



Support
to CSDP
Operations

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The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) enables the Union to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in the strengthening of international security. It is an integral part of the European Union's comprehensive approach towards crisis management, drawing on civilian and military assets. The EU has undertaken many overseas operations, using civilian and military instruments in several countries across three continents (Europe, Africa and Asia), as part of the CSDP.

Introduction

One of the key tasks of the European Defence Agency (EDA) is to support Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) operations under the leadership of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Vice-President of the Commission and Head of the Agency Federica Mogherini. The revised Council decision on the statute, seat and operational rules of EDA of October 2015¹ takes account of this ever increasing activity.

Following the development of a structured and comprehensive approach, the Agency is able to offer concrete and tangible services to Member States, military and civilian CSDP mission/operation commanders as well as other EU bodies, institutions and agencies. This has already been the case for CSDP military operations in the Central African Republic (EUFOR RCA), the Mediterranean sea (EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia), Bosnia-Herzegovina (EUFOR Althea), Mali (EUTM Mali) and Somalia (EUTM Somalia). EDA is also collaborating with CSDP civilian missions in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali), Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger), Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine), Georgia (EUMM Georgia) and Somalia (EUCAP Nestor).

EDA's support hereby is twofold. We offer access to existing projects as well as contracted support solutions. On the project side this has so far included cyber awareness seminars, maritime surveillance, personnel management as well as management of geospatial information. Contracted support reaches from satellite communications or Air-to-Ground Surveillance to wider logistics support. The aim is clear, providing support that is cost-effective and efficient. We see ourselves as an intermediary body that facilitates the establishment and running of any EU mission/operation in every possible way.

Of course EDA does not work in isolation. This is a joint endeavour done in full cooperation with a number of actors supporting CSDP operations and missions in the European External Action Service (EEAS), in particular the Chairman of the EU Military Committee, the EU Military Staff, the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability, the Athena Mechanism and the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments.

This short brochure provides you with an overview of the support the Agency can provide. It shows the width of projects and expertise available and the advantages the missions/operations can expect from our various solutions.

Supporting EU missions and operations is not a by-product of the expertise and experience available with the Agency, but a logical consequence of our contribution to Member States' capability development as a whole. The EDA staff and I personally are dedicated to providing the best service and support to the men and women serving in the EU's missions and operations.

Jorge DOMEQ
Chief Executive, European Defence Agency

1. Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1835 of 12 October 2015

1. Projects and expertise

The Agency systematically promotes projects and expertise developed within its framework to EU Operation Commanders. The objective is to increase value for money with a view to fulfilling the requirements of the end users.

CYBER AWARENESS SEMINARS

Cyber defence is a key concern for CSDP operations. The Agency is active in the fields of cyber defence capabilities as well as in the research & technology domain. It also plays a role in particular in the context of the EU Cyber Security strategy and the implementation of the EU Cyber Defence Policy Framework.

Once activated, the core nucleus of Operational Headquarters (OHQ) is augmented by staff coming from different Member States with differing levels of cyber awareness. The Agency's cyber awareness seminars provide OHQ personnel with common and solid knowledge on cyber threats, international rules and the EU concept for cyber defence in EU-led military operations.

The seminars are delivered by EDA with support from the Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence of Tallinn and the EU Military Staff. Cyber awareness seminars were first delivered to some 150 staff members in Larissa at the OHQ of operation EUFOR RCA in 2014. Similar seminars have been organised for the staff of Rome OHQ for operation Sophia in December 2015. These will be repeated twice a year taking into account frequent rotation of personnel.



"The cyber awareness seminars provided professional support for our cyber activities and an enormous advantage for EUFOR OHQ personnel to improve their cyber capabilities under the umbrella of EDA and EEAS."

Brigadier General Christos DRIVAS
EUFOR RCA Chief of Staff



"The installation of this new system represents a big step forward in managing our personnel and will provide useful lessons for the improvement of the system in the future."

Commander Paschalis GKOUNDIS
EUFOR RCA HQ Assistant Chief of Staff
for Human Resources

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Management of staff is a challenge in all CSDP operations with personnel coming from different European Member States to staff an OHQ and being replaced every few months. JIFAS is a human resources management application developed within the EDA framework with support from EU Military Staff and EU OHQs. The application manages the in-processing and out-processing of augmented OHQ staff. It also provides management information and dashboard statistics.

The application has supported the Larissa and Rome OHQ in the context of operation EUFOR RCA in 2014 and EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia starting in 2015. In 2016, it is planned to deploy the software to Bangui in the context of the newly established EU Training Mission in the Central African Republic.

The JIFAS will have a long-term support arrangement put in place in 2017 and become an operational tool for the future.

MARSUR NETWORKING

The Maritime Surveillance (MARSUR) project is one of the longest-running EDA projects. It provides a technical solution that allows dialog between European maritime information systems. Including 17 Member States plus Norway, the project aims to improve the common "recognised maritime picture" by facilitating the exchange of operational maritime information and services such as ship positions, tracks, identification data, chat or images.

MARSUR is used in support of EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia to provide data and information from participating Member States. The OHQ for operation SOPHIA has established connectivity to the Italian node of the MARSUR Networking.



"We are grateful for the support of EDA and EU SatCen. The geospatial information provided has been very useful in the decision making process. I look forward to the 3D phase of the GISMO project meeting the needs of all the staff in operation SOPHIA."

**Commander Rear Admiral CREDENDINO
EUNAVFOR MED operation SOPHIA**

GEOHUB

The availability of geospatial information is a key resource for the planning and execution of an operation. As part of the project for *Geospatial Information to Support decision Making in Operations (GISMO)*, GeohuB is a prototype jointly developed by EDA and the European Union Satellite Centre (EU SatCen) in cooperation with Member States, EU Military Staff and the multinational Geospatial Support Group. It provides a collaborative environment for geospatial information sharing and analysis, thus supporting operations' decision making processes.

The GeohuB prototype has been used for EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia within the Rome OHQ since 2015. Lessons learned will help to put in place full support arrangements, increased functionality and technical integration arrangements.



SMART ENERGY CAMP

In summer 2015, EDA funded and deployed a Smart Energy Technical Demonstrator to the EUTM Mali Koulikoro Training Camp with the aim to analyse the benefits of integrating new technologies into traditional power grids for deployed camps. The technical demonstrator reflects the highest priority for defence energy projects as laid down within EDA's Capability Development Plan and looks to significantly reduce the burden of fuel at deployed sites through a mix of training, improved technology and integration of renewable power sources into the traditional power grid.

The elements installed include fixed solar photovoltaic panels on a test building, flexible soldier portable solar photovoltaic panels as well as monitoring and metering equipment for water and electricity. Positive results have been collected, showing savings of between 33% to 60% of energy in the test building, with the potential of possible savings of up to 75% with additional technical interventions.

EQUIP

eEquip is a government to government (G2G) electronic on-line market place to sell or transfer surplus defence equipment. It is a cost-free, non-commercial market platform that brings together potential buyers and sellers. EDA does not form part of any transaction; the Agency puts the tool at the disposal of Member States who then bilaterally finalise the transaction process.

The platform went live in mid-2013 for all EDA participating Member States. Since 2016, eEquip provides EU training missions and the EEAS with information and access to Member States interested in selling or donating surplus equipment. EUTM Somalia is the first mission to publicise its' equipment needs through eEquip.

2. Contractor support

Procurement of contracted solutions has become increasingly relevant for EU military operations not only to fill capability gaps in the force generation process, but also as a general planned support for ongoing operations. The Agency combines industry knowledge, in-house technical expertise and experience in procurement, which can support CSDP operations/missions and Member States in their procurement procedures and save scarce resources. EDA offers support for ad-hoc procurement as well as pre-mission solutions.

AD-HOC PROCUREMENT

Test cases

In 2012, the Agency supported Austria in its role as logistic lead nation for the German-led EU Battle Group 2012/2 to contract logistics services from a third party supplier in case of deployment of the Battle Group. EDA awarded a € 228 million framework contract to a German-Italian consortium to provide potable water, catering for the troops and Post Exchange (PX) services.

In 2014, EDA supported operation ALTHEA in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the procurement procedure of Air-to-Ground Surveillance services (including day/night actual infra-red / electro-optical surveillance with near-real time downlink and the ability to re-task in flight).



"As part of the ongoing efforts to improve the procurement process of the different operations, I am convinced that Athena will benefit from its participation in this already existing mechanism with several other EU Member States being able to pool the purchase of satellite communications and related services through the European Defence Agency."

Hans-Werner GRENZHÄUSER
Athena Administrator



"The decision to use the expertise from EDA in this procurement of Air-to-Ground Surveillance services for operation ALTHEA is, of course, based on EDA's technical knowledge in this field. Another advantage is to benefit from the lessons learned in conducting such an arrangement between the operation and the EDA directly, in order to establish the necessary procedures which will potentially enable closer cooperation between our organisations in the future." General Sir Adrian BRADSHAW *Operation Commander of EUFOR Althea*

ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ATHENA MECHANISM

Based on the described successful test cases, a Cooperation Arrangement with the Athena Mechanism was signed in 2015. This arrangement opens the option for the Athena Administrator or any Operation/Mission Commander as Contracting Authorities to call upon EDA to drawing, upon its expertise and available means and capabilities, technical and overall administrative support for procurement.

Under this arrangement, the Agency provided support to EUTM Mali for the procurement of a medical incinerator in Europe and to EUFOR ALTHEA for a cost-benefit analysis of camp management in Sarajevo.

Athena is the mechanism established to administer the financing of the common costs of European Union operations having military or defence implications governed by Council Decision 2015/528/CFSP. The Council Decision allows for arrangements to be signed with Union bodies to facilitate procurement in operations in the most cost-effective manner.

CONTRACTOR SUPPORT TO OPERATIONS (CSO) PLATFORM

EDA's web-based CSO platform serves as a forum for interaction between contracting authorities and economic operators. The platform offers a pool of suppliers looking for business opportunities who are able to respond to the requirements. The platform has been used by EUTM Mali and EUTM Somalia to conduct market surveys for special and armoured vehicles. Missions can also advertise their tenders through this tool as foreseen by Athena procurement rules. EUFOR Althea has been regularly posting call for tenders on the platform.

PRE-MISSIONS SOLUTIONS (LONG-TERM FRAMEWORK CONTRACTS)

In national and CSDP operations and missions, the provision of certain key capabilities is a challenge. Typically operations or missions are deployed on short notice, in remote areas. In many cases, capabilities are not available and outsourcing is necessary to provide services from private companies. Experience shows that contracting on the spot under time pressure is not a cost-effective solution. Having in place ready-to-use arrangements is very beneficial in order to reduce the administrative burden and achieve economies of scale.

EU SATCOM MARKET

In the field of satellite communications, EDA launched the EU SatCom Market project in 2012. The Agency acts as the central purchasing body on behalf of the contributing members purchasing services from a commercial provider. The project uses a 'pay-per-use' model, so members do not have to contribute with regular fees; instead they only pay for what they order. Between May 2013 and June 2016, 43 orders have been made for a total value of over € 6.8 million with more orders planned.

The 19 contributing members are: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxemburg, Portugal, Romania, the United Kingdom, Latvia, Republic of Serbia, the Athena Mechanism and the civilian missions EUCAP SAHEL Niger, EUCAP SAHEL Mali, EUAM Ukraine, EUCAP NESTOR and EUMM Georgia. With the Athena Mechanism and civilian missions as members the project directly supports the full range of CSDP operations and missions.



"I very much welcome the possibility offered to civilian CSDP missions to make use of the services provided through the EU SatCom Market project. I am confident this will ensure best value for money and effectively help deployment and development of the CSDP civilian missions in line with the relevant conclusions of the European Council."

Commander Kenneth DEANE
EEAS Civilian Operations

3.Outlook

The Agency's support to operations is an evolving task. EDA is keen to support Member States and EU missions and operations with more projects and expertise based on the concrete needs of each mission/operation.

In particular several areas would benefit from additional standby commercial arrangements building on the successful model of the EU SatCom Market. This is the case for in-theatre medical aero-evacuation, infrastructure and camp management or strategic transportation. EDA is supporting the Athena mechanism and the EU Military Staff in defining the technical requirements, mapping commercially available solutions which could fulfil possible future requirements and identifying associated risks or limitations.

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