, addressing human rights abuses and enforcing the rule of law, including through capacity building in support of security and development, as well as law enforcement, including border management and migration related aspects. Some actions will also contribute to prevent and counter radicalisation and extremism.

Mali - Strengthening Security in Mopti and Gao regions and improving border areas (PARSEC Mopti-Gao) (€29 million)
Support the strengthening of the rule of law in border areas by ensuring greater and effective presence of security forces operating in the context of civilian missions. This intervention has been jointly designed with EUCAP and EUTM and will be implemented by Expertise France.

Somalia - Promoting a culture of tolerance and dialogue in Somalia (€5 million)
This nation-wide project addresses instability and violent extremism in Somalia as a main driver of forced displacement in and outside the country, by facilitating community outreach and promoting more tolerance, dialogue and peaceful value. Furthermore, the efforts by the Federal Government to develop a policy for countering violent extremism will be supported. The activities foreseen will directly benefit scholars, teachers, imams and preachers, media professionals, journalists, Somali youth, cultural groups and organisations, communities, women organisations as well as Somali diaspora.