



Support to CSDP Operations



The Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) enables the European 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 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.

The Agency offers tangible services to Member States, military and civilian CSDP missions/operations 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 and EUTM RCA), the Mediterranean Sea (EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia), Bosnia-Herzegovina (EUFOR Althea), Mali (EUTM Mali), Somalia (EUTM Somalia and EUNAVFOR Atalanta). EDA is also collaborating with CSDP civilian missions in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali), Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger), Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine), Georgia (EUMM Georgia), Somalia (EUCAP Somalia), Iraq (EUAM Iraq) and Lybia (EUBAM Lybia). Most recently, EDA started working with the newly established Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC).

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 with a view to achieving civil-military synergies in the CSDP framework.

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, EU SatCen, 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 missions/operations can expect from various solutions.

Supporting EU missions and operations is not a by-product of the expertise and experience available in the Agency, but a logical consequence of our contribution to Member States' capability development as a whole. EDA remains fully committed to providing CSDP operations and missions with the best possible support across the spectrum of EDA work strands and expertise.

Jorge DOMEcq
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.

"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, October 2014

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 any Operation Headquarter (OHQ) is augmented by staff coming from different backgrounds 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 several times a year for the staff of Rome OHQ for EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia since December 2015.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

EDA developed a software tool to help the personnel branch (JI) of EU headquarters manage the in-processing and out-processing of personnel at all phases of a CSDP operation. First demonstrated in 2012, the project showed a method of quickly mapping routine HQ processes and enabling an application to be immediately designed and demonstrated. The tool called JI FAS (JI Functional Area Service) has been refined to prototype and trialed within the Operation Headquarters of EUFOR RCA in 2014. Starting in 2015 it has also been deployed in Rome OHQ for EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia. Since the end of 2016, it is being used as an operational tool.

As a result, and following additional demand, a catalogue of support arrangements for a rollout of the JI FAS to HQs is in place:

- Support to the JI FAS tool "Software as a Service": the JI FAS server is hosted by a contractor providing reliable JI FAS services to the operational users within OHQs and Mission Headquarters (MHQs). The service includes preventive and corrective maintenance packages;
- Support to the JI FAS tool "Software as a Package": the contractor deploys the JI FAS server within the CIS infrastructure of the OHQs or MHQs. The service includes preventive and corrective maintenance packages;

"We have only very positive experience with JI FAS. We see that the system is very user-friendly for operators and users and it facilitates our daily work significantly. The cooperation with our educator and trainer Andreas HENSE is equally great and we want to express our thanks to him."

Colonel Pavel MRUZEK, Assistant Chief of Staff for Human Resources, EU OHQ Rome EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia, June 2018

- Training packages associated to the JI FAS tool: train the administrators, train the trainers, train the experts (JI Cell), train the users;
- Development package to include improvements for the tool (perfective maintenance).

"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 GKOUNIDIS, EUFOR RCA HQ Assistant Chief of Staff for Human Resources, October 2014

MARSUR NETWORKING

The Maritime Surveillance (MARSUR) project is one of the longest-running EDA projects. MARSUR allows to improve maritime situational awareness, to produce and share a maritime picture, to improve interoperability and cooperation both between military and civilian maritime authorities and with other international actors. MARSUR's decentralised architecture uses civilian technology. It works independently of national equipment and provides the ability to interface different information systems to exchange data automatically, without a central server. MARSUR is already connecting the Maritime Operations Centres of 18 Navies and EU SATCEN.

MARSUR was implemented with support of the Italian Navy in the Rome OHQ for EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia. In May 2017, a demonstration showed the benefits of connecting a CSDP Maritime Operations Centre to the MARSUR Network to enhance the regional Recognised Maritime Picture shared by the different EU Navies. At the same occasion the added value of a deployable MARSUR capability as a complementary means to the existing C2 networks was demonstrated. OHQs can be provided with an access point to the existing MARSUR network via a national node, enabling OHQ staff to access services such as chat, e-Mail, voice-over-IP (VOIP), and file sharing.

"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."

Operation Commander Rear Admiral CREDENDINO, EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia, July 2016





GEOHUB

The availability of geospatial information is key for the planning and execution of operations. The GISMO project is a common project of EDA and the EU Satellite Center to address this requirement. GISMO developed the GeohuB tool which provides seamless access to geospatial information for EU missions and operations. The GeohuB prototype was developed in cooperation with Member States, EUMS, the Rome OHQ for EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia and the Multinational Geospatial Support Group. It enables information sharing and analysis with a set of services such as maps, images, gazetteers, raster and vector products, etc.

The GISMO GeohuB prototype has been used to support EU Military Exercises. It is currently being used in EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia, in EUMM Georgia and in OSCE SMM Ukraine. In February 2017 a successful Operational Field Trial was executed in the Classified Mission Network EUNAVFOR MED operation Sophia to evaluate its operational benefit.

SMART ENERGY CAMP – ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES

EDA funded a Smart Energy Camps Technical Demonstrator at EUTM Mali Koulikoro Training Centre (KTC) in 2015 to analyse the benefits of integrating innovative technologies into traditional power grids for deployed military camps. The system installed within a single building comprised intelligent energy demand management, fixed solar photovoltaic panels, flexible soldier-portable solar photovoltaic panels and energy storage, as well as monitoring and metering equipment for water and electricity. The system provided greater operational resilience with significant energy savings and reduced periods of environmental noise from the generators.

In 2017, building on this research, a contract was let for a Smart Camps Technical Demonstrator feasibility study at KTC to investigate the potential for an expanded equipment installation based on a wider range of innovative and sustainable energy and environmental technologies. It is also considering options for legacy smart equipment.

EDA stands ready to share knowledge and lessons learnt from these research projects with OHQs/MHQs. This will facilitate the sustainment of military capabilities in deployed environments, by exploiting opportunities and reducing risks associated with the supply, storage, and management of energy and water requirements, as well as waste management matters.

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.

"The decision to use the expertise from EDA in the 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, May 2014

ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ATHENA MECHANISM

Based on successful test cases in support of the German-led EU Battle Group 2012/2 and operation ALTHEA in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 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-MISSION 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 proved beneficial in order to reduce the administrative burden and achieve economies of scale.

"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, June 2016

EU SATCOM MARKET

The purpose of the EU SatCom Market is to provide contributing members with an effective and efficient option to commercially source Satellite Communications (SatCom) as well as wider Communication and Information Systems (CIS) services through EDA. EDA purchases the services from commercial providers. The project uses a 'pay-per-use' model, whereas end users only pay for what they order.

The EU SatCom Market is used by military operation EUNAVFOR ATALANTA and military training missions EUTM Somalia, EUTM Mali and EUTM RCA for fixed and/or mobile satellite communications. In addition, EDA is now able to provide contracted networks and communication services. This possibility will be used to connect MPCC with all three EUTMs (Mali, Somalia and RCA) over a secure network (EU-R). Services are scheduled to start in autumn 2018. Work is also ongoing to ensure that the MPCC can take over the responsibility for the strategic SatCom links to EUTM Mali and Somalia when the current contracts are to be renewed.

In addition, EDA supports 19 Member States plus Serbia and seven CSDP civilian missions (EUCAP SAHEL NIGER, EUCAP SAHEL MALI, EUAM UKRAINE, EUCAP Somalia, EUMM GEORGIA, EUAM Iraq and EUBAM Libya) demonstrating that joint procurement can deliver civil-military synergies in the CSDP framework.

"EU SatCom Market is the first contract that allows the leasing of satellite links in accordance with a mission's battle-rhythm [...] the EUMS will strongly support the use of these framework contracts especially in non-executive missions and when Member States are not in charge of the CIS perimeter."

Lt General Esa PULKKINEN, Director General EU Military Staff (DGEUMS report to the EU Military Committee at the level of Chiefs of Defence), October 2017

IN-THEATRE AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION SERVICES – AIRMEDEVAC

The scope of this new project is the provision of in-theatre AIRMEDEVAC services to evacuate patients from the point of injury to the initial Medical Treatment Facility (Forward AIRMEDEVAC) or transfer between in-theatre Medical Treatment Facilities (Tactical AIRMEDEVAC) to be used in the framework of national and/or international defence and/or security operations.

It builds on the EU SatCom Market model to provide aero medical services through multiple contractors offering fixed and rotary-wing services in Europe and Africa. It is based on the EU Military Committee agreed military technical requirements developed by the EU Military Staff and Member States' experts.

The project is aiming to promote ease of access, interoperability, operational effectiveness and efficiency, reduce the administrative burden and costs and achieve economies of scale. On these grounds the project is expected to encourage Member States to pool their demands. It will offer them economies of scale with competitive prices but also, and importantly, a quick to use option which can be implemented to meet end user requirements.

The project currently involves five Member States and could also offer a quick and easy solution for military operations and missions to contract AEROMEDEVAC services with less burden on mission's staff, subject to the Athena Special Committee deciding to join the project. The tender process to establish the related framework contract is ongoing and contracts should be awarded during autumn 2018.



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.



Several areas would benefit from additional standby commercial arrangements building on the successful model of the EU SatCom Market. EDA is exploring new areas to alleviate shortfalls in operations, such as: Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems, infrastructure and camp management, medical facilities or strategic transportation. This work includes supporting the definition of technical requirements, mapping commercially available solutions which could fulfil possible future requirements and identifying associated risks or limitations.

Looking ahead and considering the allocation of resources within the overall prioritisation of EDA activities, projects which can be deployed and supported by a contractor are to be considered as the preferred way to support operations and missions. This notably includes SatCom and CIS support for HQs and deployed forces under the EU SatCom Market project, the AIRMEDEVAC project and possible additional JI FAS deployments. Should missions express interest in other, or new, types of products and services, this will need to be jointly considered based on a detailed case-by-case analysis of the specific requirements, associated costs and required EDA resources.



EUROPEAN
DEFENCE
AGENCY

European Defence Agency

Rue des Drapiers 17-23
B-1050 Brussels - Belgium

www.eda.europa.eu

Tel +32 2 504 28 00
Fax +32 2 504 28 15
info@eda.europa.eu

More information:

www.eda.europa.eu