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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director
date of receipt:	25 June 2020
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

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Subject:	ANNEX 1 to the Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the Court of Auditors: 2019 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget

Delegations will find attached document [COM\(2020\) 265 final - ANNEX 1 PART 3/3](#).

Encl.: [COM\(2020\) 265 final - ANNEX 1 PART 3/3](#)



Brussels, 24.6.2020
COM(2020) 265 final

ANNEX 1 – PART 3/3

ANNEX

to the

**REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION
TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE COURT OF
AUDITORS**

2019 Annual Management and Performance Report for the EU Budget

LEGAL BASIS

Decision (EU) 2019/420 of the European Parliament and of the Council

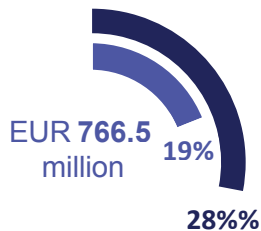
MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!vF44kU>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	28.2
2015	29.3
2016	30.6
2017	29.5
2018	33.2
2019	104.6
2020	511.2
Total	766.5

OVERALL EXECUTION (2014-2019)

- Payments
- Commitments

Evaluations/ studies conducted

The midterm evaluation of the current UCPM legislation was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult: <http://europa.eu/!gD68jG>

How is it implemented?

DG European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations is the lead DG for the implementation of the mechanism. The mechanism is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

CIVIL PROTECTION

EU CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM – HEADING 3

What is the UCPM under Heading 3?

The aim of the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) is to support, coordinate and supplement the actions of the Member States in the field of civil protection with a view to improving the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters. The mechanism focuses on reducing loss of human life, environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters through a comprehensive approach covering: disaster prevention, preparedness and response; improving the understanding in Member States of disaster risks through cooperation on risk assessment and planning, and the gradual development of a European culture of disaster prevention; and improving preparedness for disasters through training, exercises, exchange of best practices and similar activities. The projects' primary beneficiaries are the 34 participating states: the EU Member States and Iceland, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia and Turkey.



Specific objectives

- To achieve a high level of protection against disasters by preventing or reducing their effects by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection and other relevant services.
- To enhance preparedness at Member State and EU level to respond to disasters.
- To facilitate rapid and efficient response in the event of disasters or imminent disasters.
- To increase public awareness of and preparedness for disasters.

Why is it necessary?

The EU added value of the mechanism comes in the form of:

- reduction of loss of human life and of environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters through a comprehensive approach covering disaster prevention, preparedness and response;
- improved understanding in Member States of disaster risks through cooperation on risk assessment and planning, and the gradual development of a European culture of disaster prevention;
- improved preparedness for disasters through training, exercises, exchange of best practices and similar activities;
- improved coordination of the response

to disaster by bringing together and facilitating Member States' offers of assistance;

- increased cost-effectiveness through the pooling of assistance, the sharing of transport capacities, the identification of complementarities and the avoidance of duplication of effort;
- a more coherent, predictable and visible response to disasters through the setting up of the European Response Capacity ready to help everywhere in the EU and in non-EU countries when needed.







Outlook for the 2021-2027 period


The Commission proposed the inclusion of funding related to the internal and external

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
28.8	2017	22.2	
33.2	2018	31.0	
69.6	2019	42.4	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Member States that have made a summary of their risk assessments available	14	 86%	28	26 out of 28 Member States
Projects financed for prevention within the EU ⁽¹⁾		 62%	71	44 out of 71 projects
Response capacities included in the voluntary pool		 > 100%	60	109 capacities included compared to a target of 60
Standard response units registered in the EU's Common Emergency Communication and Information System		 > 100%	180	220 units registered compared to a target of 180
Projects financed for preparedness ⁽¹⁾		 55%	74	41 out of 74 projects
Average speed of civil protection assistance interventions (in hours) ⁽²⁾		 > 100%	12	7 hours compared to a target of 12

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Cumulative results for 2014-2019 compared to cumulative milestones for 2014-2020.

⁽²⁾ Average of results for 2014-2019.

Where are we in the implementation?

- Most of the activities in the area of civil protection were implemented as planned in the UCPM legislation and the Commission implementing decision in all areas, disaster prevention, preparedness and response.
- Although specific funds were earmarked for the development of rescEU capacities in the 2019 annual work programme, not all funds were spent and EUR 37 million was returned. In addition, EUR 8 million was also returned to the central budget for internal response. Given the impossibility of predicting emergencies, the portion of the response budget that was returned should not be considered to represent under-implementation.
- The year 2019 was important for the UCPM as its new legislation entered into force in March 2019, with the subsequent implementing decisions put in place in 2019 to establish the rescEU reserve in the areas of aerial forest fire fighting and emergency medical capacities.
- The operational transition of the new provisions in 2019 was handled smoothly, with the new financial support arrangements for UCPM activation taking immediate effect from March and the first deployment of rescEU 'transition' aerial forest fire fighting assets.
- In addition, as part of the EU's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Commission proposed the reinforcement of the UCPM within the EU with EUR 370 million in 2020, so as to make essential medical supplies available.

Performance assessment

- The UCPM has shown a strong performance over recent years, as demonstrated by the following examples.
 - In the area of prevention, the UCPM has been instrumental in fostering an EU-wide culture of prevention, supporting notably those Member States and neighbouring countries whose structures and policies were less advanced. Through the compilation of national risk assessments and the dissemination of a document outlining a risk profile at EU level, Member States have generally become more aware of the need to strengthen prevention policies and taken significant steps.
 - In the area of preparedness, the size of the UCPM among Member States is growing. The number and diversity of registered capacities in the European Civil Protection Pool is increasing, reaching in certain areas the maximum required at EU level.
 - In the area of response, despite the unpredictable nature of disasters, the UCPM is being activated to support Member States and non-EU countries. The average speed of civil protection assistance interventions has improved over the last years, reaching 7.4 hours on average in 2019 compared with the 12-hour target.
- The number of projects financed for prevention and preparedness in 2019 is lower than the target. This is due to a new approach being applied from 2018, which focuses on fewer projects with higher financing per project. The strategy includes a much stronger focus on: results (with the introduction of a mandatory results framework in the project proposal phase to better measure impact), relevance for the needs of the end users and scalability (i.e. the possibility of using project outputs to prepare prevention and preparedness investments). Since the duration of the projects is 24 months (projects awarded in 2018 will be closed at the end of 2020), it is too early to assess whether this new approach has been effective.
- Some of the new provisions envisaged in the revised legislation, namely the development of rescEU capacities, will need some additional time to materialise in full. The Commission has put in place measures to ensure that rescEU capacities can be developed in the short term. Notably, these include the establishment of the 'task teams' working around the three priority areas identified by the legislation (aerial firefighting, medical capabilities and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defence) to lay down the minimum technical requirements necessary to adopt the subsequent Commission implementing decisions to develop such capacities.

Concrete examples of achievements

3	110	1 000	172	15	22 million
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<p>emergencies received assistance through the UCPM in 2019: Greece (forest fires), France (marine pollution) and Finland (marine pollution).</p>	<p>response capacities committed to the European Civil Protection Pool and available for immediate deployment by the end of 2019.</p>	<p>UCPM experts trained in 2019 within the EU.</p>	<p>water drops (approximately 1 032 tonnes of water) were performed in 2019 by rescEU Italian and Spanish aircraft to support the fight against the forest fire in Greece.</p>	<p>aircraft constituted the rescEU transition fleet, with the participation of 6 different Member States.</p>	<p>online viewers of the 'EU Saves Lives' awareness campaign in 2018 and 2019.</p>
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LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 652/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

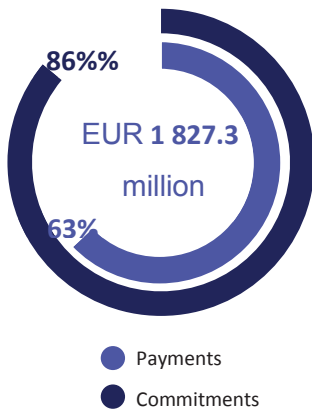
MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!Yp68Bc>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	253.4
2015	245.6
2016	253.0
2017	258.9
2018	279.4
2019	289.7
2020	247.3
Total	1 827.3

OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)Evaluations/
studies conducted

The midterm evaluation of the food and feed programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult: <http://europa.eu/!Ck89tr>

How is it
implemented?

DG Health and Food Safety is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct management.

FOOD AND FEED

What is 'food and feed'?

The food and feed programme ensures that a well-functioning and safe food chain is in place. This is a key public health and economic priority. Outbreaks of serious animal and plant diseases may cause major direct losses to agriculture and potentially enormous indirect losses to the EU economy. To support this objective, the food and feed programme includes the following.

- National veterinary programmes for the eradication, control and surveillance of transmissible, often epidemic animal diseases and zoonoses (diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans).
- National survey programmes for organisms that are harmful to plants, ensuring early detection and eradication of pests.
- Training in the field of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health through the better training for safer food programme.
- The funding of European Union reference laboratories, which help ensure the proper functioning of the internal market, the protection of human health and the maintenance of consumer confidence. The EU reference laboratories ensure high-quality and uniform testing in the EU and provide training to hundreds of national reference laboratories in a number of food safety priority areas. This ensures that all Member States work within a consistent and uniform regulatory framework.
- Financial support for emergency measures in order to contain animal diseases and pest outbreaks. These measures act like a fire extinguisher, putting down or containing the outbreak and avoiding further spread of the disease.



Specific objectives

- To contribute to a high level of safety of food, food production systems and products which may affect the safety of food, while improving the sustainability of food production.
- To contribute to achieving a better animal health status for the EU and to support the improvement of the welfare of animals.
- To contribute to the timely detection of pests and their eradication where they have entered the EU.
- To contribute to improving the effectiveness, efficiency and reliability of official controls and ensuring the effective implementation of and

Why is it necessary?

The technical and financial support provided by the EU to the Member States has achieved better animal and plant health in the EU. Alone, Member States have difficulty securing the appropriate financial resources to respond to the combination of present and potential challenges. The variety of measures to tackle pests and diseases requires a centralised management system to properly coordinate and organise the implementation of specific actions in the Member States. Moreover, Member States which might not have a direct interest in combating a particular disease or pest still have to look after the overall interests of the EU.

Diseases can spread rapidly between Member States and involve the entire EU







market. EU intervention is needed to minimise the impact on human, animal and plant health, as well as on the industry and the markets. Outbreaks can come at a huge cost for the EU budget, the national budgets and the farming community. For example, the foot-and-mouth disease outbreak of 2001, which started in the United Kingdom but spread to other countries, is estimated to have cost up to EUR 12 billion.

The network of laboratories ensures that all countries apply a consistent and uniform regulatory framework, while the training programme promotes a common approach towards the implementation and enforcement of EU legislation. Harmonisation of rules and sharing of knowledge and expertise in the food chain and related areas could not be

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
258.9	2017	237.9	
279.4	2018	242.9	
289.7	2019	240.7	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Member States free from animal diseases – bovine brucellosis	16	 44%	25	20 out of 25 Member States
Member States free from animal diseases – bovine tuberculosis	15	 25%	23	17 out of 23 Member States
Member States free from animal diseases – melitensis	19	 17%	25	20 out of 25 Member states
Coverage of EU territory by surveys for pests not known to occur in EU territory		 86%	100%	86% out of 100% coverage
Coverage of EU territory by surveys for most dangerous pests		 100%	100%	100% out of 100% coverage
Results of controls in particular areas of concern ⁽¹⁾		 75%	95%	71% out of 95% favourable trend

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Latest results from 2018.

Where are we in the implementation?

- The feed and food programme consists of several programmes, including (1) national programmes for the eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses; (2) national survey programmes for pests; (3) training in the field of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health; (4) information technology tools in the field of food safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health; and (5) the European Union reference laboratories.
- In 2019, EUR 130 million was used to co-finance 142 national veterinary programmes covering the monitoring and eradication of 12 diseases. A further EUR 13 million co-financed early detection and eradication of pest outbreaks in 24 Member States, a relatively new activity of growing importance. In addition, following the financing of emergency measures related to avian influenza in 2016-2018, substantial funding was made available for emergency measures related to African swine fever (EUR 50 million for EU programmes in 2019, plus EUR 6.3 million EU co-financing of measures with seven neighbouring non-EU countries). Payments related to African swine fever will continue in 2020 and 2021.

Performance assessment

- As shown by the midterm evaluation, the food and feed programme contributes to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants by preventing and eradicating diseases and pests. Rabies has been almost eradicated in the EU in wildlife, the trend in bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis eradication is positive, bovine spongiform encephalopathy in cattle has been eradicated, and since 20 March 2019 the entire EU has been declared free of swine vesicular disease. EU co-financing of emergency measures made it possible to contain African swine fever, which was introduced into eastern Europe by movement of wild boar from Belarus and Ukraine. Lumpy skin disease was also swiftly controlled after its introduction into Greece in 2015, through coordinated vaccination campaigns in the EU and in the Balkans. No outbreak of lumpy skin disease has been noted since 2018. Progress in the number of officially free Member States or regions does not fully reflect the actual progress achieved in that area, however, because there is currently no formal obligation for the Member States to request official 'free' status. As from 2021, this issue will be corrected under the new animal health law.
- The programme provides technical advice to the Member States, while the financial support given through the national programmes is a key incentive for Member States to implement programmes pertaining to the interests of the EU as a whole. External factors beyond the direct control of the Member States, such as increased epidemiological risks linked to globalisation, climate change, neighbouring non-EU countries or wildlife, are taken into account in the initial assessment of each specific programme before approval, and during the final report evaluation before payment.
- The prevention and protection system have proven to work properly, and safety and quality of food respect the highest international standards. The human cases due to zoonotic diseases in the EU have been progressively reduced over the years, and both the frequency and the severity of animal, plant and food crises have decreased. No large-scale outbreaks have occurred for a decade, and all emergencies have been successfully contained.
- In the plant health areas, EU-funded programmes on surveys have enabled the detection of new pests at an early stage, allowing for some pests to be contained to the original outbreak areas (e.g. pinewood nematode in Portugal) while minimising the risk of further spread into EU territory.
- A special report from the European Court of Auditors published in 2016 concluded that the animal disease eradication programmes adequately contained animal diseases. The Court stressed that the Commission and the Member States should continue their efforts, as disease outbreaks can always occur. As a follow-up to the special report, methodological guidance on cost-effectiveness analysis in the food chain area was issued in 2019.
- Further to the recent experience with animal diseases coming from neighbouring non-EU countries, annual programmes providing EU financial support in the fight against animal and plant diseases have been proposed to be introduced for neighbouring non-EU countries, similar to the existing annual programmes in the Member States. Currently only emergency measures can be financed in non-EU countries.

Concrete examples of achievements

Rabies	African swine fever	Lumpy skin disease	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	Avian influenza	Audits
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cases in wildlife decreased to five in 2019, in two Member States. Complete eradication is expected in 2020. No indigenous cases in humans have occurred in the EU since 2016.	has been contained to 11 Member States (including Greece since 2020), mostly in the eastern part of Europe.	has seen its spread in south-eastern Europe contained to seven countries and no new outbreak has occurred in the EU since 2018.	in cattle has been eradicated since 2017.	has seen its epidemic of 2016-2017 eradicated and farming and export have been protected.	along with other control activities carried out by the Commission in the food and feed area in 2019 numbered 159.
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LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 282/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Decision No 1350/2007/EC

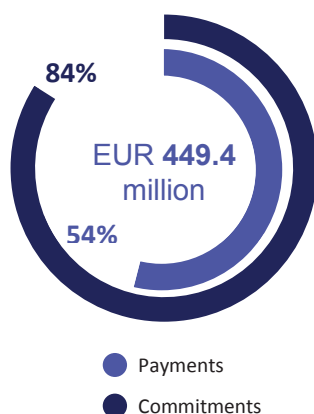
MORE INFORMATION

<https://europa.eu/!tN38qn>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	58.6
2015	59.8
2016	62.2
2017	64.5
2018	66.4
2019	68.3
2020	69.7
Total	449.4

**OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)****Evaluations/
studies conducted**

The mid-term evaluation of the third health programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult:

<http://europa.eu/!pc44qn>

**How is it
implemented?**

The Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct management.

HEALTH PROGRAMME

EUROPEAN UNION ACTION IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH

What is the health programme?

Good health is a major concern of EU citizens, all the more so in the middle of the current major crisis due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The EU contributes to better health protection through its policies and activities, in accordance with Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. However, the EU does not define health policies, or the organisation and provision of health services and medical care. Instead, it works to complement national policies and to support cooperation between Member States in the field of public health.

The third programme for EU action in the area of health (2014-2020) is a financial instrument for policy coordination at EU level. It aims to complement, support and add value to the policies of Member States aimed at improving the health of their citizens and reducing health inequalities, encouraging innovation in health and increasing the sustainability of health systems. The programme has four specific objectives:

- (1) to promote health and healthy living and prevent disease;
- (2) to protect EU citizens from serious cross-border health threats;
- (3) to contribute to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems;
- (4) to facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for EU citizens.



Specific objectives

- Identify, disseminate and promote the uptake of evidence-based and good practices for cost-effective health promotion and disease prevention measures by addressing in particular the key lifestyle-related risk factors with a focus on EU added value.
- Identify and develop coherent approaches and promote their implementation for better preparedness and coordination in health emergencies.
- Identify and develop tools and mechanisms at EU level to address shortages of resources, both human and financial, and to facilitate the voluntary uptake of innovations in public health intervention and prevention strategies.
- Increase access to medical expertise and information for specific conditions beyond national borders, facilitate the application of the results of research and develop tools for the improvement of healthcare quality and patient safety.

Why is it necessary?

The programme focuses on fostering the exchange of best practices between Member States and supporting networks for knowledge sharing or mutual learning. Moreover, actions are undertaken to address cross-border health threats to reduce risks and mitigate consequences. The health programme addresses issues relating to the internal market where the EU has substantial legitimacy to ensure high-quality solutions across Member States and targets actions unlocking the potential of innovation in health. It promotes actions that could lead to a

system of benchmarking or improving economies of scale by avoiding waste due to duplication and optimising the use of financial resources.







Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

In view of the COVID-19 crisis, the Commission proposed to continue a self-standing health programme for the next multiannual financial framework.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
64.5	2017	48.3	
66.4	2018	55.3	
68.3	2019	62.1	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Member States having a national initiative on the reduction of sauntered fat	12	 75%	28	24 out of 28 Member States
Member States in which the European accreditation scheme for breast cancer services is implemented		 21%	28	6 out of 28 Member States
Member States integrating coherent approaches in their preparedness plans ⁽¹⁾		 79%	28	22 out of 28 Member States
Member States deploying or using patient summaries data/e-prescription in line with the EU guidelines ⁽¹⁾		 > 100%	18	22 out of 18 Member States
European reference networks established		 80%	30	24 out of 30 networks
Widening of established European reference networks		 66%	1 450	953 out of 1 450 healthcare units

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Latest results are from 2018.

Where are we in the implementation?

- The 2019 work programme focused on the programme's scope as a financial instrument for policy coordination at EU level, covering: (a) country-specific and cross-country knowledge; (b) cross-border health threats; (c) preparedness and response, focusing specifically on antimicrobial resistance and vaccination; (d) structural support to health systems and links to the digital single market; and (e) promotion of health and prevention of non-communicable diseases.
- Three joint actions were launched, of which two will focus on the implementation of best practices selected by the Steering Group on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in the areas of nutrition and food reformulation, and digitally enabled integrated care models. The third joint action focuses on improving the capacity and response of Member State authorities against bioterrorism-related threats. Three-year grant agreements were signed with all 24 European reference networks covering the period until 2022, when the networks are expected to reach full capacity. Specific grant agreements have been awarded on a competitive basis for the 2018-2020 financial years. The non-governmental bodies supported are expected to assist the Commission with the information and advice necessary for the development of health policies and the implementation of the health programme's objectives and priorities. Non-governmental bodies are also expected to work on increased health literacy and the promotion of healthy lifestyles and the organisation of science policy conferences, and to contribute to the optimisation of healthcare activities and practices.
- While this document relates to the health programme activities carried out during 2019, it should be noted that when the COVID-19 outbreak started in the first quarter of 2020, the programme's ongoing actions were urgently reoriented towards the fight against the pandemic. This shows that the health programme has been able to respond swiftly to new developments. For example, the healthy gateways joint action organised training courses for trainers and specific webinars, providing guidance including questions and answers on points of entry and borders. The SHARP joint action (strengthened international health regulations and preparedness in the EU) is supporting laboratory diagnostics for COVID-19, and mapping the existing facilities and clinical capacities.
- In addition to the programme's actions, and in the context of the joint procurement agreement to procure medical countermeasures signed by the Commission and Member States, joint procurement was urgently launched for gloves and coveralls (for a maximum amount of EUR 1.4 billion); eye and respiratory protection (for a maximum amount of EUR 150 million); ventilators/respirators (for a maximum amount of EUR 790 million) and laboratory equipment.

Performance assessment

- The health programme's performance should be assessed in the context of its scope and its modest financial envelope, linked to policy coordination at EU level. The immediate response to the COVID-19 outbreak has been financed through other instruments, such as the EU's Civil Protection Mechanism, the Emergency Support Instrument and the European Union Solidarity Fund.
- The mid-term evaluation of the third health programme carried out in 2017 concluded that its implementation was on track. Major achievements were the creation of 24 European reference networks, support to Member States to increase their capacity-building to respond to outbreaks (e.g. the Ebola and Zika viruses), contributing to the EU's migration policy by supporting Member States to respond to the health needs of a high influx of migrants and refugees, and the training of health professionals and other frontline staff.
- The programme addresses efficiently the priorities for implementing best practices for health promotion and disease prevention, crisis preparedness and risk management, relevant information in the framework of the European semester, mental health and health and innovation.
- The majority of indicators related to the programme's general and specific objectives showed positive trends over the implementation period of 2014-2019. Five out of eight indicators reached and in certain cases went beyond the milestones defined at the beginning of the period, implying that they should reach their defined targets by its end. The decrease of the 'number of Member States in which the European accreditation scheme for breast cancer services is implemented' indicator is explained by the fact that in 2019, developers of guidelines and/or national authorities of (only) six Member States have used, implemented or adapted in their national cancer plans the European guidelines, evidence base or methodology developed by the European Commission initiative on breast cancer, coordinated by the Joint Research Centre. The other two indicators that did not reach their milestones in 2019 concern (a) the 'number of health technology assessments' produced per year, which reached

27 in 2019 versus the milestone envisaged of 29, and (b) the indicator on the number of healthcare providers and centres of expertise joining European reference networks. The stabilisation of this indicator at around 950, after reaching the milestone set for in 2017 in that year, can mainly be explained by the fact that subsequent annual milestones were set at levels that were too ambitious, with regard to external factors linked with the networks' infrastructure, capacity and resources.

- In line with the conclusions of the mid-term evaluation, the Commission will continue to work on three main aspects of the third health programme: (a) improving monitoring, reporting and dissemination; (b) encouraging the involvement of all Member States and other participating countries, and working with all Member States, particularly those with greater public health needs; and (c) developing synergies with the Commission's main priorities and other programmes. The new health programme should foster further synergies and complementarities with other EU programmes and funds (e.g. the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, InvestEU and Horizon Europe).

Concrete examples of achievements

458	6 650	3	30
panels were used by European reference networks to discuss rare or complex patient cases in February 2019.	people from all Member States have visited the online best practices portal for health promotion and disease prevention since June 2018.	rounds of external quality assurance exercises have been completed under the Emerge joint action (efficient response to highly dangerous and emerging pathogens at EU level) since June 2018.	country health profiles were published by the Commission under the 'State of health in the EU cycle' in November 2019.

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 254/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

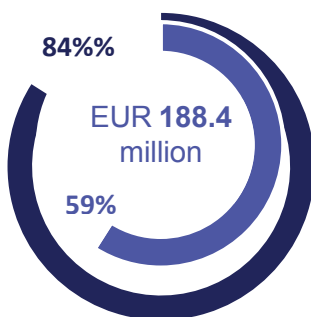
MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!dF39mj>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	24.1
2015	24.7
2016	25.9
2017	26.9
2018	28.0
2019	29.3
2020	29.7
Total	188.4

OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)

- Payments
- Commitments

Evaluations/
studies conducted

In 2019 the Commission published its report on the midterm evaluation of the consumer programme 2014-2020, available here: <https://europa.eu/!jC36Hv>

How is it
implemented?

DG Justice and Consumers is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. It is supported by the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants) and procurement.

CONSUMER PROGRAMME

What is the consumer programme?

The programme supports the EU consumer policy. It aims to help citizens fully enjoy their consumer rights and actively participate in the single market, thus supporting growth, innovation and meeting the objectives of Europe 2020. The consumer programme 2014-2020 focuses on four key areas:

- a single market of safe products for the benefit of citizens and as a component of competitive businesses and traders;
- a single market where citizens are well represented by professional consumer organisations whose capacity is built to meet the challenges of today's economic environment;
- a market where citizens are aware of and exercise their rights as consumers so that they contribute to the growth of competitive markets; citizens must enjoy access to redress mechanisms in the event of problems without needing to resort to court procedures which are lengthy and costly for them and the governments;
- concrete and effective collaboration between national bodies to support the enforcement of consumer rights and support the consumers with advice.



Specific objectives

- **Safety.** To consolidate and enhance product safety through effective market surveillance throughout the EU.
- **Consumer information and education, and support to consumer organisations.** To improve consumer education, information and awareness of rights, to develop the evidence base for consumer policy and to provide support to consumer organisations, taking into account the specific needs of vulnerable consumers.
- **Rights and redress.** To develop and reinforce consumer rights in particular through smart regulatory action and improving access to simple, efficient, expedient and low-cost redress procedures, including alternative dispute resolution.
- **Enforcement.** To support enforcement of consumer rights by strengthening cooperation

Why is it necessary?

Ensuring that products circulating on the internal market, including online, are safe for consumers is a basic objective of EU consumer policy.

Consumers need to be confident that unsafe products have no place on the EU market and that the relevant rules are effectively and efficiently enforced, both domestically and across borders. This is why the EU supports a coordinated and coherent approach to the

b) enforcement of safety and market surveillance rules across the EU.





Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed the integration of the consumer programme into the new single market programme, for the next multiannual financial framework, in the spirit of continuity, flexibility and EU added value.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
26.8	2017	19.7	
28.0	2018	27.3	
29.2	2019	26.0	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Safety — % of notifications to rapid alert system for dangerous consumer products resulting in at least one reaction ⁽¹⁾		 92%	48%	44% out of 48%
EU-wide online dispute resolution system – number of cases dealt with		 > 100%	100 000	129 456 cases dealt with compared to a target of 100 000
Contacts with consumers handled by the European consumer centres	71 000	 > 100%	106 500	120 443 contacts compared to a target of 106 500
Visits to the website of the European consumer centres ⁽²⁾	3 m	 > 100%	5.1 m	5.5 million visits compared to a target of 5.1 million

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Average of results for 2014-2019.

⁽²⁾ Latest results from 2018.

Where are we in the implementation?

- The implementation of the consumer programme 2014-2020 is on track. The 2019 commitment appropriations were used as planned, including certain pre-defined actions to be concluded during the first half of 2020.
- The Commission worked with the national authorities to fight against misleading commercial practices by major online operators such as Facebook, Airbnb and Booking.com and to prepare for the implementation of the new consumer protection cooperation regulation.
- The website of the Rapid Alert System for Dangerous Non-Food Products, set up in 2003, was revamped in 2019 and renamed 'Safety Gate'.
- The Commission launched a new initiative in 2019: the EU Product Safety Award, to showcase best business practices in consumer protection that can serve as an inspiration for other companies.
- In 2019 the small to medium-sized enterprises training pilot project 'consumer law ready', an EU-wide training programme in consumer law for small to medium-sized enterprises, was integrated into the consumer programme, receiving new funding and extending its duration.
- The Online Dispute Resolution Platform remained a useful tool to help people find the most appropriate means of redress. In 2019 new functionalities were added to further enhance its efficiency and user-friendliness.
- In 2019 the consumer programme supported the implementation of an EU-wide screening of hundreds of e-shops to check their compliance with EU rules, coordinated by the Commission.

Performance assessment

- According to the midterm evaluation of the consumer programme 2014-2020 presented in 2019, the programme made progress towards achieving its specific objectives in the areas of safety, consumer information and education, rights and redress and enforcement. The results of this study show the stakeholders' general satisfaction with the relevance and effectiveness of the activities.
- The evaluation suggests strengthening the programme's ability to react to new challenges related to market developments, digitalisation and new policy demands. There is significant room for improvement in terms of the administrative burden related to the programme's delivery, as well as scope for simplification. To ensure much closer cooperation between the European Commission and Member States' market surveillance authorities, the Commission switched from grants to a tender procedure, signing the first contract in January 2019 and the second in December 2019.
- The Safety Gate has led to increased cooperation between national authorities and an increase in the ratio of feedback of reports of other authorities to 'serious risk' notifications; this result is particularly positive considering that a notification can trigger several reactions from authorities of other Member States.
- The consumer scoreboards are a valuable tool to provide evidence of how the EU's single market works for consumers through three priority areas: (1) knowledge and trust; (2) compliance and enforcement; and (3) complaints and dispute resolution. The 2018 consumer conditions index shows a decrease, driven mainly by a decline in consumer trust in western European countries and, markedly, in the United Kingdom.
- The EU consumer policy aims to boost consumers' and traders' trust by giving them access to more efficient and cost-effective means of out-of-court redress, notably through alternative dispute resolution and online dispute resolution mechanisms. The Commission report on the implementation of the alternative dispute resolution / online dispute resolution legislation of September 2019 concluded that the Member States achieved full territorial and (with some specific gaps) sectoral coverage of alternative dispute resolution in all segments of consumer markets.
- In the future, the programme should be able to better react to new challenges related to market developments, digitalisation and new policy demands. Additional priority could be given to sustainable consumption, to vulnerable consumers, to activities that contribute to a uniform and high level of consumer protection throughout the EU and to support for consumer organisations at the Member State level (e.g. jointly with the Member States in their role as consumer watchdogs).

Concrete examples of achievements

2 000	8	$\frac{2}{3}$	57%	EUR 24 billion
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<p>notifications of dangerous products were communicated by Member States through the Safety Gate in 2019.</p>	<p>companies were awarded the EU Product Safety Award for excellence in business practices for consumer protection in the safety of childcare products.</p>	<p>of the e-shop websites screened under the 2019 EU-wide screening were revealed to not be complying with basic EU consumer rights.</p>	<p>of consumers (an increasing proportion) pay attention to products' green credentials when shopping (results from the consumer scoreboard released in 2019).</p>	<p>over the last 2 years is the overall estimated financial loss due to scams and fraud, brought to light by the 2019 survey on scams and fraud.</p>
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LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 1295/2013
of the European Parliament and
of the Council

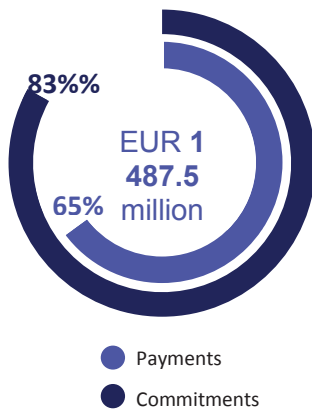
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<http://europa.eu/!Vq78Jr>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	181.9
2015	177.7
2016	191.8
2017	208.9
2018	230.4
2019	244.8
2020	251.9
Total	1 487.5

**OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)****Evaluations/
studies conducted**

The European Audiovisual Observatory, co-financed by creative Europe, was commissioned to prepare eight studies. The 2019 external ex post evaluation on the Capitals of Culture is available at: <https://europa.eu/!WB38vW>

**How is it
implemented?**

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

CREATIVE EUROPE

CREATIVE EUROPE PROGRAMME

What is creative Europe?

The creative Europe programme contributes to the political priorities, in particular those relating to jobs, growth and investment and the European digital single market. By allowing the participation of non-EU cultural and creative operators, the programme also contributes to making the EU a stronger global actor. At the same time, the programme helps address current political and societal challenges through the power of culture to reach the hearts and minds of citizens and boost confidence in our shared European values.



Specific objectives

- To support the capacity of the European cultural and creative sectors to operate transnationally and internationally.
- To promote the transnational circulation of cultural and creative works and the transnational mobility of cultural and creative players.
- To strengthen the financial capacity of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and organisations in the cultural and creative sectors.
- To foster policy development, innovation, creativity, audience development and new business and management models through support for transnational policy cooperation.

Why is it necessary?

Creative Europe's EU added value rests on its complementarity with national public funds and on its support for transnational activities and cooperation between cultural and creative players, including artists, audiovisual professionals, cultural and creative organisations and audiovisual operators. Moreover, EU added value is achieved by fostering economies of scale, while taking into account countries with low production capacity and/or countries or regions with a

restricted geographical or linguistic area.






Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposal for the new Creative Europe programme for 2021-2027 includes a Culture strand (covering all cultural and creative sectors, with the exception of the audiovisual sector), a MEDIA strand (for the audiovisual sector) and a cross-sectoral strand.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
208.9	2017	182.8	2017
230.4	2018	193.1	2018
244.8	2019	200.1	2019

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Admissions for non-national European films in Europe ⁽¹⁾	69 m	 > 100%	71 m	95 million compared to a target of 71 million
Admissions for non-national European films in the 10 most important non-European markets ⁽¹⁾	61 m	 > 100%	85 m	88 million compared to a target of 85 million
Share of European audiovisual works in cinemas ⁽¹⁾		 > 100%	59%	66% compared to a target of 59%
Share of European audiovisual works on digital platforms (video on demand) ⁽¹⁾		 94%	27%	25% compared to a target of 27%
Member States making use of results of the open method of coordination in their national policy development ^(2,3)		 85%	20	17 out of 20 Member States

 % of target achieved by the end of 2018

⁽¹⁾ Average of results for 2014-2018.

⁽²⁾ Latest results from 2019.

⁽³⁾ Cumulative results for 2014-2020.

Where are we in the implementation?

- Between 2016 and 2019 the programme was implemented as planned, in terms of both results achieved and budget execution.
- In 2019 a total of 2 398 applications were submitted (486 under culture and 1 912 under media), of which 1 311 were selected for funding (160 for culture and 1 151 for media). In comparison to the previous year (5 290 applications in 2018), this represents a reduction in applications in the most popular and competitive schemes, such as MEDIA Development and Culture Cooperation. Also, the implementation of MEDIA was significantly streamlined as the volume of support to the theatrical distribution of films was maintained whilst the number of individual grants fell significantly from 1 000 to below 300.

Performance assessment

- The MEDIA sub-programme is performing very well in relation to promoting European cultural and linguistic diversity by supporting the development and distribution of films and TV series in Europe. A high share of supported content is co-produced through cross-border collaborations, as it travels better and attracts bigger audiences. MEDIA successfully shared stories across channels, reaching no less than 125 million people.
- The culture sub-programme is progressing towards achieving the key objective of encouraging transnational cooperation in the cultural field. More than 530 partnerships have been created between 3 300 organisations across Europe. The very low success rates recorded (around 12% in 2014-2017) can be attributed to the low amounts of funding available in the first years of implementation, which might have discouraged organisations from applying.
- Cooperation takes place around the three main priorities of the programme: mobility of artists and works, capacity building and, especially, audience development. Finally, the programme demonstrated its ability to innovate and respond to demands by testing a new mobility scheme for artists and professionals as well as by piloting support for the Creative Innovation Lab concept.

Concrete examples of achievements

25%	20	37 000	5	10	6
of films produced each year in Europe receive support from the MEDIA subprogramme for development and distribution.	films supported by the media subprogramme have won major international prizes (five in Berlin, seven in Cannes, three in Venice, four in San Sebastian and one in Annecy), and there have also been 15 European Film Academy awards and six nominations for awards from international film academies (two for the Oscars and four for the Golden Globes).	European films have been listed in the online Directory of European Films, launched as a beta version in April 2019.	euros was generated for each euro of funding from the media subprogramme in 2019. A contribution of EUR 120 million led to a total value of EUR 626 million, demonstrating a leverage ratio of more than 5.	times more applications were made than there was funding available for the individual mobility scheme for artists and creative people.	euros is generated for the local economy for each euro of public money invested in European Capitals of Culture. Overnight visitors increase on average by 12%.

Media subprogramme

- In 2019 the MEDIA sub-programme took an important step towards reaching wider audiences. The 'Distribution Selective' scheme was wholly restructured to promote more collaboration and joined-up distribution strategies, and thereby to reach wider audiences (e.g. by sharing marketing materials among distributors).
- A key achievement in 2019 was the launch of the online Directory of European Films, a tool that increases transparency about the availability of European films in video-on-demand services throughout the European Union.

Culture subprogramme

- The individual mobility scheme for artists and creative people was successfully launched as an experimental action in 2018. In 2019 it funded the mobility of 337 individuals for the purposes of professional development, co-production or strengthening international collaborations. It appealed especially to young and emerging artists with low incomes, with ten times more applications than funding available.

- The budget of the preparatory action 'music moves Europe' doubled to EUR 3 million in 2019, to support European diversity and talent, the competitiveness of the sector as well as increased access of citizens to music in all its diversity.

Cross-sectoral strand

- By the end of 2019 the Cultural and Creative Sectors' Guarantee Facility had 13 guarantee agreements with 12 financial intermediaries from Spain, France, Romania, Czechia, Belgium, Italy, Portugal, Denmark, Sweden and Poland. Expected debt financing for SMEs amounted to EUR 1.2 billion. Loans were distributed to 1,697 SMEs, supporting EUR 340 million in debt financing, of which 64% from the audiovisual sector and 36% from other cultural sectors.
- In 2019 the cultural and creative spaces and cities project (2018-2020, EUR 1.5 million) continued to implement its activities for the better use of public spaces and social regeneration through culture.
- The literary translation scheme has contributed efficiently to increasing the diversity of European literature through the translation and promotion of more than 3 000 books. With more than 30 different 'less-represented' languages, the scheme provides clear added value in comparison to the market dominated by translations from English.

LEGAL BASIS

Task resulting from the Commission's prerogatives at institutional level, as provided for by Article 58(2)(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of

MORE INFORMATION

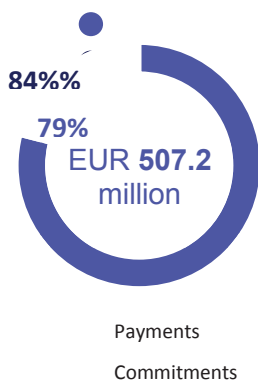
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FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	61.3
2015	65.6
2016	71.1
2017	76.3
2018	76.4
2019	77.1
2020	79.4
Total	507.2

OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)

**Evaluations/
studies conducted**

Information on the evaluation of the communication activities reports is available at: <http://europa.eu/!VH46UP>

**How is it
implemented?**

The Directorate-General for Communication is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct (public procurement) management.

COMMUNICATION

FINANCIAL INTERVENTION IN THE COMMUNICATION POLICY AREA

What are the communication activities?

The programme covers communication products and services directly addressed to citizens, along with executive and corporate services provided to the President of the Commission and the College of Commissioners, and across the communication domain of the Commission's services, aligning the Commission's communications with the political priorities. The headquarters of DG Communication, together with the Spokesperson's Service and the representations in the Member States, communicate with the media, stakeholders and citizens about issues of EU policy and its direct impact on citizen's daily activities.

**Specific objectives**

- A simple, clear, understandable message is communicated to citizens explaining the direct impact of EU policies on their lives.
- A coherent and effective corporate communication strategy is developed and maintained.
- Country-specific information and analysis are fed into the College's decision-making process.

Why is it necessary?

The Commission's communication products and services directly addressed to EU citizens provide information for and engagement with those citizens. They ensure that communication services for citizens are made available through simple, clear and understandable messages, either via a mix of channels and media (traditional and new) or by communicating directly with citizens and stimulating exchange and engagement face to face. Taken together, these means help citizens to access up-to-date and user-friendly information on European Union policies and values. They contribute to citizens' increased awareness and understanding of EU affairs. In turn, this stimulates citizens' interest in engaging directly with 'the faces of the Commission', be that locally, nationally or across the EU. Audiovisual productions and multimedia projects for the general public are

focused on the Commission priorities, entailing a limited number of high-quality productions and serving general communication objectives.







Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed to include communication activities under the 'Cohesion and values' heading of the next multiannual financial framework.

Voted budget execution (in EUR million)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS			EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
76.2		2017		71.6
76.4		2018		73.0
77.1		2019		72.0

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
EU citizens with a positive image of the EU	39%	 27%	50%	42% compared to 50% of citizens surveyed
Downloads of multimedia productions ¹		 87%	140 000	122 196 out of 140 000
Satisfaction relating to queries sent to the Europe Direct contact centre ¹		 95%	90%	85% out of 90%
Visitors to the Commission very satisfied with their visit ¹		 99%	90%	89% out of 90%
Unique visitors to the Europa website ¹		 88%	250 m	220 million compared to a target of 250 million
Political and economic reports and analysis produced ¹		 >100%	500	611 compared to a target of 500

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Average of results for 2014-2019.

Where are we in the implementation?

- The communication activities in 2019 were implemented as planned, with an overall budgetary implementation rate of 100% for both commitment and payment appropriations.
- Payment needs for 2020 were estimated for each budget line, taking into account the average implementation rates from previous years. Fresh commitments will lead to payment appropriations in 2020 of between 30% and 60% of the amount committed, depending on the budget line.
- In 2019 the Commission's communication services were further aligned to contribute to coherent and effective corporate communication on the political priorities. A key example of this type of corporate service is the management and governance of the Europa website. The digital transformation project was completed in 2018 and stabilised in 2019. The restructuring and merging of the two entry points of the Europa website (the political site and the information site) was characterised by a strong focus on users (increased number of unique visitors, see specific objective 1) and a reinforced governance approach. This corporate approach will lead, step by step, to the definition of clearer corporate messages/narratives, distinctive visual branding (including, eventually, brand recognition) and economies of scale, and will thus contribute to achieving a better image for the Commission and for the EU as a whole.

Performance assessment

- While the importance of good communication is generally recognised, the EU's communication efforts deal with unique challenges, namely the need to communicate in more than 24 languages and the need to communicate effectively across a whole continent in times of increasing fragmentation and disinformation. The overall goal is to communicate simple, clear and understandable messages to citizens to support a positive view of the European Union.
- Communication is typically a flanking measure that runs alongside policymaking. In the EU context it is subject to two types of external factors. First, there is the perception of the content and substance of the policy that is being communicated and the perceived role of the EU institutions. Second, there is the complex environment of 27 national public spaces and an emerging European public space. These two factors interact both with each other and with the more general setting of political and economic factors, the level of trust in political institutions and the media, and the general relationship with those media.
- In spite of the difficulties, 42% of EU citizens had a positive view of the European Union in 2019. This continues the sustained upward trend from a low of 35% in 2016, which was mostly due to the impact of the migration crisis. That crisis has had an impact on the perception of the EU that has put the original target well out of reach.
- Nonetheless, the upward trend is encouraging. While many factors play a role in this trend, the Commission has actively contributed through a clear and consistent focus on improving the corporate EU communication effort, which is also evidenced by the significant increase in the number of unique visitors visiting the Europa website.
- 2019 was a transitional year between two Commissions, which also had an impact on the overall effectiveness of EU communication. This can be seen in the number of visits to the Commission Visitors' Centre, which was 5% below the benchmark, and in a slightly lower satisfaction ratio than in previous years. Over the entire period, satisfaction with the Commission's provision of communication and information has seen an overall increase.
- In relation to future-oriented activities, the Commission needs to remain up to speed with the constantly evolving communications industry and media environment, anticipating trends and challenges, for example in the following fields:
 - innovative communication services such as social media, including in particular more localised social media messaging via representations;
 - graphic design and multimedia productions, to comply with the increasing demand for attractive and visual media content;
 - the increasing need for data analytics and fact-checking/rebuttals in the context of disinformation / fake news, to enhance the Commission's rebuttal and myth-busting capacity;
 - strong demand for authentic face-to-face events, such as citizens' dialogues, the Visitors' Centre / Experience Europe info point and local outreach activities of representations, local/regional information centres and the Information Service.

Concrete examples of achievements

1st	94%	5 million	1 000	484
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<p>place for the Commission's Europa website in the government/society category, in terms of popularity rank (<i>source: Alexa.com</i>).</p>	<p>satisfaction on the part of external users of the Europa website.</p>	<p>registered followers of corporate social media accounts.</p>	<p>hours of television content picked up across the EU from Europe by Satellite, the EU's television information service.</p>	<p>citizens' dialogues, where the Commission President and Commissioners, along with Members of the European Parliament and the European Committee of the Regions, including the Presidents, and national and regional politicians, engaged with citizens.</p>
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LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

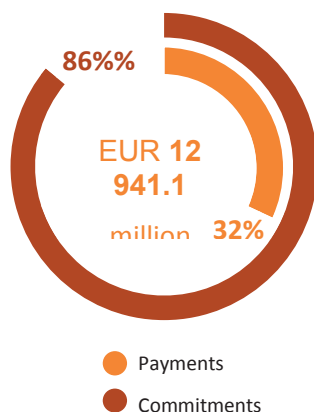
MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!Pf48uH>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	1 478.6
2015	1 573.7
2016	1 678.1
2017	2 118.4
2018	2 041.4
2019	2 394.1
2020	1 656.7
Total	12 941.1

**OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)**

- Payments
- Commitments

**Evaluations/
studies conducted**

The midterm evaluation of IPA II was carried out in 2017 within the framework of the midterm review of the external financing instruments. For further information please consult: <https://europa.eu/!MF73NR>

**How is it
implemented?**

The Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct management (both centralised in Brussels and decentralised to EU delegations) and indirect management by beneficiary

Why is it necessary?

The IPA complements the EU's enlargement policy by supporting political and economic reforms in beneficiary countries. It contributes to meeting the broader objectives of ensuring stability, security and prosperity in the immediate neighbourhood of the EU.

The EU's political influence and leverage allows national authorities to be engaged with greater authority and legal certainty than is possible for individual Member States. Furthermore, granting pre-accession assistance under one single instrument on the

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS			EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
2 116.8	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	2017	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	860.0
2 040.5	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	2018	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	1 063.5
2 393.2	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>	2019	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>	1 298.1

IPA II

INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE

What is IPA II?

The Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) is the means by which the EU supports reforms in candidate and potential candidate countries by means of financial and technical assistance. The IPA's funding aims to build up the capacities of such countries throughout the accession process, resulting in progressive, positive developments towards accession.

IPA funds help beneficiaries aspiring to join the EU prepare to fulfil the obligations that come with EU membership and to benefit from the rights enshrined in EU membership. It supports reforms that provide citizens in the enlargement region with better opportunities and allow for the development of standards equal to those enjoyed by EU citizens.

Pre-accession assistance is designed to help the beneficiaries (currently Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey) come closer to the accession benchmarks. By its nature, IPA II is an enabling instrument that supports beneficiaries in implementing the necessary reforms and achieving their respective targets and the conditionality of the stabilisation and association process.

Pre-accession assistance is an investment in:

- public administration reform,
- the rule of law,
- a sustainable economy,
- people,
- agriculture and rural

development.









Specific objectives

- Support for political reforms.
- Support for economic, social and territorial development, with a view to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.
- Strengthening of the ability of the beneficiary countries at all levels to fulfil the obligations stemming from Union membership by supporting progressive alignment with, and adoption, implementation and enforcement of, the Union *acquis*.
- Strengthening regional integration and territorial cooperation involving the beneficiary countries, Member States and, where appropriate, non-EU countries.

basis of a single set of criteria is more efficient than granting assistance from multiple sources (including the national budgets of the Member States) following different procedures and priorities. The funds also help the EU reach its own objectives regarding a sustainable economic recovery, security of energy supply, improved transport connections, enhanced environmental standards, more effective action to combat climate change, etc.

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
'Distance to frontier' (Doing Business) score (western Balkans)	60	 100%	72	72 out of 72 score
'Distance to frontier' (Doing Business) score (Turkey)	65	 > 100%	73	75 compared to 73 score
GDP per capita as % of EU level - (Western Balkans excluding Kosovo) ⁽¹⁾	33%	 13%	43%	34% compared to 43% score
GDP per capita as % of EU level - (Turkey) ⁽¹⁾	49%	 94%	65%	64% compared to 65% score
Cross-border cooperation programmes concluded (IPA - IPA)		 90%	10	9 out of 10 programmes
Cross-border cooperation programmes concluded (IPA - EU MS)		 83%	12	10 out of 12 programmes

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Latest results from 2018.

Where are we in the implementation?

- The 7-year programming of the instrument, by means of country and multi-country indicative strategy papers, was reviewed at the midterm point and revised accordingly. The main objective of this review was to take account of recent policy developments, political priorities and other changes registered in the region. This exercise also allowed the performance reward to be allocated. Following a strategic dialogue with the European Parliament and a comitology procedure, the Commission adopted the revised indicative strategy papers in August 2018.
- In 2019, 17 programmes and five amendments were adopted amounting to EUR 2.4 billion in commitment appropriations.
- In particular, two special measures were adopted to support Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia in managing their migration flows, as the migratory flows on the western Balkans route saw a significant increase in 2019 compared to the previous year.
- As regards the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, the first tranche of EUR 3 billion has been fully contracted, with 72 projects rolled out. The full operational budget of the second tranche of EUR 3 billion was committed at the end of 2019. As regards the development strand, EUR 710 million out of EUR 1 945 million had been contracted by the end of 2019.
- In addition, one substantial amendment to the multiannual action programme for Turkey has been made in relation to environment and climate action.
- The level of resources for Turkey in 2020 have been reduced to EUR 168 million, and the remaining allocations will target two main objectives: (1) democracy and the rule of law, including participation in EU programmes and agencies and support for civil society through the Civil Society Facility; and (2) the rural development programme.

Performance assessment

- IPA II is making progress towards achieving its overall objectives, and some IPA indicators are on track to be achieved. For other indicators more work is needed. For instance, while there have been improvements in the fulfilment of fundamental areas of the political criteria for enlargement countries, such as the rule of law, these good results are counterbalanced by the backsliding in Turkey (see below).
- IPA II supports its beneficiaries in coping with ambitious political and economic reforms and in progressively aligning with the European Union's rules, standards, policies and practices on their path towards EU membership. It fosters reforms in candidate and potential candidate countries through a combination of financial assistance and policy dialogue, preparing them for the rights and obligations that come with EU membership.
- The enlargement countries need to implement difficult and time-consuming reforms to make progress in the fundamental areas of the political accession criteria, including sustainable and far-reaching political and societal transformation. They also face challenges relating to making advances in the fundamental areas of the economic criteria, which are interlinked with the political criteria.
- The Commission put particular emphasis on these areas in its western Balkans strategy of February 2018, including the provision of enhanced support to the countries, and in its communication of February 2020 on a revised EU accession methodology, which will put an even stronger focus on these fundamental reforms. The rule of law will become even more central to the accession negotiations – for example anti-corruption work will be mainstreamed. There will be a stronger focus on the fundamentals of the functioning of democratic institutions, public administration reform and supporting economic reforms.
- In this context, only Turkey is experiencing backsliding at the end of 2019 in the areas of the rule of law and fundamental rights, public administration reform and a functioning market economy. The backsliding on reforms and low absorption capacity had already been pointed out in the midterm evaluation of the IPA (results for the period between January 2014 and June 2017), and therefore the Commission proposed in 2017 to further adapt the pre-accession funds for Turkey in the 2018-2020 period as part of the midterm review under the IPA regulation. This led in August 2018 to the adoption of a revised indicative strategy paper for IPA funds in Turkey for 2018-2020, whereby initial indicative allocations were reduced by 40%. The allocations for 2019 and 2020 were further reduced, with a focus on democracy and the rule of law, along with rural development.
- The Commission proposal for IPA III presents key improvements meant to enhance the impact of the support. Firstly, the performance-incentive approach, which rewards the most advanced and committed countries, will become annual as opposed to checks only being carried out at midterm as is the case for IPA II. Secondly, only technically mature projects will be selected for support by IPA funds. This is expected to accelerate the implementation of projects by reducing the amount of time between selection and effective contracting. Thirdly, emphasis in the selection of projects will be put on the fundamental areas of the *acquis*, notably the rule of law.
- In 2020, priority in the implementation is already being given to direct management, since the indirect management of the funds

by the enlargement countries or entities entrusted by them does not deliver with sufficient speed and efficiency. One notable exception is the pre-accession assistance for rural development in Turkey, for which there is strong administrative capacity.

- The Facility for Refugees in Turkey continues to deliver much-needed assistance to refugees and host communities in Turkey in all the priority areas it covers, i.e. basic needs, education, healthcare, protection, socioeconomic support and municipal infrastructure. The Facility Steering Committee meets on a regular basis and follows, monitors and steers the implementation of the facility. Six-monthly monitoring reports, which are publicly available, confirm that the facility is continuing to achieve its goals. The Commission is currently assessing the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on projects under the facility and will discuss possible remedial action with implementing partners and the Turkish authorities.

Concrete examples of achievements

1.7 million	24%	2	811	847	19 400
refugees are currently being provided with monthly cash transfers under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey.	of all education professionals in Serbia were trained to improve student's skills and competences in 2019.	new border terminals and modern customs clearance facilities equipped with the latest inspection technology were set up in North Macedonia in 2019.	judges and prosecutors are currently in the process of being vetted as part of the judicial reforms in Albania.	housing units have been constructed or renovated in Bosnia and Herzegovina since the launch in September 2017 of the project to alleviate the 2014 floods.	vulnerable people had been provided with housing by end of 2019 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia as part of the attempt to address the consequences of the conflicts of the 1990s.

- In Turkey the IPA rural development programme has supported the modernisation of the agricultural sector, promoting innovative approaches and reaching out to grassroots levels in Turkey, including the peripheral and border regions. After almost 10 years of preparation, 55 local action groups have been established, providing an excellent basis for the involvement of more stakeholders. The rural development projects have also set a new benchmark for investments in the Turkish agri-food sector, fully in line with EU standards. In addition, the Turkish agency in charge of its implementation operates to a high standard and serves as a good institutional model.
- Also in Turkey the EU Civil Society Facility has allowed the EU to directly support civil initiatives and rights-based projects proposed by individuals and civil-society organisations to address particularly sensitive issues. The facility's flagship programme in Turkey is Sivil Düşün ('think civil'), a unique project that has been in place for 8 years. Through various support mechanisms, Sivil Düşün provides flexible, transparent and accessible support for rights-based work carried out by activists, civil-society organisations, platforms, networks, civil initiatives, foundations, associations, rights-based cooperatives, non-profit organisations, city councils, unions and the human-rights and civil-society departments of universities.
- Two media projects carried out by the Civil Society Facility in Turkey have allowed a press-freedom campaign to reach at least 350 000 people, and 1 033 journalists received professional training nationwide. The projects also provide legal assistance to journalists, monitor their trial and, provide mediation and judicial-process support. Thirty-one media organisations and journalists received technical support for their websites and online channels due to their efforts to enrich media pluralism in the country.
- In Serbia a total of 546 state-financed scholarships were awarded to Roma secondary-school students, providing them with opportunities to continue to learn and develop. In order to reduce drop-out rates among Roma children and improve the conditions for Roma children and students (both girls and boys), a total of 243 teaching assistants were contracted to work with them.
- In North Macedonia the quality of both surface waters and ground waters is being negatively affected by the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated sewage. Following the construction of a waste water treatment plant the whole population of the Eastern region of the country (totalling 54 676 people) can now benefit directly from properly treated waste water. All agricultural holdings also benefit from better environmental conditions when producing their agricultural products. The health of both citizens and nature is better looked after. The volume of untreated municipal waste water discharged into the Strumica River has been reduced, thus minimising negative impacts on the quality of water resources, nature and health in the Strumica region.
- In Bosnia and Herzegovina the local integrated development project contributed directly to improving the standard of living of more than 160 000 people, working with domestic authorities to create mechanisms and resources needed to drive social and economic development. The project prioritised assistance to the most vulnerable, including returnees, internally displaced persons, the elderly, Roma, people with disabilities and the long-term unemployed, with a special focus on women. The project was implemented in 21 partner cities and municipalities, prioritising localities that are home to large returnee populations and those that were affected by the floods of May 2014.

LEGAL BASIS

Council Regulation (EC)

No 1080/2006

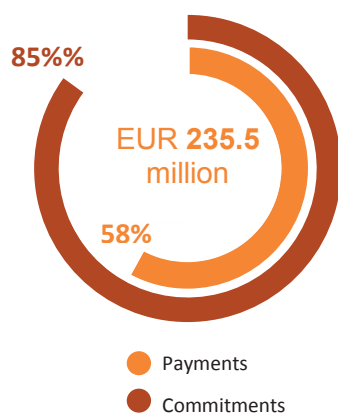
MORE INFORMATION

<https://europa.eu/ljR63ju>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	31.5
2015	30.6
2016	33.2
2017	34.8
2018	34.5
2019	35.1
2020	35.8
Total	235.5

OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)Evaluations/
studies conducted

Each year the Commission must send a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of Community assistance under this instrument. For further information, see: <http://europa.eu/!MV34dK>

How is it
implemented?

DG Structural Reform Support is the lead service for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct management (procurement contracts and grants) and indirect management (contribution agreements with international organisations and Member State agencies).

TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY

INSTRUMENT OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ENCOURAGING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY

What is the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot Community?

The programme aims to facilitate the reunification of Cyprus by encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community, with particular emphasis on:

- the economic integration of the island;
- improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU;
- the preparation for the implementation of the EU body of laws (EU *acquis*) following a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue.

The programme provides a significant amount of support through private sector development schemes, facilitating the involvement of the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and human capital development. Measures financed under the aid programme are exceptional and transitional in nature and are intended, in particular, to prepare and facilitate the full application of the EU *acquis* in the areas where the government of Cyprus does not exercise effective control, in view of the withdrawal of its suspension in accordance with the Act of Accession, upon the entry into force of a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem.



Specific objectives

- To facilitate the reunification of Cyprus by encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community with particular emphasis on the economic integration of the island, on improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU, and on preparation for the *acquis communautaire*.

Why is it necessary?

The programme is the only EU funding for Turkish Cypriots, who are EU citizens. They receive very little assistance from individual Member States due to the difficult legal and political circumstances on the de facto divided island. The EU's contribution supports the political process, economic integration and improved living standards, and is vital for the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot

community in order to facilitate the reunification of Cyprus.




Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

On the basis of the proposal made by the Commission, the instrument of financial support for encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community remains unchanged for the period 2021-2027. In the Commission's proposed structure for the new multiannual financial framework, the programme is part of Heading 2, 'Cohesion and Values'.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
34.8	2017	17.6	
34.5	2018	26.0	
35.1	2019	34.5	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Number of enterprises having received EU support in the form of a grant		 97%	420	407 out of 420 enterprises
Cross-Green Line trade volume (in million EUR)	3.4 m	 40%	8.5 m	5.4 out of EUR 8.5 million
EU visibility in northern Cyprus: number of communication actions in a year		 >100%	90	343 actions achieved compared to a target of 90

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

Where are we in the implementation?

- In the 2014-2020 period, a sum of EUR 240.1 million was dedicated to the programme in accordance with its legal basis.
- The 2020 annual action programme, with a total budget allocation of EUR 36.6 million, is scheduled for adoption in the second half of 2020.
- Difficulties encountered in the implementation have been addressed by basing the planning of the financial assistance under the aid programme on project maturity, policy relevance and track record of past implementation.

Performance assessment

- The approach to delivering aid was recently renewed. It is now based on project maturity, policy relevance and track record of past implementation in order to produce a more tangible and visible impact in the priority areas. The beneficiary is involved at an early stage and the EU Coordination Centre, the Turkish Cypriot community body in charge of coordinating the implementation of the aid programme, is progressively taking a more active role in prioritisation and self-assessment of projects. The renewed approach aims to improve coherence and streamline priority infrastructure actions, improve the entrepreneurship ecosystem through enhanced linkages between research and business (through the Innovative Entrepreneurship mechanism), and help the bi-communal technical committees to carry out their activities more effectively.
- The instrument is implemented in a unique diplomatic, legal and political context. Major difficulties affecting the efficiency and effectiveness of the programme arise from the non-recognised status of the Turkish Cypriot administration, from the poor absorption capacity due to lack of coordination across beneficiaries and a lack of long-term planning, and from disputes with contractors, notably when it comes to work contracts. Those difficulties are addressed through programming of the financial assistance under the Aid Programme based on project maturity, policy relevance and track-record of past implementation. The underlying aim is to bring more tangible and visible impact in the priority areas with an annual programming resulting in a streamlined and compact set of actions. In addition, under this programming approach, the beneficiary is involved at an early stage and the EU Coordination Centre is progressively taking a more active role in prioritisation and self-assessment of projects.
- The programme pursues its objective through various different actions, such as infrastructure development, economic development, reconciliation and EU visibility and adoption of the EU *acquis*. Taken together, overall progress towards the objective has largely been promising. Indicator results for grant agreements and EU visibility show satisfactory results. Support for farmers and small to medium-sized enterprises has progressed well and beneficiaries have rated civil society grants as particularly successful. Through the programme's aid, it has been possible to identify a large number of remains of missing persons and restore cultural sites.
- Infrastructure works also produced positive results, notably a waste water treatment plant in Nicosia. In Famagusta, a contract was signed to provide a sewerage system. Unfortunately parts of the works already completed were riddled with defects. A contract to build a replacement system has already been awarded.
- Cross-Green Line trade still suffers from obstacles identified in the annual reports on the implementation of the Green Line regulation. It is therefore unlikely to reach its original target.

Concrete examples of achievements

31 km	969	500	57	1 172	215
of existing sewers to be replaced and 2 347 connections to be renewed thanks to the signing of the Famagusta sewerage network contract for functional and hygienic waste water transport and treatment in 2019.	victims of the tragic events of 1963-1964 and 1974 were genetically identified by the Committee on Missing Persons, thus continuously working towards reconciliation.	grants were awarded to farmers, private sector development, community development, civil society and lifelong learning establishments.	restoration works have been completed and 100 cultural heritage sites have received assistance, thus contributing to the mutual recognition of the cultural heritage of Cyprus.	cumulative communication and visibility actions carried out since 2014 to provide information about EU policies, priorities and actions in support of the Turkish Cypriot community.	legal texts covering 17 areas of the EU <i>acquis</i> have been drafted. These are essential for the preparation for the implementation of the EU <i>acquis</i> following a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus issue.

and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development) management.

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

MORE INFORMATION

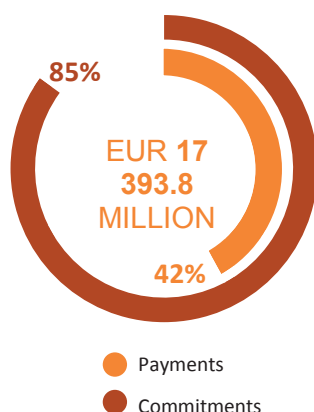
<http://europa.eu/hU77yp>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	2 315.0
2015	2 385.8
2016	2 325.0
2017	2 480.7
2018	2 478.4
2019	2 738.0
2020	2 670.8
Total	17 393.8

OVERALL EXECUTION (2014-2019)



Evaluations/ studies conducted

A mid-term evaluation of the European Neighbourhood Instrument was carried out in 2017 in the framework of a mid-term review of all external financing instruments. For further information please consult: <https://europa.eu/Gm76Vm>

How is it implemented?

Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct (mainly grants) and indirect (support through loans via the European Investment Bank

Why is it necessary?

The EU has a strategic interest in seeing greater prosperity, economic development, better governance and state and societal resilience in its neighbourhood and in promoting stability and security in the region. Although the responsibility for this lies primarily with the countries themselves, the EU can effectively encourage and support their reform and modernisation efforts. The objective of the European neighbourhood policy is to build, together with partners, a prosperous, secure and stable neighbourhood on the basis of shared values and common interests.

By acting at EU level and by streamlining financial resources, the EU has greater leverage to achieve a common goal: to

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS			EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
2 480.7		2017		1,398.4
2 478.0		2018		1,703.8
2 737.5		2019		1,864.1

EUROPE AN NEIGHBOURHOOD

EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD INSTRUMENT

What is the European Neighbourhood Instrument?

The European Neighbourhood Instrument supports the implementation of the European neighbourhood policy towards 16 partner countries: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine⁽⁹¹⁾, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine. The objective is to make progress towards an area of shared prosperity and good neighbourliness by developing a special relationship founded on cooperation, peace and security, mutual accountability and a shared commitment to the universal values of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights.

The association agendas, partnership priorities or equivalent bilateral or multilateral documents jointly agreed with each partner country or with a number of partner countries set out shared political, economic and social reform objectives and serve as the political framework guiding the priorities for cooperation.

European Neighbourhood Instrument support is provided through bilateral as well as multi-country programmes and cross-border cooperation programmes addressing cooperation between one or more Member States and one or more partner

country. It is also used to enable Russia to participate in cross-border cooperation and other relevant multi-country programmes, including cooperation on education (Erasmus+).



Specific objectives







- Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, principles of equality and the fight against discrimination in all its forms.
- Achieving progressive integration into the EU's internal market and enhanced sectoral and cross-sectoral cooperation.
- Creating conditions for the better organisation of legal migration and the well-managed mobility of people.
- Supporting smart, sustainable and inclusive development in all respects.
- Promoting confidence building, good neighbourly relations and other measures contributing to security in all its forms and the prevention and settlement of conflicts.
- Enhancing sub-regional, regional and European neighbourhood-wide collaboration and cross-border cooperation.


prevent the emergence of new dividing lines between the enlarged EU and its neighbours. The EU provides financial resources to support partners' own reforms and thus stimulates their transition and modernisation programmes. In addition, the EU has a leading role in bringing together donors, including major actors outside the EU, to work together on providing a comprehensive response to the new challenges in the region.

Regional cooperation programmes within the framework provided by the EU for the Mediterranean and the Eastern Partnership unite countries around common goals and allow them to discuss and seek solutions to common problems and challenges.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Eastern Partnership - mobility partnerships in place	3	 > 100%	4	6 compared to 4 partnerships
Southern neighbourhood - mobility partnerships in place	1	 67%	4	3 out of 4 partnerships
Eastern Partnership - ease of doing business index	64	 82%	78	76 out of 78 - index
Southern neighbourhood - ease of doing business index	57	 0%	59	57 out of 59 - index
Number of cross-border cooperation programmes in place		 94%	17	16 out of 17 programmes
Number of ministerial, platform and panel meetings under the Eastern Partnership	70-80	 > 100%	90	110 compared to 90 meetings



Where are we in the implementation?

- The full 2019 budget (EUR 2.7 billion in commitment appropriations) was used, based on the annual action programmes, multiannual action programmes, special measures and individual measures, as well as the allocation through the European neighbourhood umbrella programme in 2019.
- Multiannual action programmes were agreed in 2019 with Azerbaijan, Jordan and Lebanon.
- Special measures were adopted in 2019 for Israel, Libya and Syria, as well as for the fund's contribution to the EU Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis and to the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa (Africa Trust Fund).
- In May 2019, a high-level event marking the 10th anniversary of the Eastern Partnership (2010-2020) took place. This provided an opportunity to take stock of its greatest achievements and to assess where progress is still needed.

Performance assessment

- The European Neighbourhood Instrument has proved to be a flexible and responsive instrument addressing the priorities established under the European neighbourhood policy framework and reacting to needs and challenges in the region, including protracted crises.
- The Eastern Partnership multilateral framework marked its 10th anniversary in 2019.** The Commission carried out a broad and inclusive consultation to define the future policy objectives: overall, there is a consensus that the Eastern Partnership is robust and delivers tangible benefits to the daily lives of people across the region. There are notably strong achievements in the priority areas of the economy, connectivity and a stronger society. Progress is still needed in the areas of rule of law, fighting corruption, spaces for civil society and media independence.
- External factors such as political instability and the security situation are hampering progress in the southern neighbourhood. Cooperation with the north African partner countries is challenging and subject to the evolution of the situation, notably in Libya. Across the Middle East region, the impact of ongoing conflicts, insecurity and poor governance destabilises the EU's partners, disrupts trade and investment and limits opportunities for the population. The large numbers of refugees and displaced persons exacerbates all these structural deficiencies.
- One of the essential successful elements of the European Neighbourhood Instrument regulation is the incentive-based approach, also referred to as 'more for more'. The share of available resources offered to the partner country is adapted annually to its progress in building and consolidating a deep and sustainable democracy and in implementing agreed political, economic and social reform objectives.
- Another important element for achieving the instrument's objectives is flexibility. The EU's neighbourhood is characterised by a highly volatile environment, which requires continuous adaptation. For instance, the situation in the Middle East leads European Neighbourhood Instrument cooperation to focus notably on stabilising the region. The Commission proposal for a Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument is designed to maintain and reinforce flexibility, notably through the possibility to mobilise additional funding with the 'emergency challenges and priorities cushion'.
- Conversely, better coordination and consistency between various external action instruments would have strengthened the performance of the instrument. This issue is being addressed in the Commission proposal for the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument regulation. It simplifies the current architecture by providing a common, integrated framework for the EU's external action policies, while preserving their specificities, among them the neighbourhood policy. The new instrument will be better equipped to address challenges that span across regions covered currently by different instruments.

Concrete examples of achievements

4.3 million	92	The number 1	600	250 000	150 000
people were benefiting from education, health, water management, livelihood and other services in June 2019 in the countries affected by the	health infrastructures had been upgraded, refurbished and equipped by June 2019 via the EU	trading bloc of four partner countries (Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and	small and medium-sized enterprises in Tunisia have been supported through the programme in support of service	Georgians in rural areas have benefited from the European neighbourhood programme for	direct beneficiaries in Egypt received help through the Spring (support for partnership, reforms and inclusive growth programme) for 2011-2019, of which 70% were women, 471

<p>Syrian crisis, via the EU Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis.</p>	<p>Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis.</p>	<p>Ukraine) in 2019 was the EU.</p>	<p>competitiveness since its start in 2013.</p>	<p>agriculture and rural development.</p>	<p>were civil society organisations and 553 were mostly rural communities.</p>
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The eastern neighbourhood

- In Ukraine, a deep and comprehensive free trade agreement represents a major milestone in bilateral trade offering new economic opportunities to both sides: since January 2016, it has triggered the reform of Ukraine's legal framework and supported a continuous increase in bilateral trade, which reached EUR 44.6 billion in 2019. The EU is supporting governance reforms notably via programmes on decentralisation, anti-corruption and the rule of law. It also provides a substantial contribution to the Ukrainian Energy Efficiency Fund and supports awareness raising and public support for energy efficiency investments.
- In Georgia the first European school outside EU borders was established in 2018. The EU is also helping to modernise agriculture through the European neighbourhood programme for agriculture and rural development, by supporting the roll-out of the agriculture cooperative model. This had led to the establishment of 1 200 cooperatives in the country.
- In Armenia, EU support has triggered additional loans of over EUR 450 million to 25 000 small and medium-sized enterprises and created over 3 200 new jobs. Under Erasmus+, close to 2 500 students and academic staff from Armenia have studied or taught in the EU, and 1 250 from the EU went to Armenia. In addition, over 8 000 young people and youth workers took part in short-term exchanges, mobility, training and volunteering projects.
- In Azerbaijan, EU-backed loans have been provided for 12 500 companies since 2009. This is one of the ways in which the EU contributes to economic diversification and modernisation and to improving the business and investment climate in the country. Also, in the past 10 years, over 25 ministries and public institutions have participated in almost 50 projects bringing EU public-sector expertise to their Azerbaijani counterparts. Upgraded air quality monitoring and the introduction of mandatory health insurance are examples of successful bilateral cooperation.
- In Belarus, EU support has helped to improve energy efficiency in educational facilities for 2 000 school and pre-school children. It has also helped to improve the living conditions of 10 000 citizens and reduced electricity bills for 10 municipalities.
- In Moldova, new drinking water supply infrastructure was built with EU support. About 15 700 people now have access to sufficient and safe drinking water. Biomass heating systems have been installed in more than 225 schools, kindergartens, community centres and village halls, making heating cheaper and diversifying the country's energy sources. A total of 47 of these sites were also equipped with solar hot water systems, while 35 new biomass businesses were set up and over 400 new jobs were created.
- In addition to bilateral programmes with one country partner, regional programmes, involving partners from several countries, are also achieving results: since the launch of the Eastern Partnership in 2009, the EU has supported more than 125 000 enterprises, backing EUR 2 billion worth of loans, supported over 250 000 jobs and helped to create around 34 000 new jobs.

The southern neighbourhood

- In Palestine, in a context marked by unpredictable revenues due to the fiscal crisis, the EU's political and financial support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East in 2019 was of critical significance in maintaining the agency's operations and in preserving basic services to Palestinian refugees. Also, the 2018-2019 EU peacebuilding initiative programme aimed to support and promote the conditions for a sustainable resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through civil society and the positive engagement of citizens.
- In Tunisia, the EU is supporting the country's economic transition programmes launched in 2019, which contribute to reinforced economic governance (business climate, public policies), support job creation in rural areas and social inclusion and fight poverty. Examples of successful projects are the Proville programme which, with support from the EU and the French development agency, enabled Tunisia's Urban Rehabilitation and Renewal Agency to improve the living conditions of inhabitants of more than 155 deprived urban areas and support the reform of city policy. Another example is the Moussawat programme to promote gender equality, which strengthened the capacities of institutional actors to understand the gender approach and to integrate it into development plans, training courses, statistics and the budget. The programme also supported six reception and accommodation centres for women victims of violence and a free hotline. The state has, for the first time, allocated a budget to finance part of the operation of these centres from 2020.
- Through the European Neighbourhood Instrument, the EU has responded to the Syrian crisis by supporting the broader needs of the Syrian population inside the country and in neighbouring Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon. Education-related actions showed good progress at the end of 2019, with 284 518 children having access to basic formal and non-formal education, 14 872 teachers having been trained and 238 education facilities constructed or refurbished. The support has guaranteed access to psychosocial support and specialised services for 313 814 beneficiaries, including those with child protection and gender-based violence issues. A total of 92 health infrastructures have been upgraded, refurbished and equipped. Support for water, sanitation and hygiene projects has so far benefited 178 297 people, and 104 of 224 planned water and wastewater facilities have been completed.
- In Lebanon, the instrument continues to support a wide variety of activities benefiting citizens directly. An example is a reform of the justice system, which was completed in 2019. The EU's court automation programme supported 12 pilot courts to improve the operational performance of the judicial system and reduce inefficient manual court procedures, which are important causes of backlogs contributing to the high number of pre-trial detentions.
- In Algeria, the EU continues to provide support to the economic sector, with a view to diversifying it away from hydrocarbons production through development of the tourism sector and related job opportunities for young people and support to the innovation capacity of the research system. Pilot projects in agriculture and rural development are reaching a large area, spanning natural parks in remote mountain areas in the north to the oasis in the south. The Ministry of Agriculture, the key institution behind the programme, has conducted constructive dialogues with civil society organisations. Thanks to new structured institutional partnerships, some of these organisations will pursue and replicate some of their activities after the project.

⁽⁹¹⁾ This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 233/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

MORE INFORMATION

<https://europa.eu/ljQ48yf>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	2 345.0
2015	2 447.4
2016	2 635.6
2017	3 151.0
2018	2 980.8
2019	3 204.6
2020	3 271.7
Total	20 036.1

**OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)****Evaluations/
studies conducted**

The midterm evaluation of the DCI was carried out in 2017, and is available at: <https://europa.eu/lvk88Vr>

**How is it
implemented?**

DG International Cooperation and Development is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct management (mainly grants) and indirect management through international organisations, Member State agencies and beneficiary countries.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION INSTRUMENT

What is the Development Cooperation Instrument?

In the field of development cooperation, the EU's primary objective is the reduction and, in the long term, eradication of poverty. The Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) also contributes to the achievement of other goals of EU external action, in particular improving the quality of the environment and the sustainable management of global natural resources, promoting global health and strengthening health systems and fostering sustainable economic, social and environmental development, along with promoting democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights. Through the DCI, the EU aims to maximise the positive impacts of migration on development. National and regional development strategies may also be supported to improve migration management in partner countries.

The DCI covers all the developing countries except those eligible for the Pre-Accession Instrument. The DCI includes geographical programmes, thematic programmes in the 'global public good and challenges' and 'civil society organisations and local authorities' categories and, finally, the newly established pan-African programme.

Why is it necessary?

The EU is in a unique position to deliver on external action on behalf of and with Member States, giving enhanced credibility in the countries where it works. The EU alone has the critical mass to respond to global challenges such as reducing poverty and fighting climate change. Due to its large scale and the existing network of international agreements, it can deliver support to the poor in some of the world's most remote areas, both implementing aid and coordinating it.

In its role as a promoter of inclusiveness and multilateralism, the EU can do more than other international organisations. Acting as one, the EU can have a greater impact and apply more leverage in policy dialogue and

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

To streamline the existing instruments for EU external action, the Commission proposed the inclusion of this instrument within the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument for the new multiannual financial framework.



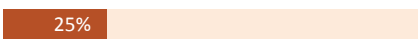

Specific objectives

- Reducing poverty and fostering sustainable economic, social and environmental development.
- Consolidating and supporting democracy, the rule of law, good governance, human rights and the relevant principles of international law.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
3 150.9	2017	1 805.6	
2 980.7	2018	2 152.8	
3 204.5	2019	2 391.1	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Proportion of population below international poverty line ⁽¹⁾	11.6%	 25%	0%	8.7% of population below poverty line compared to 0% target. From 2014 to 2019 there has been a decrease every year.
Number of projects to promote democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights		 > 100%	100	352 projects achieved compared to a target of 100

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Indicator calculated on the basis of DCI eligible countries.

Where are we in the implementation?

- In 2019, the DCI was implemented as planned, through a comprehensive programming process. Overall, programming is on track. EU bilateral aid under the DCI focused on countries that needed it the most, such as the least developed countries and lower income countries, while the share of upper-middle income countries was significantly reduced in the course of the multiannual financial framework period. Similarly, at country level, EU aid focused on three or fewer sectors of concentration in each partner country. Among the sectors of concentration, DCI support in 2019 focused on inclusive and sustainable growth for human development, which is also a priority area of the 2011 'agenda for change' of EU development policy and a new policy for EU budget support.
- In 2019, projects and programmes achieved results in Latin America in key sectors such as water and climate change, the private sector and investment, economic development, security, the rule of law and governance. Working directly with country systems, the DCI proved to be a strong tool in reinforcing policy dialogue on key reforms and improving public financial management systems, domestic revenue mobilisation efforts, transparency and accountability. The importance of investments continued to grow and the DCI contributed to investment and blending under the Latin America Investment Facility.
- With regard to regional cooperation, successful initiatives in strategic sectors were launched and further developed in 2019. With regard to security, two actions were signed under the Eurofront programme to foster intra-Latin American cooperation in the area of integrated border management with the selection of four land-crossing posts involving seven countries, and to support the fight against human and migrant trafficking.
- In 2019, development cooperation in Asia and the Middle East and the Gulf continued to have a strong focus on the least developed countries and fragile countries. Particular emphasis continued to be placed on good governance and sustainable sector reforms. Job creation and sustainable and inclusive growth via promotion of investments were at the centre of activities. The development of the private sector was key, as it has a major role to play in sustainable economic development and growth. Budget support remained an important aid modality in the region. Reflecting this, the Commission adopted 11 new programmes in 2019.
- In 2019, a new EU strategy on Central Asia was adopted (the last strategy dated from 2007). Fast-changing regional dynamics created more demand and new opportunities for EU engagement, such as domestic reforms in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, new momentum in regional cooperation (e.g. closer cooperation on water management), development of connectivity initiatives and more active interest from Central Asian states in cooperation with Afghanistan.
- For the South African component of the DCI, in 2019 there was a decision on financing for the Southern African Development Community–EU economic partnership agreement support programme and for the accountability programme. There was also increased support for the wine and spirits sector.
- Within the pan-African programme, in 2019 the annual indicative programme focused on the development of interregional infrastructure in the framework of the European investment plan, on the support for African Governance Architecture, on the reinforcement of the African statistical systems and on the fight against illegal financial flows.
- Under the thematic programmes, the 'global public goods and challenges' programme continued to support policies that have a high impact on people's well-being and empowerment, especially for those who are in vulnerable and marginalised situations, in the areas of health, education, gender equality, inclusive and sustainable growth and jobs, and domestic resources mobilisation. In the areas of the environment and climate change, the engagement of partner countries, especially the least developed countries, in low-carbon development processes was supported, including under the global climate change alliance plus initiative. EU projects also contributed to the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, to forest management and governance in the framework of the EU action plan on forest law enforcement governance and trade, and to increased and improved access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy. The EU furthered its engagement with civil society organisations and local authorities in partner countries, while promoting sustainable development via the development education and awareness raising component of the 'civil society organisations and local authorities in development' programme, with a strong focus on climate change.

Performance assessment

- The DCI is a key financing instrument to support EU development policy. Its overall objective is to eradicate poverty in partner countries and provide a long-term response to global threats/challenges, many of which have their roots in poverty and underdevelopment.
- Regarding the progress on the objective of poverty reduction, most of the population residing in DCI partner countries have experienced progress in poverty reduction and human and economic development over the last 10 years. The proportion of the world population below the international poverty line has dropped every single year since 2014, reaching 8.7% in 2019.
- As for the objective relating to the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law, good governance and human rights, the indicators tell a less encouraging story. According to the World Bank's 'rule of law' score, the situation has been steadily deteriorating since 2014. For the proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments, the little progress made between 2015 and 2018 was undone in 2019. Against this background, the number of projects funded through the DCI to promote democracy, the rule of law,

good governance and human rights has significantly exceeded the target of 100 projects per year on average over the 2014-2019 period.

- Measuring the direct impact of the DCI 2014-2020 on development outcomes such as poverty reduction is challenging, because there are so many other actors and factors which have also contributed to achieving these results; consequently they cannot be directly attributable to the DCI. The role of the DCI is not only to support developing countries, but also to ensure focus and coherence among donors on key challenges and to move towards a values-based, transparent and results-focused development cooperation system. While there is some evidence of coherence between the DCI, other external financing instruments and EU external action policies, a more strategic approach is needed.
- Overall, the DCI has been demonstrated to be fit for purpose and able to contribute to the achievement of EU priorities. Good progress has been noted in the areas of climate change and the environment: between 2014 and 2018, there was a steady increase in climate change-related financing, which has exceeded the 20% target for the DCI. Mainstreaming human rights, including gender equality and women's empowerment, was further strengthened in 2019; it is considered a work in progress, in particular on the path towards the 85% target set by the gender action plan 2016-2020 (the EU's framework for promoting gender equality and empowerment of women and girls in external relations). Over the last 3 years, there has been an increase in the proportion of initiatives that promote gender equality – both as a significant and as the principal objective – but the pace of progression has slowed. More focused and impactful efforts will be necessary for this year and the years to come, and to this end, a new gender action plan is currently being drawn up. In order to deliver on the contribution to the external dimension of the EU Green Deal, more also remains to be done in the area of climate change and the environment in order to systematically integrate these themes across all areas of cooperation covered by the DCI.
- The programme demonstrated the capacity to react to priorities, enabling the EU to implement its development policy framework and, to some extent, being flexible enough to respond to emerging challenges. In particular, for migration, the DCI contributed along with the European Trust Fund to fighting the root causes of irregular migration in Africa. The DCI was designed as an 'enabling' instrument, so that it could be used flexibly to implement the evolving policy framework, such as in the change from millennium development goals to sustainable development goals.
- For the next multiannual financial framework the DCI will be integrated into the new Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument. A strategic and coordinated approach will be embedded in the programme and the EU will be able to fully apply the principle of 'policy first', i.e. reinforce the policy-driven approach to EU cooperation to make it more strategic and responsive to EU interests and political priorities, and address needs and challenges in a coherent and comprehensive way.
- The proposal for the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument regulation includes a number of key performance indicators to show how success in achieving the specific objectives will be measured. To help improve the collection of data, the Commission continuously updates the EU international cooperation and development results framework and disseminates data and reports. This effort aims at harmonising, to the greatest extent possible, the common provisions with the ones agreed at the international level and used for other EU spending programmes.

Concrete examples of achievements

60	32 million	50%	637	1 936
developing countries received support in 2019 to improve global food and nutrition security governance and investments in sustainable agriculture.	lives have been saved since 2002 under the Global Fund ⁽¹⁾ to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. In 2018, 18.9 million people were on life-saving treatment for the human immunodeficiency virus, 5.3 million people were treated for tuberculosis and 131 million mosquito nets were distributed.	of the world's children receive vaccines supported by the Vaccine Alliance.	interventions for climate change adaptation (through the Local Climate Adaptive Facility) have been deployed across 14 countries and over 107 local governments, representing over 6 million people.	persons assisted in returning from EU Member States under the EU–Afghanistan Joint Way Forward and more than 26 000 returnees from Turkey received post-arrival assistance.

⁽¹⁾ The Global Fund partnership achievements are the result of combined efforts of implementer governments including the European Commission, and a range of other actors - the European Commission accounts for approximately 5.2% of pledges to the Global Fund since its establishment in 2001.

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 234/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

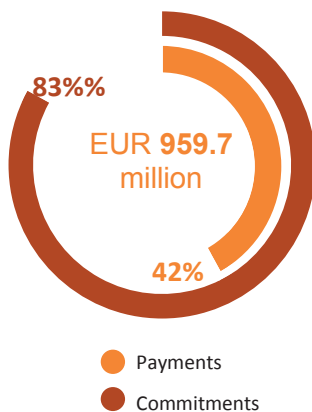
MORE INFORMATION

<https://europa.eu/!QM88hw>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	119.9
2015	118.0
2016	127.5
2017	138.2
2018	144.9
2019	149.0
2020	162.3
Total	959.7

**OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)****Evaluations/
studies conducted**

An external evaluation of the PI was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult: <https://europa.eu/!Tv79JW>

**How is it
implemented?**

The Service for Foreign Policy Instruments is the lead service for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through two different management modes, depending on the specific circumstances of the action required: direct management (both centralised in Brussels and decentralised to EU delegations) and indirect management (by partner

countries or bodies designated by them), international organisations and the development agencies of EU Member States.

Why is it necessary?

The PI has been designed to advance and promote the EU's and its partners' mutual interests abroad by supporting the external dimension of EU policies, in particular the Europe 2020 strategy, and by addressing major global challenges, at both the bilateral and the multilateral level. Contrary to many traditional financing instruments, the PI promotes peer-to-peer relationships globally, although with a specific focus on the EU's designated strategic partners. The PI also aims to improve market access and to develop trade and business opportunities for EU companies through economic partnerships, business and regulatory cooperation. Finally, the PI is intended to enhance the widespread understanding and visibility of the EU on the world scene by means of public diplomacy,

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
138.2	2017	75.8	
144.8	2018	113.8	
149.0	2019	130.5	

PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT

PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT FOR COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

What is the PI?

The Partnership Instrument for Cooperation with Third Countries (PI) is the EU's first instrument specifically designed to promote its strategic interests worldwide by reinforcing external strategies, policies and actions.

It has four main objectives: (1) offering policy support and responding to global challenges; (2) projecting the international dimension of Europe 2020; (3) enhancing market access and boosting trade, investment and business opportunities for EU companies; (4) promoting public diplomacy and academic cooperation.

education/academic cooperation and outreach activities.

The EU has numerous international agreements with partner countries all over the world that are not matched by individual Member States, giving it influence in virtually all fields of international relations. By combining the weight of all Member States acting within common policies and strategies, only the EU has the critical weight to respond to global challenges. The EU as a global player has a credibility and a neutrality that is not available to individual Member States. The EU is also in a unique position to promote EU standards, and to turn them into global standards through international cooperation.





Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

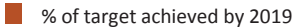


Specific objectives

- To support the EU's bilateral, regional and interregional cooperation partnership by promoting policy dialogues and developing collective approaches and responses to the challenges of global concern.
- Implementing the international dimension of Europe 2020 – a strategy for sustainable and inclusive growth.
- Improving access to third-country markets and boosting trade, investment and business opportunities for companies from the EU, while eliminating barriers to market access and investment, by means of economic partnerships, business and regulatory cooperation.
- Enhancing the widespread understanding and visibility of the EU and its role on the world scene by means of public diplomacy, people-to-people contacts, education/academic/think-tank cooperation and outreach activities to promote the EU's values and interests.

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Operating emissions trading schemes for greenhouse gas mitigation outside the EU/European Economic Area	15	 100%	26	26 out of 26
Local and regional authorities signing the Covenant of Mayors	6 270	 93%	10 270	9 984 out of 10 270
International agreements on migration and mobility signed with the strategic partners	15	 40%	20	17 out of 20
Worldwide level of implementation of international safety standards in civil aviation	62%	 >100%	65%	67% compared to a target of 65%



Where are we in the implementation?

- The 2019 budget amounted to EUR 148.2 million.
- The activities implemented under PI actions lead to the delivery and production of a wide range of outputs, which can be grouped into four main categories:
 - direct benefits from events (e.g. increased knowledge, understanding, awareness, networking, engagement);
 - knowledge-based products (studies and technical expertise);
 - public outcome statements;
 - advocacy awareness raising products.

Performance assessment

- PI actions aim at presenting the EU as a reliable, credible partner that can deliver, and at strengthening multilateralism. This is achieved through: bilateral and regional dialogues in multiple areas of strategic EU interest; bilateral and multilateral negotiations by providing support for concrete policy deliverables; and developing common approaches with key international partners.
- The PI facilitates the implementation of bilateral and multilateral agreements in the context of strategic partnerships, notably by supporting EU negotiators, spreading knowledge about new opportunities brought about by the agreements and setting up specific public diplomacy actions.
- The PI is primarily aimed at supporting the EU's external policy and promoting its international visibility. As such, the focus of the PI actions lies on outputs and not necessarily on results, which is further reflected in the PI-specific cumulative performance indicators adopted in 2016.
- Outputs at the highest level relate to the different types of activities (2014-2019):
 - the number of events organised (4 757);
 - person-days of technical expertise assistance provided (72 493); and
 - outreach and advocacy activities (609).
- The PI has been successful in negotiating the promotion of climate and environmental protection goals with strategic partners, as indicated by the operating emissions trading schemes that have been implemented and the Covenant of Mayors that has been signed.
- The implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy has largely shown good progress, with most indicators meeting their target and all indicators showing a positive trend. It can therefore be considered successful.
- The challenges remaining for the PI are to quickly respond to fast-changing foreign policy needs; to ensure funding in anticipation of the EU's strategic priorities; and to respond strategically in a coordinated fashion, bringing together the European External Action Service and Commission services.

Concrete examples of achievements

Climate action	Digital cooperation	EU visibility	Public diplomacy
was on the agenda of various international meetings in 2019. In the United States, a first forum was held on 8 November with the US Climate Alliance to foster dialogue and exchange between climate-conscious stakeholders from both sides of the Atlantic. The first Brazilian Conference on Climate Change, held in Recife from 6 to 8 November, was a strong expression of the commitment by Brazilian states to climate action. The EU and several of its Member States welcomed a delegation from South Africa from 11 to 19 October to present European experiences to the experts from that country.	under the enhanced data protection for data flows project has allowed the Commission to have a direct impact on the preparatory phase of the decision-making process, leading to the development of legislation on data protection in countries such as Brazil, Chile, India, Indonesia and Thailand.	has been increased through a series of workshops, training courses and information sessions on a variety of topics in Hong Kong, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Singapore, among others.	contributed to building mutual trust and understanding between the EU and partner countries in 2019. Actions were implemented in South and Central America, China, India, Indonesia, Japan and Russia.

organisations) and indirect management with international organisations

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 235/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

MORE INFORMATION

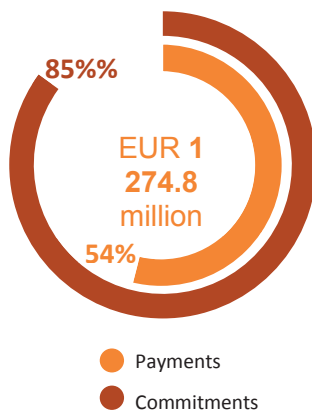
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FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	184.2
2015	171.9
2016	170.8
2017	184.5
2018	188.1
2019	178.8
2020	196.4
Total	1 274.8

OVERALL EXECUTION (2014-2019)



Evaluations/ studies conducted

The midterm evaluation of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) was carried out within the framework of the midterm review of the external financing instruments in 2017. For further information please consult: <https://europa.eu/!TG46HP>

How is it implemented?

The Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct management (mainly through grants addressed to civil-society

Why is it necessary?

The EU's accomplishments in conflict resolution, peace building and the creation of prosperity puts it in an excellent position to deliver on external action, on behalf of and alongside its Member States. It is well placed to take on the role of a global leader on behalf of its citizens, in particular in its support for and promotion of democracy and human rights.

The EIDHR delivers support worldwide, including to the world's most remote areas, thereby enhancing the strategic reach of the

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
184.5	2017	143.2	
188.0	2018	180.3	
178.8	2019	157.6	

EIDHR

EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

What is the EIDHR?

The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) is designed primarily to help civil society to become an effective force for political reform and the defence of human rights. Building on its key strength, which is the ability to operate without the need for host-government consent, the EIDHR is able to focus on sensitive political issues and innovative approaches and to cooperate directly with local civil-society organisations, providing for great flexibility and increased capacity to respond to changing circumstances.

Member States, especially in cases when their presence is limited and therefore the capacity to act is reduced.






Specific objectives


- Support for human rights and human-rights defenders in situations in which they are at risk.
- Support for other priorities of the EU in the field of human rights.
- Support for democracy.
- EU election observation missions.
- Support for targeted key actors and processes, including international and human-rights instruments and mechanisms.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

Under the Commission's proposal for the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework, the EIDHR will be integrated into the future Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument by supporting interventions in the area of human rights and democracy in non-EU countries under both its geographic and its thematic

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Human-rights-defender individuals who have received EU support		 > 100%	1 200	1 520 compared to a target of 1 200
Human-rights crisis-response projects		 > 100%	15	33 compared to a target of 15
EU election missions (observation missions; expert missions and studies)		 70%	23	16 out of 23

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

Where are we in the implementation?

- The EIDHR, at both the headquarters level and the delegation level, has been implemented as planned. All activities under the 2017 and 2018 budgets have been carried out (or are currently ongoing), as have the activities of the 2019 budget that were planned to start in 2019.
- The flagship project of the EU Human Rights Defenders Mechanism has been renewed for 3 years until October 2022. It is aimed at addressing the situations faced by human-rights defenders who are at risk worldwide.
- The funds available under the Human Rights Crises Facility were fully committed in previous years. The facility was designed to address countries and urgent situations in which human rights and fundamental freedoms are most at risk and in which disrespect for those rights and freedoms is particularly pronounced and systematic.
- The implementation mode of the EIDHR Emergency Fund has been revised to include a new grant under direct management, which will allow the rapid provision of support to continue through targeted low-value grants to individual human-rights defenders in emergency situations.
- In 2019 a new flagship pilot project on parliamentary strengthening began. The Inter Pares – Parliaments in partnership – EU global project to strengthen the capacity of parliaments has a special peer-to-peer implementation approach to strengthening representative and inclusive democracy through support for the effective functioning of parliaments in partner countries by enhancing their legislative, oversight, representative, budgetary and administrative functions.
- Also in 2019, 30 electoral processes and democratic cycles were supported, with the deployment of over 800 international mission staff. During the year a total of 14 contracts were signed: five on the abolition of the death penalty, six on the promotion of LGBTI rights and three involving democracy projects. The latter seek to make use of new technologies to promote democracy through civil activism in Brazil, Cambodia and central Asia.

Performance assessment

- The EIDHR cooperates directly with local civil-society organisations, remaining independent of public authorities and providing for flexibility and increased capacity to respond to changing circumstances.
- The EIDHR's support for human-rights defenders at risk is the basis for the EU's world leadership in support for the defence of human rights. The EIDHR Human Rights Crises Facility provides a flexible means of funding to respond to situations in which there is a serious lack of fundamental freedoms; in which human security is most at risk; in which human-rights organisations and defenders work in exceptionally difficult conditions; and in which the publication of a call for proposals would be inappropriate/unfeasible.
- The EIDHR system of calls for proposals at country level and annual global calls for proposals managed at headquarters level has provided for continued support for civil-society organisations working on a broad range of subjects, including human rights in the most restrictive circumstances, human dignity, discrimination, economic, social and cultural rights and democracy-related issues. Between 2014 and 2019 implementation was guided by the human-rights and democracy country strategies. Priority areas over recent years have included women's and children's rights, democracy (election observation, freedom of expression) and anti-discrimination practices. At headquarters level the EIDHR also continued to support multilateralism and global networks, such as in the assistance it provided to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Criminal Court and the Global Campus of Human Rights Education / European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation.
- The Inter Pares – Parliaments in partnership – EU global project to strengthen the capacity of parliaments started supporting a limited number of selected partner parliaments around the world, and notably created the momentum to engage the national parliaments of the EU to work together to support such parliaments.

Concrete examples of achievements

30	800	1 520	33	250	1 565
electoral processes and democratic cycles were supported, observed and followed in 2019.	international mission staff have been deployed for election observation missions.	at-risk human-rights defenders (individuals, organisations and groups) have been supported by means of political, legal or physical protection, and they have been enabled to continue their important work.	projects have been implemented in response to crisis situations: four country-specific projects, two global projects and 27 projects under the country-based support scheme.	students receive master's degrees each year from the Global Campus of Human Rights, which is a global network of universities working in the field of human-rights and democracy education.	contracts on human rights and democracy were concluded by EU delegations.

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 230/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

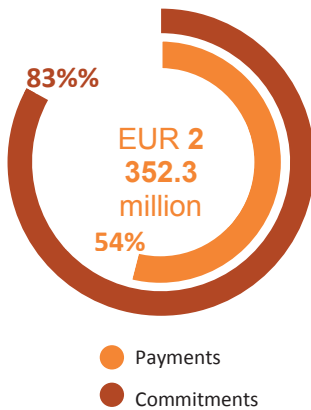
MORE INFORMATION

<https://europa.eu/!GR37HQ>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	276.8
2015	330.4
2016	344.8
2017	260.3
2018	369.5
2019	376.9
2020	393.7
Total	2 352.3

**OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)****Evaluations/
studies conducted**

The midterm evaluation of the instrument was carried out within the framework of the midterm review of the external financing instruments. For further information please consult: <https://europa.eu/!yC48QB>

How is it implemented?

The Service for Foreign Policy Instruments is the lead service for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct (mainly through procurement of services) and indirect management with international organisations

STABILITY AND PEACE

INSTRUMENT CONTRIBUTING TO STABILITY AND PEACE

What is the IcSP?

The Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) is the European Union's main instrument supporting security initiatives and peace-building activities in partner countries. It came into force in 2014, replacing the Instrument for Stability and several earlier instruments that focused on drugs, landmines, uprooted people, crisis management, rehabilitation and reconstruction. The IcSP provides quick short-term assistance, for example in countries where a crisis is unfolding, or long-term support, notably to mitigate a variety of crisis- and peace-related risks, tackle global and trans-regional threats and build capacity for lasting socioeconomic development. Its activities complement those of the EU's geographical instruments.



Specific objectives

- In a situation of crisis or emerging crisis, to swiftly contribute to stability by providing an effective response designed to help preserve, establish or re-establish the conditions essential to the proper implementation of the EU's external policies and actions in accordance with Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union.
- To contribute to preventing conflicts and to ensuring the capacity and preparedness to address pre- and post-crisis situations and build peace.
- To address specific global and trans-regional threats to peace, international security and stability.

Why is it necessary?

Preserving peace, preventing conflicts and strengthening international security are the common overarching principles and objectives for the EU's external action. Responding to these particular challenges requires a collective effort based on strong partnerships with other states, civil-society actors and multilateral and regional partners. As a global player, the EU has credibility and is perceived to be neutral, which provides a competitive advantage to intervene in many conflict areas so as to avoid escalation or to offer assistance in preventing conflicts. A greater impact is achieved when the response is provided at EU level, as combined efforts provide increased leverage over authorities




and international partners. Crisis-response actions at EU level increase the coherence of response and aid efficiency, while peace-building actions create openings for structural and thematic engagement with Member States and civil society. Synergies and cooperation are increasingly needed at international level, as EU Member States and international donors are facing similar problems in terms of scarce resources. In this regard, it should be noted that a very limited number of EU Member States operate a crisis-response or peace-building facility comparable in scope to the IcSP.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
260.2	2017	228.6	
369.4	2018	302.9	
376.9	2019	309.0	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Number of processes and entities with strengthened capacity	1 183	 91%	1 650	1 609 compared to a target of 1 650
Biological threats – number of facilities upgraded to international standard	2	 80%	12	10 out of 12
Countering terrorism – partner countries covered by countering terrorism activities	8	 > 100%	20	36 compared to a target of 20

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

Where are we in the implementation?

- In 2019, EUR 366.2 million was committed under the IcSP: EUR 256.8 million under the short-term crisis-response component (Article 3); EUR 35.5 million under the structural peace-building component (Article 4); and EUR 73.9 million under the global and trans-regional threats component (Article 5).
- Fifty-one new crisis-response actions were presented in 2019 to respond directly to the EU's political priorities, showing that the IcSP remained a key tool for EU diplomacy in crisis contexts and in its efforts to support conflict prevention, stabilisation, conflict resolution and peace-building.
- Actions under Article 3 'Assistance in response to situations of crisis or emerging crisis to prevent conflicts' (70% of the overall financial envelope) are not programmable, as the actions react to international developments, particularly crises and conflicts. Action implementation is predominantly decentralised to the five Service for Foreign Policy Instruments regional teams (Bangkok, Beirut, Brasilia, Dakar and Nairobi) under the authority of the relevant EU delegations.
- Actions under Article 4 'Assistance for conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness' (9% of the overall financial envelope) and Article 5 'Assistance in addressing global and trans-regional threats and emerging threats' (21% of the overall financial envelope) are both subject to programming. Under Article 4, managed centrally by the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, most contracts are grants under the direct management mode, but around 31% of contracts are contribution agreements to the United Nations or other international organisations under the indirect management mode. Around 5% of contracts are signed with the implementing agencies of EU Member States. Article 5 actions are managed by DG International Cooperation and Development, primarily delivered through indirect and direct management, working with EU Member State agencies, United Nations agencies or other partners such as Interpol.

Performance assessment

- The IcSP has managed to translate early warnings into EU actions in the majority of countries where the instrument operates, enhancing the EU's role as a relevant and responsive global actor.
- With over 90% of crisis-response actions adopted within 3 months of a crisis context in 2019, the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments exceeded expectations, showing the effective implementation of the IcSP.
- The number of processes and entities with strengthened capacities due to IcSP funding has equally exceeded expectations, highlighting the importance of the IcSP.
- IcSP support has been instrumental in the EU's efforts to promote peace in a variety of circumstances in Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Libya, Syria, Ukraine and Yemen. In particular, the IcSP has contributed to strengthening dialogue and cooperation with civil society on issues pertaining to conflict prevention and peacebuilding, and to empowering local civil-society actors to play an active role in conflict-affected contexts, contributing to more resilient societies and to building long-term peace.
- IcSP actions have supported the EU's commitment to help protect communities and civilians in highly volatile areas, including the Horn of Africa, the Sahel and Ukraine, and to develop cooperation with security sector actors in numerous countries.
- Multilateralism has been supported by the IcSP through successful strategic cooperation on peace-building and mediation with the United Nations, the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and other international organisations.
- The tackling of global and trans-regional threats has seen a continuous upwards trend, and has exceeded expectations in most areas through the establishment of sustainable cooperation frameworks and networks. Thanks to the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Centres of Excellence, IcSP actions have reviewed and strengthened security architecture relating to and protective measures against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats regardless of their origins (deliberate, accidental or natural) in multiple areas (Africa, the EU neighbourhood, the Middle East, the Gulf, Central and South-East Asia). This contributed to hindering terrorist organisations' and criminals' use of such threats and reinforcing regional networks against contamination and epidemics caused by them, built on existing networks and lessons learned from the SARS, MERS and Ebola outbreaks.
- IcSP actions in support of demobilisation, disarmament and reintegration have not always been as successful as intended, mainly due to the lack of longer-term funding sources to ensure the continuity of the actions. A long-term perspective is required for these actions in light of the timeline for completing demobilisation, disarmament and reintegration processes.
- The IcSP's response to the Ebola outbreak in western Africa has shown that the programme provides clear added value in preventing a conflict as a consequence of a health emergency. However, humanitarian funding for public health should be preferred in the future, since the IcSP's implementing partners are not properly equipped to handle humanitarian aid procedures.

Concrete examples of achievements

Central African Republic	Ukraine	The Sahel	Sri Lanka	Conflict prevention
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<p>was home to three parallel IcSP actions that were instrumental in supporting the peace process leading to the negotiation of the Khartoum Peace Agreement and its signature in February 2019.</p>	<p>received support from the IcSP to ensure cybersecurity in connection with the 2019 presidential elections in an environment of intense cyberattacks.</p>	<p>saw growing instability in the three-borders region between Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. The IcSP strengthened the capacity of the security and defence forces to reinforce security and stability.</p>	<p>and the Maldives saw the quick mobilisation of the IcSP to strengthen counterterrorism-response capabilities following the Easter 2019 attacks in Sri Lanka.</p>	<p>actions come under a component that also covers programmable actions for peace-building and crisis preparedness (Article 4). A total of 971 processes and 638 entities benefited from the strengthened capacity attributable to IcSP funding in 2019.</p>
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LEGAL BASISCouncil Regulation (EC) No
1257/96**MORE INFORMATION**<http://europa.eu/!br44Rp>**FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING**

(million EUR)

2014	1 081.7
2015	1 096.9
2016	1 384.1
2017	1 280.1
2018	1 417.5
2019	1 966.4
2020	1 101.8
Total	9 328.6

**Evaluations/
studies conducted**

The studies and evaluations carried out by the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) can be consulted at:
<http://europa.eu/!Gq36du>

**How is it
implemented?**

The Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme.

HUMA

HUMANITARIAN AID

What is the humanitarian aid programme?

The purpose of the humanitarian aid programme is to provide effective relief and protection to populations affected by natural or man-made disasters on the basis of needs and to assist the most vulnerable countries and forgotten crises (crises with little media attention and poor coverage). In addition, the EU is committed to building the capacity and resilience of vulnerable communities. The EU takes the role of a reference donor, basing its actions on humanitarian principles and informed assessments, and promoting a non-political approach to humanitarian assistance by participating in well-established multilateral forums and holding strategic dialogues with its partners.

Why is it necessary?

Making use of the financial weight of its humanitarian actions and its unique position, the EU encourages other humanitarian donors to implement effective and principled humanitarian aid strategies and has a comparative advantage in being able to intervene in politically sensitive situations more flexibly.

The EU is well positioned to rapidly complement Member States' bilateral contributions as required in response to crises. A share of the annual budget is pre-allocated to ongoing crises (in some cases, the Commission is the only donor, namely in

forgotten crises) and for prevention/preparedness measures, while the rest is deployed to respond to new crises or the deterioration of existing ones.

The Commission's strong field presence allows for a comprehensive understanding of complex needs on the ground, and its neutrality provides greater flexibility and power to act on behalf of the most vulnerable. The Commission is valued by other donors for its technical know-how and capacity for coordination.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period








Specific objectives

- To provide a needs-based delivery of EU assistance to people faced with natural and man-made disasters and protracted crises.
- To build the capacity and resilience of vulnerable or disaster-affected communities.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
1 280.1	2017	1 387.8	2017
1 417.4	2018	1 437.5	2018
1 966.4	2019	1 734.4	2019

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Non-emergency agreements signed in maximum 11 working days ⁽¹⁾		 74%	≥95%	70% compared to 95% agreements signed
Beneficiaries of the Commission's interventions		 > 100%	≥77 m	130 compared to 77 million beneficiaries
Funds spent in 'very high risk to disaster' countries ⁽¹⁾		 88%	56%	49% compared to 56% of annual funding
Funds spent in forgotten crises ⁽¹⁾		 > 100%	15%	23% compared to 15% of annual funding
Funded operations in which disaster risk reduction has been mainstreamed ⁽¹⁾		 > 100%	50%	56% compared to 50% operations

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Average results for 2014-2019.

Where are we in the implementation?

- The general guidelines for operational priorities for humanitarian aid (GGOPHA) establishes the priorities for the year on the basis of the assessment of foreseen humanitarian aid needs. The guidelines provide sufficient flexibility to adapt these priorities to new crises and evolving humanitarian aid needs. Between 15% and 20% of the budget is set aside as an operational reserve for unforeseen needs.
- In 2019, the EU provided EUR 2 billion in humanitarian aid (excluding the European Development Fund and external assigned revenue) to the most vulnerable across more than 80 countries. When adding external assigned revenue from Member States committed for the Facility for Refugees in Turkey or operations in central and west Africa and European Development Fund appropriations (EUR 416 million), the EU contributed a total of EUR 2.4 billion for humanitarian aid in 2019.
- The implementation of the humanitarian assistance programme is in general on track. In 2019, the EU focused on the following areas, which were considered the most relevant in the current humanitarian context: supporting education in emergencies, forced displacement, cash transfers, enhancing protection and compliance with international humanitarian law, gender and age mainstreaming, preventing and responding to gender-based violence, persons with disabilities, resilience, the humanitarian-development-peace nexus as a cross-cutting priority, innovation, technology and big data, engagement with the private sector, food and nutrition assistance, the environment, urban settings, social protection and disaster risk reduction.

Performance assessment

- EU humanitarian aid is meeting the objective of providing emergency assistance to people, particularly the most vulnerable, faced with natural and man-made disasters. In 2019, 177 million people benefited from the EU's humanitarian aid interventions in more than 80 countries.
- As the world's largest humanitarian aid donor, the EU and its Member States retained a central role in tackling humanitarian challenges worldwide, in close cooperation with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations agencies and other donors.
- The EU was present in every significant humanitarian crisis in 2019. In larger crises, the EU consistently responded to situations where other donors were not present and often played the role of coordinator and catalyst.
- The programme also contributed to building the capacity and resilience of vulnerable or disaster-affected communities. Disaster preparedness actions benefited 38 million people in disaster-prone regions. A crucial aspect underpinning the EU's positive results in fostering resilience is the progressive move towards cash-based assistance, as the Commission maintained its commitment to deliver 35% of humanitarian assistance through cash transfers.
- The EU's approach to humanitarian aid also includes addressing 'forgotten crises' (crises with little media attention and poor coverage). In 2019, 38% of the humanitarian budget was allocated to forgotten crises (above the 15% target).
- A key element explaining the success of EU humanitarian aid lies in the strong operational knowledge and technical expertise of the EU's network of humanitarian field offices spread over almost 40 countries. The EU can moreover take advantage of a comprehensive range of humanitarian partners (over 200 organisations, including United Nations agencies, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and non-governmental organisations), through which people in need can receive assistance even in the areas of the world that are most difficult to reach.
- A primary challenge to EU humanitarian aid is that the funds and support provided are not always sufficient to cover the scale of the needs of the largest crises. In addition, delivering principled humanitarian assistance is at times extremely difficult in certain protracted crises, where warring parties on occasions disregard humanitarian principles, violate international humanitarian law (IHL) and interfere with the delivery of assistance in the field.
- While able to meet acute humanitarian needs on a short-term basis in a highly effective manner, EU humanitarian aid is less well placed to address structural issues, in particular in the context of protracted crises, for which development actors would be best positioned to act. However development actors are not always in a position to take over. Such situations underline the need to develop further the humanitarian-development-peace nexus so that humanitarian aid actors can exit a situation with confidence that longer-term structural assistance will be available.
- Some of the actions being implemented to address these challenges include looking at ways of further facilitating a longer-term approach to the funding of operations where appropriate and putting in place a framework that would allow for a more strategic and more programmatic relationship with key non-governmental partner organisations. This will notably be the case through pilot programmatic partnerships, whose overall objective is to explore and promote enhanced cost-effectiveness. This would lead to a greater share of the humanitarian aid budget assisting the final beneficiaries directly, by offering more predictable and flexible funding and reduced administrative burdens in exchange for enhanced efficiency and transparency.

Concrete examples of achievements

EUR 2.4 billion	177 million	2.5 million	25 000	83
of aid was provided by the EU to the most vulnerable in 2019.	beneficiaries received EU aid in 2019.	girls and boys benefited from the education in emergencies initiative in over 50 countries in 2019.	humanitarian aid workers were transported by ECHO flights in 2019.	countries received humanitarian aid from the EU in 2019.

LEGAL BASIS

The European Council defines the principles and general guidelines for the CFSP. On the basis of those guidelines the Council of Ministers adopts joint actions or common positions.

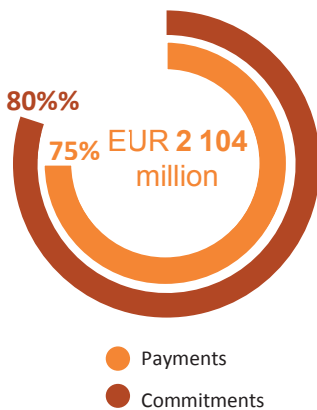
MORE INFORMATION

<https://europa.eu/!vq63kN>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	301.1
2015	270.1
2016	202.9
2017	286.8
2018	348.0
2019	343.2
2020	351.9
Total	2 104.0

**OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)****Evaluations/
studies conducted**

Annual reports on the implementation of the CFSP are produced. For further information please consult: <http://europa.eu/!kB37Tp>

**How is it
implemented?**

The Service for Foreign Policy Instruments is the lead service for implementation of the policy. The management of each CFSP action is based on specific decisions adopted by the Council under the CFSP provisions of the Treaty on European Union. There is no overarching instrument (i.e. basic act) adopted for the full period of the multiannual financial framework. Actions are either CSDP civilian crisis management missions, missions of EU

special representatives or actions in the field of the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and small arms and light weapons.

Why is it necessary?

The CFSP is intended to safeguard the common values of the EU, to strengthen (international) security, to preserve peace, to promote international cooperation and to develop democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

With 27 Member States acting within common policies and strategies, the EU alone has the critical mass to respond to global challenges, where the actions of Member States may be limited and fragmented, with projects that are often too small to make a sustainable difference in the field. This critical mass also

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
286.7	2017	258.2	
347.9	2018	291.7	
343.1	2019	308.2	

CFSP

COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY

What is the CFSP?

The European Union's common foreign and security policy (CFSP), to which EU Member States have committed themselves, aims to promote peace, security and progress in Europe and the world. In particular, the common security and defence policy (CSDP), which is part of the CFSP, aims to strengthen the EU's external ability to act through the development of civilian and military capabilities in conflict prevention and crisis management.

puts the EU in a better position to conduct policy dialogue with partner governments.

The EU is in a uniquely neutral and impartial position to be able to deliver on external action on behalf of and with Member States, lending enhanced credibility in the countries in which it works. It is best placed to take the role of global leader on behalf of its citizens.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period





The CFSP will remain a separate tool, but complement other conflict and crisis response instruments, such as the rapid response pillar



Specific objectives

- To support the preservation of stability through substantial CSDP missions and mandates of EU special representatives.
- To support the implementation and promotion of: (1) the strategy on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in order to increase security in this area; (2) the strategy on combating the illicit accumulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons, with measures against the illicit spread and trafficking of other conventional weapons; (3) the EU's policies in the field of conventional arms exports, in particular on the basis of Council Common Position 944/2008/CFSP.

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Capacity deployment rate (of international staff) of the main CSDP mission ⁽¹⁾		 98%	90%	88% out of 90% deployment rate
Number of countries that have ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty	159	 90%	169	168 out of 169 countries
Number of countries that have ratified United Nations Resolution 1540 on small arms and light weapons		 20%	192	39 out of 192 countries
Number of countries that have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty		 81%	130	105 out of 130 countries

■ % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Latest results from 2018.

Where are we in the implementation?

- The large majority of CFSP actions are implemented through indirect management, through the signature of contribution agreements with the relevant CSDP missions, EU special representatives and beneficiaries of funding in the area of the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and disarmament.
- A smaller number of actions are managed through direct management in the form of grants.
- In 2019, the total level of commitment appropriations for CFSP actions amounted to EUR 359 million.
- Unused funds, which were returned by CSDP missions in 2019 due to low absorption capacities (amounting to EUR 35 million), were able to be fully committed again in 2019.

Performance assessment

- The Commission has limited influence on the deployment of CFSP missions as it is only responsible for the financial implementation and ensuring adherence to the rules, for example concerning procurement. Planning and political steering is managed by the missions, together with the European External Action Service's Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability Directorate, which assists the missions by publishing calls for contributions for seconded and contracted personnel. The Service for Foreign Policy Instruments has nevertheless further simplified and harmonised the operating procedures for CSDP missions to make them more responsive.
- For this reason, budgetary performance is important for measuring the way CSDP entities handle the funding allocated to them. The budgetary performance in this regard has been satisfactory except, notably, for two missions, each for different reasons (EU Advisory Mission in Iraq and EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya). The Kosovo Chambers returned unused funds amounting to EUR 3 million to the Commission but the total execution rate is still relatively high for this mission.
- The deployment rate for civilian missions depends on the effective mobilisation of human resources and logistics. It falls slightly short of its target due to the reluctance of Member States to deploy more seconded personnel to missions and the deterioration in security and relocation efforts for several missions, such as the EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya.
- Achievement of objectives for CSDP missions as defined in the Council regulations is largely within acceptable rates. The exception is the EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya, which suffered setbacks due to its relocation from Tripoli to Tunis following a deteriorating security situation.
- Ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty is likely to reach its target number of countries (169). Nuclear security assistance by the International Atomic Energy Agency varies on a yearly basis as it is demand driven but remained within the planned boundaries. Arms Trade Treaty ratification and national implementation plans for United Nations Resolution 1540, which obliges states to refrain from supporting non-state actors by any means in developing, acquiring, manufacturing, possessing, transporting, transferring or using nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their delivery systems, show positive trends but remain short of their targets (105 out of 130 countries and 39 out of 192, respectively). This is not within the control of the CFSP, as it relies on national political decisions.

Concrete examples of achievements

EU Capacity Building Mission in Sahel, Mali	EU Advisory Mission in Iraq	EU Advisory Mission in the Central African Republic	Disarmament
has contributed to the regionalisation of the CSDP in the Sahel region by delivering the first training programme under the umbrella of the Regional Advisory and Coordination Cell in Chad.	in support of security sector reform achieved a positive impact in providing advice with regard to national strategies, including developing the countering violent extremism strategy. It developed tools to enhance EU Member States' coordination.	was decided on by the Council on 9 December 2019, as a new civilian CSDP mission in Bangui, Central African Republic. Operations are expected to start in early summer 2020, subject to the situation of the outbreak of COVID-19.	has progressed: three additional countries have ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty and 16 more state parties have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty.

LEGAL BASIS

Council Regulation (Euratom)
No 237/2014

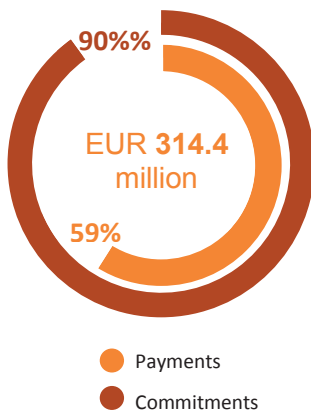
MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!kX93QG>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	30.5
2015	61.2
2016	71.8
2017	51.4
2018	33.0
2019	33.6
2020	32.9
Total	314.4

OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)Evaluations/
studies conducted

The midterm evaluation of the INSC was carried out in 2017:

<https://europa.eu/!qQ34Wd>

Three evaluations requested by the Member States were completed and presented to the INSC committee in 2019.

How is it
implemented?

The Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development is the lead DG for the directly managed implementation of the programme.

NUCLEAR COOPERATION II

INSTRUMENT FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY COOPERATION

What is nuclear cooperation?

The EU supports the promotion of a high level of nuclear safety, radiation protection and the application of efficient and effective nuclear material safeguards in non-EU countries, with priority given to accession and neighbouring countries.

The Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC) was created to support the EU's efforts in relation to the continuous improvement of nuclear safety by promoting an effective nuclear safety culture; implementing the highest nuclear safety and radiation protection standards; and establishing frameworks and methodologies for the application of efficient and effective safeguards for nuclear material in non-EU countries. The programme also supports EU efforts relating to the responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, including its transportation, treatment, processing, storage and disposal, along with the decommissioning and remediation of former nuclear sites and installations.



Specific objectives

- The promotion of an effective nuclear safety culture and implementation of the highest nuclear safety and radiation protection standards, and the continuous improvement of nuclear safety.
- Responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, namely transport, pre-treatment, treatment, processing, storage and disposal, and the decommissioning and remediation of former nuclear sites and installations.
- The establishment of frameworks and methodologies for the application of efficient and effective safeguards for nuclear material in non-EU countries.

Why is it necessary?

The promotion of the highest level of nuclear safety is crucial for the safety and the security of the population and the environment of the EU. The Fukushima Daichii accident in 2011, as well as the Chernobyl disaster in 1986, showed that all accidents have transboundary effects and impact the international community widely. Access to nuclear or radioactive materials is a global security concern, and evidence exists that non-state actors are trying to have access to such materials. The INSC has successfully contributed to the reduction of risks by providing support to regulatory authorities in particular, with priority given to accession countries (Turkey and western Balkan partners) and countries in the European neighbourhood area (Armenia, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco and Ukraine) engaged in nuclear power generation. It also includes health and environmental measures aimed at helping the

population that suffered from the Chernobyl accident in Ukraine and Belarus.

New challenges have to be addressed, in addition to the ongoing EU actions aiming at establishing or enhancing independent and competent regulatory authorities that will guarantee the safe use of nuclear energy and promoting sound safeguarding systems to enforce the non-proliferation regime. Emergency preparedness systems need to be put in place. Training and tutoring are essential to ensure the correct management of nuclear power generation.

In all these domains, the EU has long experience in nuclear safety and security and in the use of the highest safety standards. Moreover, it is in the EU's interest to extend the *acquis communautaire* in the field of nuclear energy to non-EU countries, especially with respect to the carrying out of stress tests in the FI's neighbourhood and

Voted budget execution (million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
51.4	2017	41.1	
32.9	2018	25.7	
33.6	2019	29.0	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Nuclear safety culture and radiation protection standards - regulatory documents produced with the support of EU expertise		> 100%	8	36 compared to a target of 8
Responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste – regulatory documents produced with the support of EU expertise		> 100%	9	18 compared to a target of 9
Nuclear safeguard authorities benefiting from Commission-funded projects		> 100%	3	4 compared to a target of 3

% of target achieved by the end of 2019

Where are we in the implementation?

- The Commission adopted 43 actions for 2016-2019 to be implemented in Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Georgia, Ghana, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Mongolia, the Philippines, Serbia, Thailand, Ukraine and Vietnam, along with regional projects in Central and South-East Asia, southern Africa, the Balkans and Gulf countries.
- In line with the multiannual indicative programme, these actions are carried out in the context of the four pillars: promotion of nuclear safety culture (20 actions), safe management of spent fuel and radioactive wastes (13 actions), nuclear materials safeguards (six actions) and support measures (five actions).
- The 2019 annual action programme covered seven actions addressing the promotion of nuclear safety culture, the safe management of radioactive waste and support measures implemented in Armenia, Georgia, Iran, Ukraine, and Central and South-East Asia. The contribution to the environmental remediation account managed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EUR 10 million) was paid in 2019.

Performance assessment

- The competence of staff working in the nuclear area is of utmost importance to ensure that the use of nuclear technology is safe. The training and tutoring actions, which transfer EU knowledge to students and young professionals, trained more than 2 400 staff in the beneficiary countries between 2014 and 2019. Some 33% of these were women, which contributes to the gender equality goal in a highly specialised scientific area. This confirms the success of the programme.
- The Central Asian states have inherited 1 billion tonnes of hazardous processing waste, which are highly toxic chemical and radioactive residues left behind and unsafely stored in uranium legacy sites. The EU flagship programme for the remediation of the legacy sites is now mature, with the completion of the necessary feasibility studies and environmental impact assessments. The first two remediation projects in Kyrgyzstan will begin in 2020.
- Under the technical assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States programme and the INSC programme, the European Union has contributed to the New Safe Confinement. This is a giant arch-shaped structure that covers the damaged Chernobyl Unit 4 in order to prevent any further radioactive release and to contain the remotely operated equipment for the ultimate removal of the damaged reactor and radioactive material.
- The first project supporting the Iranian Nuclear Regulatory Authority started in July 2017, and is running smoothly in a very cooperative atmosphere. Two follow-up projects are ongoing to establish the Nuclear Safety Centre in Tehran, in compliance with the EU's commitment to the implementation of the joint comprehensive plan of action, and to perform stress tests at the Bushehr nuclear power plant. Another capacity-building project was adopted under the 2019 annual action programme, demonstrating the commitment of the EU to the full implementation of the joint comprehensive plan of action, and a fifth project will be submitted under the 2020 annual action programme.
- The INSC has been relevant for improving nuclear safety in non-EU countries aligned to EU policies and priorities and addressing specific needs. Measuring nuclear safety is inherently difficult, but the instrument produced concrete examples of success on the ground. The setting-up in 2015 of a multilateral environmental remediation account on remediating legacy mining waste in Central Asia is an example of how the INSC addresses needs in coordination with international donors and organisations.
- Even if the programme is fit for its objectives, programming documents can become more informative for non-experts without constraining flexibility. The direct and mainstreamed support provided for environmental protection, sector management and gender equality deserves wider visibility and recognition.

Concrete examples of achievements

25	36	18	4
countries benefited from EU support in 2019 for developing a culture of safety for nuclear energy.	regulatory documents were produced by the beneficiary countries during 2014-2019, with the support of EU expertise. These documents are the final step for major projects.	documents were produced with the EU's support in the area of nuclear waste during 2014-2019. These documents are evidence of the transfer of EU expertise.	national and international authorities benefited from EU-funded projects in 2019, passing on the EU's expertise in the area of safeguards.

LEGAL BASIS

Decision (EU) 2019/420 of the European Parliament and of the Council

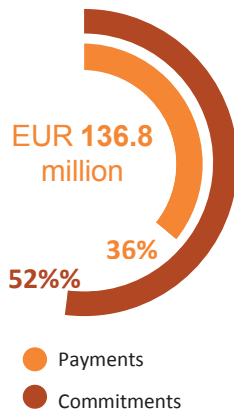
MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/vF44kU>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	14.9
2015	19.9
2016	8.1
2017	11.4
2018	6.0
2019	12.6
2020	63.7
Total	136.8

OVERALL EXECUTION (2014-2019)**Evaluations/studies conducted**

The midterm evaluation of the current UCPM legislation was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult: <http://europa.eu/!gD68jG>

How is it implemented?

DG European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

CIVIL PROTECTION

UNION CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM – HEADING 4

What is the UCPM under Heading 4?

The European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) facilitates the cooperation in disaster response among 34 European states (EU Member States, Iceland, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia and Turkey). When activated, the mechanism coordinates, through the Emergency Response Coordination Centre of the European Commission, the assistance that the UCPM participating states can provide to disaster-stricken countries all over the world. The support provided through the UCPM can take the form of in-kind assistance, deployment of specially equipped teams, or assessment and coordination experts sent into the field.

Under Heading 4, the UCPM supports rapid and efficient disaster response interventions in the event of major disaster in non-EU countries. It also supports disaster prevention and preparedness activities in eligible non-EU countries, the primary beneficiaries of which are the European neighbourhood policy countries and Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance beneficiary countries, not yet participating in the UCPM.

The aim of the mechanism is to support, coordinate and supplement the actions of the participating states in the field of civil protection with a view to improving the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters. It focuses on reducing the loss of human life and the environmental, economic and material damage caused by disasters through a comprehensive approach covering: disaster prevention, preparedness and response; improving the understanding of disaster risks through cooperation on risk assessment and planning, and the gradual development of a culture of disaster prevention; and improving the preparedness for disasters through training, exercises, exchange of best practices and similar activities.

**Specific objectives**

- To achieve a high level of protection against disasters by preventing or reducing their effects by fostering a culture of prevention and by improving cooperation between the civil protection and other relevant services.
- To enhance preparedness in non-EU countries to respond to disasters.
- To facilitate rapid and efficient response in the event of disasters or imminent disasters.

Why is it necessary?

Disasters know no borders. A well-coordinated response at European level is necessary to avoid duplication of relief efforts and ensure that assistance meets the real needs of the affected region. Civil protection assistance consists of governmental aid delivered in the immediate aftermath of a disaster aiming to reduce the loss of human life and the environmental, economic and material damage. For a coherent, predictable, cost-effective and more visible EU response to disasters, the European Response

Capacity was set up, ready to help everywhere in the EU and in non-EU countries, when needed.




Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed the inclusion of funding related to the internal and external dimensions of civil protection in a specific cluster – ‘crisis response’ – under Heading 5, ‘Security and Defence’.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
11.2	2017	6.9	
6.0	2018	6.4	
12.6	2019	8.6	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Prevention projects financed for non-EU countries covered by Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance and European Neighbourhood Instrument ⁽¹⁾		 44%	43	19 out of 43 projects
Preparedness projects financed for non-EU countries covered by Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance and European Neighbourhood Instrument ⁽¹⁾		 71%	42	30 out of 42 projects
Average speed of civil protection assistance interventions (from acceptance of offer to deployment) (in hours) ⁽²⁾		 > 100%	48	39-hour response compared to a target of 48 hours

 % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Cumulative results for 2014-2019 compared to cumulative milestones for 2014-2020.

⁽²⁾ Average of results for 2014-2019.

Where are we in the implementation?

- Concerning the international dimension of the UCPM, the activities were implemented as planned in the UCPM legislation and the Commission implementing decision in all areas, disaster prevention, preparedness and response.
- In 2019, six prevention and preparedness projects were financed to support countries' efforts to improve their disaster risk management. Moreover, the UCPM was activated on 17 occasions by non-EU countries during the year.
- During 2019 the new UCPM legislation entered into force, without negatively affecting the implementation of the instrument. Although the bulk of the legislative review focused on the internal dimension, the external component of the UCPM was also reinforced with references to closer cooperation with neighbours in all areas.
- In addition, as part of the EU's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Commission proposed the reinforcement of the UCPM in non-EU countries with EUR 45 million in 2020, so as to support the repatriation of EU citizens.

Performance assessment

- The UCPM has shown a strong performance over recent years in the following areas.
 - In the area of prevention and preparedness, cooperation with enlargement and European neighbourhood policy countries has been strengthened. Of particular relevance is the relaunched cooperation with the southern neighbourhood under the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat. In 2018, two administrative arrangements were signed, one with Tunisia and one with Georgia, showcasing the political will to further strengthen the cooperation on disaster management.
 - In the area of response, most of the activations of the UCPM were requested by non-EU countries (85% of the total number of activations in 2019). This shows the international relevance that the UCPM has acquired over the years.
- As part of the plan to revamp the prevention and preparedness grant programme, a new system was created whereby projects have to be more targeted and have a greater impact. As a result, fewer projects are being financed, but with higher financing. Since the duration of the projects is 24 months, it is too early to assess whether this new approach has been effective.
- There have been relevant challenges during the last years, as listed below.
 - The UCPM was not always in a position to respond to activation in the neighbourhood and enlargement countries. However, the reinforced UCPM, and notably the development of the rescEU reserve, can offer further possibilities for responding to disasters in non-EU countries.
 - Attendance of UCPM training was not always optimal, in part due to the level of knowledge of English in the targeted countries. The Commission has put in place supporting measures, such as organising training in Arabic and French.
 - None of the prevention proposals in non-EU countries for 2019 were successful in the evaluation process in the context of the new approach to prevention and preparedness projects. To ensure that successful applications can be put forward in the next calls, feedback and additional guidance to potential applicants have been provided.

Concrete examples of achievements

17	EUR 10.5 million	3	2	400	38
activations of the UCPM outside the EU occurred in 2019.	was committed to support response operations outside the EU during 2019.	prevention and preparedness projects were financed in 2019.	EU peer reviews on disaster risk management were conducted in 2019 (Algeria and Tunisia).	EU rescuers/staff were deployed in Mozambique in 2019 following the landfall of tropical cyclone Idai.	activations of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service occurred in 2019.

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 375/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

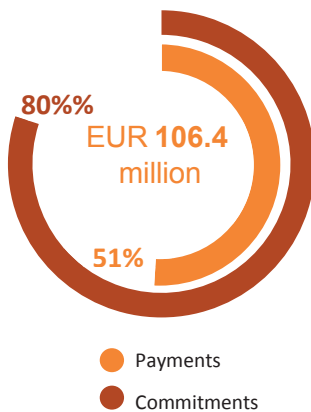
MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!VG49Xu>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	12.7
2015	7.4
2016	9.3
2017	17.4
2018	20.1
2019	18.8
2020	20.6
Total	106.4

OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)Evaluations/
studies conducted

The midterm evaluation of the programme was carried out in 2017. For further information please consult: <http://europa.eu/!QK39JQ>

How is it
implemented?

DG European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through direct management (grants and procurement).

EU AID VOLUNTEERS

EU AID VOLUNTEERS INITIATIVE

What is 'EU aid volunteers'?

The EU aid volunteers initiative brings together volunteers and organisations from different countries, providing practical support to humanitarian aid projects and contributing to strengthening the local capacity and resilience of disaster-affected communities.

The programme incentivises and fosters collaboration, exchange of knowledge and good practices, by building partnerships between organisations in the field of humanitarian aid. Organisations that wish to participate in capacity building projects need to form consortia composed of a minimum of two EU-based organisations and two organisations based in non-EU countries. Technical assistance projects require the participation of three organisations based in the EU. Furthermore, setting up dedicated on-site training of selected volunteers to prepare them for deployment creates a strong *esprit de corps* among European volunteers from different countries, who are trained together in groups. This is further strengthened in the course of the implementation of the programme through the network of former and current EU aid volunteers and the participating sending and hosting organisations, in order to enhance learning and further professionalisation of the sector.

The possibility of doing an apprenticeship with a non-governmental organisation based in the EU ahead of deployment will provide volunteers with an opportunity to engage or even seek out a professional future in the field of humanitarian aid.



Specific objectives

Supporting education and training

- To contribute to increasing and improving the capacity of the EU to provide humanitarian aid.
- Improvement of the skills, knowledge and capabilities of volunteers in the field of humanitarian aid and the terms and conditions of their engagement.
- To build up the capacity of hosting organisations and to foster volunteering in non-EU countries.
- Communication of the EU's humanitarian aid principles agreed in the European Consensus

Why is it necessary?

The number, scope and complexity of humanitarian crises worldwide, both natural and man-made, have increased significantly over the years, and that trend is likely to continue. Humanitarian organisations need more well-trained people to carry out practical action that helps communities affected by disaster. The EU aid volunteers initiative provides opportunities for citizens from the EU to volunteer in humanitarian aid projects worldwide. The initiative also supports humanitarian aid organisations by strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to humanitarian crises.

The EU added value comes in the form of:

- bringing together EU citizens from different Member States for joint contributions to humanitarian aid operations;

... of volunteering across Member States in

- fostering transnational cooperation of humanitarian aid organisations and stakeholders in implementing the actions of the initiative;
- allowing for economies of scale through synergies and complementarities with other relevant national, international and EU programmes and policies;
- providing for a tangible expression of European values, in particular of solidarity with people who are most vulnerable and in need;
- contributing to reinforcing active EU citizenship by empowering EU citizens of various ages and backgrounds to engage in humanitarian aid activities.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed the integration of

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
17.4	2017	16.6	
20.1	2018	16.0	
18.8	2019	12.7	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Number of EU aid volunteers trained ⁽¹⁾		24%	4 300	1 016 out of 4 300 volunteers trained
Number of EU aid volunteers deployed ⁽¹⁾		18%	4 175	760 out of 4 175 volunteers
Number of hosting and sending organisations participating in the EU aid volunteers initiative ⁽¹⁾		69%	635	439 out of 635 organisations
Certified sending organizations applying the EUAV standards ⁽¹⁾		31%	169	52 out of 169 organisations

■ % of target achieved by the end of 2019

⁽¹⁾ Cumulative results for 2014-2019 compared to cumulative milestones for 2014-2020.

Where are we in the implementation?

- Due to the slow start of the EU aid volunteers initiative in 2015, the budget requests in the annual work programmes for the years 2017-2019 were reduced compared to the initial financial programming. This reduction and the experience gained from previous years of implementation allowed for the improvement of the use of the operational budget in 2018 (99%) and 2019 (98%).
- Two calls for proposals were published in 2019 under the annual work programme 2019: one for projects in the field of capacity building and technical assistance and one for the deployment of and apprenticeships for EU aid volunteers. The training for candidate EU aid volunteers was carried out, and external evaluators supported the evaluation of applications submitted in response to the two calls for proposals and the evaluation of requests for certification and recertification.
- An information day to promote the calls was organised, along with support measures, including the maintenance of the EU aid volunteers platform for project management, and networking, communication and outreach activities. Examples of the activities include a public information session on International Volunteer Day in December 2019 and social media campaigns to promote the volunteering vacancies on the EU aid volunteers platform.

Performance assessment

- The start of the implementation of the EU aid volunteers initiative was delayed for about a year, due to the adoption of the implementing regulation in November 2014. The first volunteers were only deployed starting from December 2015 / January 2016.
- After the launch of the initiative, the uptake of this new programme was below expectations. The EU aid volunteers initiative introduced a thorough certification mechanism that requires sending and hosting organisations to prove that they have procedures and policies in place to meet the high volunteering standards of the programme. This certification mechanism had not existed during the pilot phase. Consequently, the targets set for numbers of organisations certified and volunteers trained and deployed were too challenging and were not met.
- This situation required an ongoing effort to support the organisations in order to achieve higher volunteer deployment numbers. Over the course of the period several simplifications were implemented:
 - the mandatory minimum number of members of a project consortium was reduced from six to four;
 - the maximum funding amount for deployment projects was doubled;
 - the certification procedure was simplified as far as possible;
 - the e-form for the submission of proposals was simplified;
 - an electronic tool to register candidates for the different training sessions was introduced.
- The 2019 call for proposals will result in the deployment of 424 volunteers in 2020. This is still below the 450 planned for in the annual work programme and far below the original target of 1 125 volunteers in 2020. These deployments will be substantially delayed due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- With regard to capacity building and technical assistance projects, the funding provided by the EU aid volunteers initiative strengthens the abilities of organisations intending to deploy EU aid volunteers, and ensures that they comply with the standards and procedures set under the initiative. In 2019 projects were funded to support 50 organisations through capacity building projects, and 8 organisations through technical assistance. This number is lower than planned, because funding was moved from the capacity building / technical assistance strand to the deployment strand and fewer projects were funded.
- In the report on the interim evaluation (COM(2018) 496), the Commission acknowledged the need to improve the consistency of the approach to volunteering in non-EU countries with that of other EU volunteering schemes. Coherence and synergies with the European Voluntary Service and the European Solidarity Corps should be sought. For the new multiannual financing period it was therefore proposed to integrate the EU aid volunteers initiative into the European Solidarity Corps.

Concrete examples of achievements

424	58	182	9
volunteers will be deployed in 40 countries around the world in 2020, as a result of the 2019 call for proposals. However, these deployments will be substantially delayed due to the COVID-19 outbreak.	organisations will be participating in the projects selected in 2019: 4 projects for capacity building (involving 50 organisations) and 1 project for technical assistance (involving 8 organisations).	organisations had been certified by the end of 2019 (52 sending and 130 hosting organisations).	face-to-face training sessions organised in 2019, with 446 candidate volunteers attending and an overall satisfaction rate of 88%.

- The new project 'forests' started in 2019 and provides for the deployment of 27 EU aid volunteers to reinforce forest management in Congo, Ghana, Guinea and Vietnam. Volunteers will conduct studies to assess the vulnerability of forest-dependent communities, taking into account the effects of climate change, and will organise seminars with local actors to plan intervention strategies together. More information can be found on this website: <https://europa.eu/wk96rc>
- Additional stories about what volunteers are doing in the field can be found on this website: <https://europa.eu/Rf68Nh>

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 2017/1601 of the European Parliament and of the Council

MORE INFORMATION

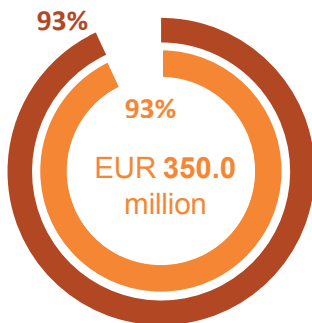
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FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2017	275.0
2018	25.0
2019	25.0
2020	25.0
Total	350.0

OVERALL EXECUTION (2014-2019)



- Payments
- Commitments

Evaluations/ studies conducted

How is it implemented?

The Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme through regional investment platforms.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

EUROPEAN FUND FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

What is sustainable development?

In the framework of the external investment plan, the European Fund for Sustainable Development supports investments in Africa and EU's neighbourhood. This initiative was inspired by the investment plan for Europe launched in 2015.

The European Fund for Sustainable Development is the first pillar of the external investment plan, which also aims to enhance technical assistance in partner countries (pillar 2) and to improve the investment climate and overall policy environment in those countries (pillar 3).

The overall aim of the European Fund for Sustainable Development is to contribute to the goals of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular poverty eradication, as well as the commitments under the recently revised European neighbourhood policy. By supporting investments in Africa and the neighbourhood, the fund also aims to address specific socioeconomic root causes of migration, including irregular migration. It will also contribute to the sustainable reintegration of migrants voluntarily returning to their countries of origin and to the strengthening of transit and host communities. The fund aims to foster the creation of decent jobs, economic opportunities and entrepreneurship, and green and inclusive growth with a particular focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women and young people.

The European Fund for Sustainable Development is implemented through two regional investment platforms: the African investment platform and the neighbourhood investment platform, which combine financing from the existing external blending facilities for Africa and the Neighbourhood with a newly developed EFSD Guarantee.

Under the EFSD Guarantee, the Commission provides partial guarantees to eligible counterparts, which in turn provide support to downstream beneficiaries through a wide range of financial instruments, including loans, guarantees, counterguarantees, capital market instruments and other forms of credit enhancement, insurance, equity or quasi-equity participation.



Specific objectives

- The European Fund for Sustainable Development's purpose as an integrated financial package is to support... through the supply of financing capacity in the form of grants, loans to eligible counterparts – investments and...

Why is it necessary?

The European Fund for Sustainable Development is a bold new approach to supporting sustainable and innovative investment, going beyond the classical development assistance and building on experience of existing blending facilities to maximise additionality, deliver innovative products and catalyse private-sector investment. It encourages private investors to contribute to sustainable development in countries outside of Europe. The fund aims to:

- contribute to achieving sustainable development in the partner countries in a coherent and consistent manner;
- target socioeconomic sectors, in particular sustainable infrastructure (including energy, water, transport,

information and communications technology, the environment, social infrastructure and human capital), and provide finance for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises with a particular focus on the creation of decent jobs;

- assist in developing economically and financially viable projects to attract investment;
- help to improve the business environment in partner countries by supporting reforms and economic governance;
- contribute to addressing the root causes of irregular migration and strengthen the EU's partnerships in Africa and the neighbourhood countries.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR) ⁽⁹²⁾

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
275.0	2017	275.0	2017
25.0	2018	25.0	2018
25.0	2019	25.0	2019

Where are we in the implementation?

- The entire available budget of EUR 1.54 billion for the EFSD Guarantee was allocated in 2018 to 28 selected proposals. The first guarantee agreement was signed in Vienna on 18 December 2018 with the Dutch development bank FMO (Financieringsmaatschappij voor Ontwikkelingslanden) for the NASIRA Risk-Sharing Facility.
- By the end of 2019, the Commission had signed four guarantee agreements with its partner financial institutions for a total amount of EUR 195 million.
- Overall, programmes and projects validated by the European Fund for Sustainable Development's governance by the end of 2019 are expected to mobilise around EUR 47 billion of investments, thus exceeding the EU's target of unlocking EUR 44 billion initially planned for 1 year later, i.e. 2020.
- Where needed, these programmes may be refocused in order to contribute to a robust and targeted EU response to support partner countries' efforts in tackling the coronavirus pandemic.

Performance assessment

- In 2017, the Commission established a first set of investment windows for the EFSD Guarantee, which were subsequently endorsed by the fund's strategic and operational boards. These cover five areas: (1) sustainable energy and connectivity; (2) financing for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises; (3) sustainable agriculture, rural entrepreneurs and agribusiness; (4) sustainable cities; and (5) digital for development.
- Following the establishment of the investment windows, partner financial institutions were invited to suggest investment programmes to be covered by the EFSD Guarantee. The response by the financial institutions was very positive: the Commission received 46 proposals from 12 partner institutions for a total value of more than EUR 3.5 billion, thus exceeding the current entire capacity of the EFSD Guarantee by over EUR 2 billion.
- Based on the information provided by the financial institutions in their proposals, the 28 guarantee tools approved to date by the fund's governance are expected to contribute to the creation of close to 4 million jobs. They should also contribute to reducing carbon emissions by 6 000 kilotonnes a year and generate 4 + GW, particularly in renewable energy.
- The Commission has established a results measurement framework for the fund pending agreement with its partner financial institutions. The framework has already been used in the guarantee agreements signed to date. It covers three levels: (1) the fund as a whole, including both the EFSD Guarantee and the blending operations; (2) the investment platforms and investment windows; and (3) the investment programmes under the EFSD Guarantee and the projects under the blending operations.
- The Commission is responsible for monitoring and reporting under the first two levels, based on a set of predefined indicators. At programme and project level, the reporting on expected and actual operational results is the responsibility of the lead financial institution. The list of indicators and the frequency and format of reporting are part of the guarantee agreements signed with the financial institutions.

Concrete examples of achievements

4	EUR 75 million	EUR 40 million	EUR 50 million	EUR 30 million
guarantee agreements were signed in the course of 2019.	has been made available through FMO's NASIRA Guarantee Facility, to provide access to affordable loans for women, young people and migrant entrepreneurs.	has been made available through FMO's ventures programme guarantee agreement, to guarantee venture capital to start-up companies, in particular those led by young entrepreneurs in the digital space.	has been made available through the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's framework to scale up renewable energy investments, in order to increase energy generation from renewable energy sources in neighbourhood countries and assist in the implementation of the Paris Agreement climate goals.	has been made available through Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and the African Development Bank's archipelagos guarantee agreement, to provide access to finance across Africa for high-potential small businesses by piloting capital market solutions.

⁽⁹²⁾ Payments related to amounts committed in 2017 and 2018 were actually made at the beginning of the following year, in accordance with Article 12 (7) of the Financial Regulation.

LEGAL BASIS

Council Decision 2014/137/EU

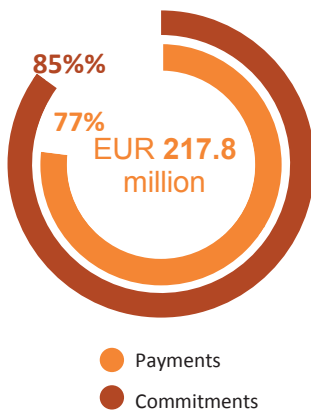
MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!dR38cH>

FINANCIAL PROGRAMMING

(million EUR)

2014	24.8
2015	30.9
2016	31.4
2017	31.9
2018	32.4
2019	32.9
2020	33.5
Total	217.8

OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)Evaluations/
studies conducted

The midterm evaluation of the Greenland decision was carried out within the framework of the midterm review of the external financing instruments. For further information please consult: <https://europa.eu/!gg94QN>

How is it
implemented?

The Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme through budget support.

GREENLAND

COOPERATION WITH GREENLAND

What is cooperation with Greenland?

Located between the North Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean, Greenland is the world's largest island. It is an autonomous territory within Denmark, and is the only Danish territory associated with the EU. Between 1973 and 1985 Greenland was part of the EU. Following a referendum held in 1982 it withdrew from the EU, and is now associated with it under the overseas association decision. Greenland is eligible for funding from the EU's general budget through the EU–Greenland Partnership. This allows strong relations between the partners to continue and responds to global challenges, making it possible to develop a proactive agenda and pursue mutual interests. The partnership defines, in particular, the framework for policy dialogue on issues of common interest, such as:

- global issues concerning, inter alia, energy, climate change and environment; natural resources, including raw materials; maritime transport; and research and innovation;
- Arctic issues.

The education, vocational training and post-elementary school system was chosen as the concentration sector for cooperation between the EU and Greenland for 2014-2020. This ensures Greenland's continuous economic progress in an increasingly globalised world economy by providing a critical mass of qualified, flexible people and a competitive workforce. Increased productivity in the working-age population will reduce the growing pressure on public finances resulting from the increasing share of elderly people in the population. Furthermore, a highly educated and skilled labour force will reduce the economic dependence on single sectors and is a prerequisite for development and inclusive growth in emerging sectors.



Specific objectives

- To support and cooperate with Greenland in addressing its major challenges, in particular the sustainable diversification of the economy, the need to increase the skills of its labour force, including scientists, and the need to improve Greenlandic information systems in the field of information and communications technologies.
- To contribute to the capacity of the Greenlandic administration to formulate and implement national policies, in particular in new areas of mutual interest as identified in the development.

Why is it necessary?

As the EU is the only donor besides Denmark, the support allocated through the partnership brings an EU perspective to the development of Greenland and will contribute to the strengthening of close and long-lasting ties with the territory.

Greenlanders enjoy the citizenship of the Member State to which they are constitutionally linked (Denmark), and subsequently hold EU citizenship, therefore the corresponding parts of the Treaty on European Union apply to them. European

Union support strengthens the position of Greenland as an advanced outpost of the EU, based on the common values and history that link the two partners. Through the framework of relations and dialogue with Greenland, the EU has gained a better understanding of the conditions in the Arctic, enabling it to better formulate relevant actions and policies, while Greenland supports the EU's application for an observer seat on the Arctic Council.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission has proposed to include this

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
31.9		2017	30.0
32.4		2018	30.5
32.8		2019	29.2

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Completion rate for high school, vocational education and training and higher education	51.1%	<0%	60.0%	50.7% compared to 60.0%

■ % of target achieved by 2018

Where are we in the implementation?

- The financing agreement for the 2019 programme to support the Greenland education sector was signed with the government of Greenland on 2 December 2019. The 2019 annual work plan was presented by the government of Greenland, and approved. Subsequently, the fixed tranche for the 2019 programme was paid in December 2019.
- The 2018 annual implementation report as prepared by the government of Greenland provides adequate proof of programme implementation. The achievement rate was higher than for the previous year.
- It is compulsory for children in Greenland to attend school up to the age of 15, and in general the full participation of boys and girls is achieved. For 2021 the priorities will be for the government of Greenland to adopt educational reform and start to introduce 12 years of compulsory education. In addition, the implementation of the Law on Higher Education will be completed.
- Among the activities undertaken in 2018 was the work on increasing the use of information technology in elementary schools.
- In June 2019 the Public Procurement Law was adopted by the Ministry of Finance of the government of Greenland. This is an achievement in the context of the 2018-2020 public finance management reform plan, and a key element for Greenland to maintain its eligibility for budget support.
- In December 2019 the Commission adopted the Capacity Facility Greenland, with a budget of EUR 2.64 million. This project will support the government of Greenland in increasing its capacity for planning and programming external aid programmes, support its participation in Arctic forums and support the private sector in improving its capacity to attract external capital.
- Three policy dialogue meetings were held: one in Greenland (June 2019 in Tasiilaq, East Greenland and Nuuk); and two in Brussels (6-8 February 2019 and 10-12 March 2020). For each meeting an *aide-memoire* was signed between the government of Greenland and the Commission.
- Following the signature of the financing agreement for the Capacity Facility Greenland early in 2020, this project will be implemented in the 2020-2022 period. The emphasis in 2020 will be on increasing staffing in key ministries (especially the Ministries of Finance, Industry and Foreign Affairs), training new and existing staff to draft evidence-based policies and providing the private sector with a facility to allow it to improve business and investment plans in order to attract capital.

Performance assessment

- Cooperation was good, especially with the key Ministries of Finance, Education and Industry, and the Department of Foreign Affairs, as well as with the relevant stakeholders in the government of Denmark, but the general objectives of cooperation with Greenland have only partially been met.
- The programme has not yet resulted in the diversification of Greenland's economy, which is still very much dependent on the fisheries sector for economic development, trade and domestic revenue. This is mainly due to the lack of major investment in the minerals sector, with only two small mines having begun operations in the past 2 years.
- Greenland has witnessed sustained economic growth in the past 5 years, and has nearly achieved full employment. This situation affects the success of the education support programme, as high-school graduates consider employment opportunities more attractive than continuing their education.
- Similarly, youngsters, especially men, can find employment in the booming fisheries sector after completing their schooling. Of all students completing their studies in higher education, 72% are women and 28% are men.
- An educated and skilled labour force is necessary to reduce the economic dependence on a single sector, and is a prerequisite for development and inclusive growth.
- One of the main priorities of the programme was a continued focus on improving the quality of elementary education, in order to provide children with a sound basis for lifelong learning. However, the political goals of lifting the quality of the elementary-school system has not been fully achieved, and further efforts are needed.
- The government will continue its focus on accessibility to education, including a continuation of the work on examining how distance learning can contribute to both a higher level of accessibility and a higher quality of education, especially for, but not limited to, the elementary- and high-school levels.

Concrete examples of achievements

25%	57%	72%	92%	93%
of the total government budget in 2019 was for education and training, while in 2014 it stood at 15%.	of 16-to-18-year-olds being outside the education system in 2018 shows that education challenges remain pertinent.	of students completing their higher education are women and 28% are men, due the higher participation of men in the traditional occupations of hunting and fishing.	of total exports were for fisheries products in 2018. Fisheries remain a prominent feature in the economy of the country.	of civil servants are (long-term) residents, ensuring the capacity of the Greenlandic administration to formulate and implement national policies.

programme through budget support measures (loans, grants or a combination of the two).

LEGAL BASIS

Ad hoc decisions under Articles 209, 212 and 213 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!Uy76Wq>

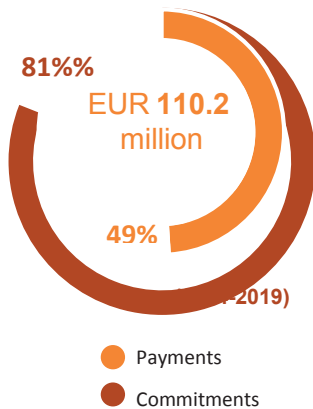
YEARLY BUDGETED AMOUNTS ⁽¹⁾

Updated in January 2020 (million EUR)

2014	38.3
2015	0.5
2016	0.4
2017	40.3
2018	10.6
2019	0.1
2020	20.0
Total	110.2

(¹) MFA is predominantly provided in loans, underpinned by guarantees from the EU budget.
MFA funds disbursed 2014-2019:
Loans: EUR 4 616.0 million
Grants: EUR 53.0 million

OVERALL EXECUTION OF MFA GRANTS



Why is it necessary?

The financial assistance provided under MFA operations and the policy measures attached to them aim at promoting macroeconomic and political stability in the EU's neighbourhood. The policy measures associated with MFA cover selected provisions related, where applicable, to the accession-related agreements, stabilisation and association agreements, partnership and cooperation agreements and European neighbourhood policy action plans or equivalent documents. They also cover other conditions aimed at fostering a sustainable balance of payments and

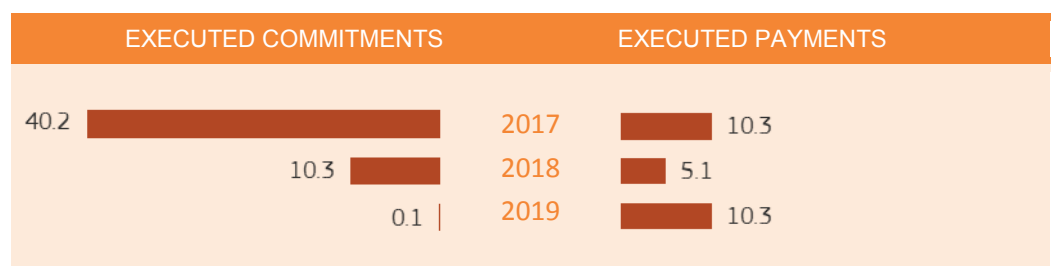
Evaluations/ studies conducted

All final reports of completed *ex post* evaluations of MFA operations are published at: <https://europa.eu/!pP67Jx>

How is it implemented?

DG Economic and Financial Affairs is the lead DG for the implementation of the

Voted budget execution of MFA grants (in million EUR)



MACRO-FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE MACRO-FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

What is MFA?

Macro-financial assistance (MFA) is a form of financial aid extended by the EU to partner countries experiencing a balance-of-payments crisis. It takes the form of medium/long-term loans or grants, or a combination of the two, and is only available to countries benefiting from a disbursing International Monetary Fund programme. MFA is designed for countries that are geographically, economically and politically close to the EU. These include candidate and potential candidate countries, countries bordering the EU covered by the European neighbourhood policy and, in certain circumstances, other non-EU countries.

budgetary position, raising potential growth, promoting integration and regulatory convergence with the EU and strengthening public finance management.







MFA complements other EU assistance and maximises its effectiveness by alleviating the risks of disruption of the regular EU cooperation framework while at the same time laying down the basis for structural change and sustainable economic and social development of the beneficiary countries. MFA is also complementary to the other EU crisis response mechanisms (e.g. the Instrument for Stability and humanitarian aid)



Specific objectives

- To provide macro-financial assistance to non-EU countries in resolving their balance-of-payments crises and restoring external debt sustainability.

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Official foreign exchange reserves – Jordan (months of imports)		 86%	7.4	6.4 out of 7.4 months
Official foreign exchange reserves – Tunisia (months of imports)		 87%	3.1	2.7 out of 3.1 months
Current account balance – Jordan	-9.4%	 75%	-6.2%	-7.0% compared to -6.2% balance
Current account balance – Tunisia		 <0%	-9.4%	-11.1% compared to -9.4% balance
External debt – Jordan		 > 100%	73.0%	69.1% debt compared to a target of 73.0%
External debt – Tunisia		 > 100%	93.0%	89.4% debt compared to a target of 93.0%

 % of target achieved by the end of 2018

NB: Given the specificities of MFA, a precise assessment of its impact is difficult to make, as effects on macroeconomic variables over time cannot be solely attributed to MFA operations. In addition, as MFA is a short-term crisis-related instrument spanning 2 to 3 years maximum, it is not possible to quantify its objectives beyond the horizon of the MFA operations or, at most, of the beneficiary countries' programmes agreed (or to be agreed) with the International Monetary Fund.

Where are we in the implementation?

During the course of 2019, the Commission made important progress in the implementation of a number of MFA operations, including the following.

- Jordan II (EUR 200 million in loans). The first tranche (EUR 100 million) was disbursed in October 2017, while the second tranche (EUR 100 million) was disbursed in July 2019.
- Tunisia II (EUR 500 million in loans). The first tranche (EUR 200 million) was disbursed in October 2017; the second tranche (EUR 200 million) was disbursed in June 2019; and the third and final tranche (EUR 150 million) was disbursed in October 2019.
- Moldova (EUR 60 million in loans and EUR 40 million in grants). The first tranche (EUR 20 million in loans and EUR 10 million in grants) was disbursed in October 2019. The remaining instalments may follow in 2020 provided the required conditions are fulfilled.
- Jordan III (EUR 500 million in loans). The new MFA was adopted by the co-legislators on 15 January 2020. Negotiations on the memorandum of understanding with the Jordanian authorities are ongoing. The assistance is expected to be implemented in three instalments during 2020 and 2021.
- On 22 April 2020, the Commission adopted a new proposal for a EUR 3 billion MFA package for 10 enlargement and neighbourhood partners to help them to limit the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. The assistance would take the form of medium-term loans provided to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo⁽⁹³⁾, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Tunisia and Ukraine. The proposal is subject to adoption by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union.

Performance assessment

- The evaluations carried out so far conclude that MFA operations do contribute, albeit sometimes modestly and indirectly, to the improvement of external sustainability, macroeconomic stability and the achievement of structural reforms through conditionality in the recipient country. In most cases, MFA operations had a positive effect on the balance of payments of the beneficiary country and contributed to relaxing their budgetary constraints. They also led to a slightly higher economic growth.
- An important attribute of the EU MFA versus alternative sources of financing is its highly concessional terms, i.e. relatively low interest rates, long maturity and a long grace period. This generates fiscal space and contributes to public debt sustainability in the beneficiary countries.
- The *ex post* evaluations also confirm that previous MFA programmes were implemented efficiently, and were well coordinated with other EU programmes and with programmes of other donors (notably the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank). The EU's MFA complements and is conditional on the existence of an adjustment and reform International Monetary Fund programme in the beneficiary country. MFA policy conditionality is separate from the International Monetary Fund conditionality, but is complementary and/or reinforcing.
- However, given its specificities, MFA cannot be linked directly to identifiable outputs, and its concrete achievements are therefore difficult to assess, as effects on macroeconomic variables over time cannot be solely attributed to MFA operations.
- MFA disbursements are sometimes delayed compared to initial expectations. External factors that might be impacting programme timelines include:
 - the beneficiary country not fulfilling the political preconditions;
 - the International Monetary Fund programme in the beneficiary country being off-track or having expired;
 - the implementation of agreed reforms being affected by capacity constraints and institutional weaknesses;
 - changes of government, resulting in shifting policy priorities.
- The evaluations also note the shortcomings of each MFA operation, with the most common being the operation's lack of visibility and, in some cases, the speed of the legislative approval process. The Commission will further consider the identified limitations in the upcoming MFA meta-evaluation planned for 2020.

Concrete examples of achievements

EUR 4.6 billion	EUR 3.8 billion	EUR 800 million	EUR 380 million
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⁽⁹³⁾ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

in funds was disbursed from 2014 to 2019 to support the financial stability of EU partner countries.

in loans has been committed for Ukraine under four MFA operations since 2014 in the context of the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

in loans was disbursed to Tunisia between 2014 and 2019 to support the country in responding to the economic downturn following the 2011 revolution and the economic and political transition process that ensued.

in loans was disbursed to Jordan between 2014 and 2019 to support the country dealing with pressing economic and social issues arising from regional conflicts and the refugee flows from Syria and Iraq.

LEGAL BASIS

Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013
of the European Parliament and
of the Council

MORE INFORMATION

<https://europa.eu/!jG47dp>

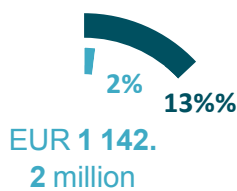
ANNUAL CEILING AMOUNTS

(¹)

(million EUR)

2014	120.4
2015	159.9
2016	165.6
2017	168.9
2018	172.3
2019	175.7
2020	179.3
Total	1 142.2

(¹) Amounts 2014 and 2015 after deduction of amounts used for cases under the 2007-2013 MFF

OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2019)

- Payments
- Commitments

Evaluations/
studies conducted

A report on the activities of the EGF in 2017 and 2018 was published in 2019. For further information please consult:
<https://europa.eu/!TB67Bq>
The midterm evaluation of the EGF was completed in 2018. For further information please consult:
<https://europa.eu/!Vx38pj>

How is it
implemented?

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion is the lead DG for the implementation of the fund.

EGF

EUROPEAN GLOBALISATION ADJUSTMENT FUND

What is the EGF?

The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) supports workers made redundant as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation or the negative effects of global economic and financial crises.

The EGF is an emergency relief instrument. It co-finances active labour market policy measures organised by the Member States such as job guidance, careers advice, coaching, training courses and assistance for dismissed workers in setting up their own business. These services help the workers reposition themselves on the labour market and return to employment as quickly as possible by enabling them to update their knowledge and skills or benefit from other suitable means, such as mobility allowances or childcare allowance.



Specific objective

- To contribute to smart, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and to promote sustainable employment in the EU by enabling the EU to demonstrate solidarity with and to support workers who have been made redundant and self-employed persons whose activity has ceased as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation or as a result of a global financial and economic crisis.

Why is it necessary?

The EGF addresses the adverse effects of globalisation, strengthens overall participation in the labour market and demonstrates the EU's solidarity with the workers affected. The EU's involvement through the EGF allows it to complement national and European Social Fund resources available for the reintegration of workers made redundant as a consequence of trade-related globalisation and a global financial and economic crisis. According to the EGF's midterm evaluation, the evidence gathered from EGF cases demonstrates that it provides support to dismissed workers that is additional to what would have been available in the absence of the fund. The volume of the effects is particularly significant. Namely, the EGF provides additional resources to Member States, as it adds to existing mainstream restructuring assistance programmes and services of labour market actors, without replacing existing resources. The EGF does


this by:


- substantially increasing the overall number and variety of services that would not otherwise be available to redundant workers through national funding and programming;
- enabling partnerships on cases in order to provide flexibility that would not be possible without the EGF;
- reinforcing the intensity of the package of measures provided to redundant workers through national resources;
- enabling the leveraging in additional volume of in-kind support (i.e. quality assurance, certification, etc.);
- supporting existing national actions by extending the duration of national restructuring assistance measures;
- supporting more young people not in education, employment or training than would otherwise be possible.

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
18.1	2017	0.0	
28.0	2018	5.3	
0.6	2019	0.0	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TOWARDS THE TARGET	Target	Results
Redundant workers reintegrated into employment following EGF-supported measures		 > 100%	50%	65% of redundant workers reintegrated compared to a target of 50%



Where are we in the implementation?

- Between 2017 and 2019, 14 applications were submitted by 10 Member States. In 2019, due to divergent views on the justification of the case, an application from Belgium did not reach a qualified majority in the Council, and therefore the EGF support could not be mobilised as proposed by the Commission.
- Thirteen applications (nine of which came under the trade-related globalisation criterion and four under the economic and financial crisis criterion), covering 11 different sectors, resulted in the mobilisation of EUR 41 million for the benefit of 12 896 targeted workers and 1 155 young people not in employment, education or training. The greatest number of workers targeted were in the machinery and equipment sector (2 285), followed by retail trade (2 225) and air transport (1 858).

Performance assessment

- In 2019, only one application was submitted. Given the high cyclicity in EGF applications, this could be because of fewer massive layoffs due to globalisation and the overall improvement of the economic situation in the Member States, facilitating the reintegration of workers into the labour market.
- According to the Member States' final reports received between 2017 and 2019, on average, 61% of the workers assisted have taken up new employment following an EGF intervention. However, the reintegration rate in individual cases varied from 40% to 92% depending on the economic sector and on the area concerned, as it is influenced by the absorption capacities of local and regional labour markets. To improve the efficiency of the measures while assessing the applications for EGF funding, the Commission advises Member States to ensure that they reflect the needs of the local or regional labour market.
- As demonstrated by the EGF cases in Finland (Rauma, Broadcom, Computer Programming, Microsoft and Retail) for which the final reports were submitted between 2017-2019, the key elements for the successful implementation of EGF assistance include: (1) wide-ranging consultation in the preparation and implementation of the EGF measures; (2) experience within the ministry responsible and the regional network of labour offices and regional development offices in identifying the beneficiaries and planning and implementing the EGF measures; (3) service providers experienced in the EGF; (4) very quick reaction by the Member State to the dismissals.
- The areas for improvement identified in the 2014-2020 midterm evaluation include the lengthy mobilisation procedure and difficulties that Member States face in providing the extensive background analysis of the triggering event (globalisation or crises) required for the mobilisation of financing. These concerns are addressed in the Commission proposal for the next long-term budget, according to which the EGF must base its support solely on the significant impact criterion, set at a minimum of 250 displaced workers.

Concrete examples of achievements

61%	92%
is the average rate of workers assisted who have taken up new employment following EGF intervention, according to the 2017-2019 final reports.	is the rate of workers assisted who have found employment again in the 2017 EGF case in Finland.

LEGAL BASIS

Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002, amended by Regulation (EU) No 661/2014 and Regulation (EU) No 461/2020 of the European Parliament and of the Council

MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!NT86TG>

YEARLY BUDGET AMOUNTS ⁽¹⁾
(million EUR)

2014	126.7
2015	82.8
2016	81.5
2017	1 241.2
2018	181.6
2019	343.6
2020	50.0
Total	2 107.4

⁽¹⁾ EUSF can be activated in case of need and as such are not predictable and programmable. The instrument has a ceiling of EUR 500 million (2011 prices) per year, of which unused parts can be carried-over to the following year under specific conditions.

Evaluations/
studies conducted

An external in-depth *ex post* evaluation to assess the financial assistance provided by the European Union Solidarity Fund in 2002-2016 was completed in 2019 (SWD(2019) 187).

How is it
implemented?

The Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy is the lead DG for the implementation of the programme. The programme is implemented through shared management for Member States or indirect management for countries negotiating their accession to the EU.

SOLIDARITY FUND

EUROPEAN UNION SOLIDARITY FUND

What is the European Union Solidarity Fund?

The European Union Solidarity Fund, created in 2002, is activated upon request of an eligible Member State when major or regional natural disasters eligible for aid from the fund occur, such as earthquakes, floods, droughts, forest fires or storms. Eligibility is essentially determined by total direct damage, which must exceed a threshold specific to each Member State or country negotiating their accession to the EU. It is set at national level (major disasters) or at NUTS 2 regional level (regional disasters). The number and size of eligible disasters determine the amount of spending in a given year. The total annual budgetary allocation to the fund laid down in the multiannual financial framework is a ceiling, rather than a spending target. The fund is therefore not programmable as it entirely depends on the unpredictable occurrence, nature and magnitude of these disasters.

The Commission may not activate the European Union Solidarity Fund upon its own initiative. Financial assistance from the fund is mobilised from appropriations raised by the European Parliament and the Council over and above the normal EU budget appropriations. This ensures that in each case the aid comes as an expression of solidarity with the full backing of Member States and the Parliament, not just as an administrative act of the Commission.

The fund can be used to (re)finance public emergency and recovery operations from day one of the disaster, such as restoring basic infrastructure to working order, providing temporary accommodation and funding rescue services to help the population affected, securing of preventive infrastructure (e.g. dams/dykes) and cleaning-up operations. In order to minimise the administrative burden on countries struggling with a serious disaster and to maximise the budgetary effect, there are no programming and no national co-financing requirements. In April 2020 – in response to the coronavirus pandemic – the thematic scope of the fund was extended to major public health emergencies.



Specific objective

- To grant financial assistance to Member States or countries negotiating their accession to the EU in the event of a major natural disaster with serious repercussions on living conditions.

Why is it necessary?

Solidarity is one of the core values of the EU and a guiding principle of the European integration process. The fund is a concrete demonstration of solidarity between Member States in times of acute need caused by the occurrence of a severe natural disaster or health crisis by providing financial assistance to Member States and countries negotiating

their accession to the EU.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

The Commission proposed to include the fund within the instruments outside the ceiling for the next multiannual financial framework, with an annual maximum amount of EUR 600 million (in 2018 prices) and the

Voted budget execution (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
1,241.2	2017	1,241.2	2017
151.9	2018	151.9	2018
294.8	2019	294.8	2019

Where are we in the implementation?

- The European Union Solidarity Fund contribution depends on the scale of the disaster: 2.5% is allocated for the part of total direct damage up to the 'major disaster' threshold and 6% for the part of the damage exceeding the threshold. Accordingly, for regional disasters and disasters accepted under the 'neighbouring country' provision, the fund contribution is 2.5% of total direct damage.
- In 2018, the Commission received four applications, from Bulgaria relating to flooding in 2017, from Cyprus relating to the drought in 2017-2018, from Italy relating to the floods of 2018 and from Romania relating to flooding of 2018. Bulgaria received a financial contribution amounting to EUR 2.3 million in November 2018. For the other applications, the fund's financial contribution of almost EUR 294 million responded to flooding in Romania and severe weather in Italy and in Austria. The application from Cyprus was found not to meet the criteria and consequently had to be rejected.
- In 2019, the Commission received four applications for aid: from Austria related to extreme weather conditions of 2018, from Greece related to storms in Crete in 2019, from Portugal related to Hurricane Lorenzo in the Azores in 2019 and from Spain related to extreme weather at the end of 2019. Austria received the payment of the fund's financial contribution amounting to EUR 8 million in October 2019.
- Under the terms of the European Union Solidarity Fund regulation as revised in 2014, when submitting their application, since 2015 Member States have had the possibility to request an advance payment of 10% of the anticipated aid amount, limited to a maximum of EUR 30 million. Consequently, a payment of EUR 1.2 million was mobilised for the advance payments regarding Greece (Crete, 2019) and Portugal (Hurricane Lorenzo, 2019). Greece received the advance payment of the fund's financial contribution amounting to EUR 0.45 million in August 2019 and the balance payment amounting to EUR 4 million in February 2020. Portugal received the advance payment of the fund's financial contribution amounting to EUR 0.8 million in late December 2019, with the balance payment still pending confirmation of findings.
- In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the scope of the fund has been extended as of 1 April 2020 to encompass major public health emergencies. Further to the adoption of the amending Regulation (EU) 2020/461 of 30 March 2020, it will be one of the instruments used to respond to the impact of the crisis in 2020. Up to EUR 800 million could be made available to countries that are seriously affected to finance assistance to the population (medical, health sector and civil-protection-type measures) and measures taken to contain the spreading of the disease.

Performance assessment

- An external in-depth *ex post* evaluation of the European Union Solidarity Fund was completed in May 2019 with the adoption of a Staff Working Document (SWD(2019) 187). The purpose was to assess the implementation and performance of the financial assistance provided by the fund over the 2002-2016 period. The evaluation confirmed the effectiveness of the fund and the positive effects of synergies between it and other EU policy instruments for disaster risk management. It further concluded that the fund brings clear EU added value as a toolkit for disaster intervention and that consideration should be given to policy actions that increase the potential for the fund to intervene.

Concrete examples of achievements

EUR 151 million	EUR 294 million
was paid out in 2018 for nine applications relating to disasters that all occurred in the course of 2017: Bulgaria (flooding), Greece (earthquakes in Lesbos and Kos, two separate cases), Spain (fires in Galicia), France (Hurricanes Irma and Maria), Latvia (flooding), Lithuania (flooding), Poland (storm) and Portugal (major forest fires).	was paid out in 2019 for three applications relating to disasters that occurred in the course of 2018: severe weather in Italy and Austria and flooding in Romania.