

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) UPDATE AS OF 4 APRIL 2023

PROJECT ARRANGEMENT

How did this project start?

EDA has been working since November 2022 on three areas for common procurement: ammunition, soldier systems and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) equipment, based on the work of the [Joint Defence Task Force](#) with Member States to identify their most critical shortfalls.

Stemming from this, the ‘Collaborative Procurement of Ammunition’ project was then set up in record time by EDA to answer the call to procure ammunition collectively and more quickly.

What is the ‘Collaborative Procurement of Ammunition’ project? EDA has created a project arrangement for the collaborative procurement of ammunition. The project has both paths; a two-year, fast-track procedure for 155mm artillery rounds and a seven-year project to acquire multiple ammunition types.

The ‘Collaborative Procurement of Ammunition’ project aims at procuring ammunition more cheaply by aggregating, coordinating, and agreeing contracts with the European defence industry.

Why procure together?

Common procurement is the best option to achieve cost reduction from economies of scale, while allowing Member States to purchase ammunition according to their national needs and supporting Ukraine.

This project sends a clear message to industry, that aggregate orders will be placed together through the European Defence Agency.

Large orders provide industry with certainty, allowing them to ramp-up production and produce more and faster.

Will EDA be managing the procurement?

Yes. EDA will be procuring on behalf of Member States and Norway. EDA is acting as the contracting authority, management body, and Ordering Entity.

After production by industry, Member States will receive delivery of ammunition and will decide how much to allocate to Ukraine or to national stockpiles.



EDA has a legal basis and the technical expertise to carry out joint procurement. EDA has worked with Member States to establish and finalise the project arrangement before it was submitted for signature.

What are the two parts of the project?

The 'Collaborative Procurement of Ammunition' project has two parts.

- 1** – A fast-track procurement procedure, lasting 2-years, just for the procurement of 155mm artillery ammunition. Which maybe use to replenish national stocks or to be sent to Ukraine.
- 2** – A standard procedure, lasting 7-years, to commonly procure multiple types and calibres of ammunition (from 5.56 mm to 155 mm) to replenish national stocks.

Is all ammunition to be procured for Ukraine?

No. Member States can use both parts of the procurement project to only replenish national stocks.

In full respect of sovereign national decisions and without prejudice to the specific character of the security and defence policy of any EU Member States, the project may be used to replenish Member States' national stockpiles and/or aid Ukraine.

What is a fast-track procedure?

Considering the urgent need to procure 155mm artillery ammunition for Ukraine, EDA has identified a fast-track solution specifically for 155mm calibre. The fast-track solution entails a negotiated procedure with European industry without tendering, based on extreme urgency.

How will it be paid for?

Member States pay and can be reimbursed via the European Peace Facility (EPF), the EU's off-budget instrument in support of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). One billion euros has been allocated for reimbursement of 155mm artillery ammunition.

When will the orders be placed and for how much ammunition?

We are at the start of the process, as the project arrangement has just been signed. Further steps will need to be taken before orders can be placed.



It will then be for industry to produce the ammunition. The lead time – the time between initiation and delivery - is not clear at this point.

What are the next steps?

We are at the start of the process, as the project arrangement has just been signed.

EDA will begin working with industry and Member States to develop the modalities of the project further.

MEMBER STATES

Which countries have joined?

As of 4 April 2023 – 24 countries have already joined and most have already expressed their intention to join the initiative soon.

Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Spain, France, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden and Norway have signed.

Although not an EU Member State, Norway has an Administrative Arrangement with EDA since 7 March 2006, which allows for its participation in the Agency's projects.

Further updates will be published in due course.

Will other Member States join?

More Member States have already expressed their intent to join the initiative soon following national procedures. Most have already expressed their intention to join the initiative soon.

Further updates will be published in due course.

What about Member States that are neutral?

In full respect of sovereign national decisions and without prejudice to the specific character of the security and defence policy of any EU Member States, the project may be used to replenish Member States' national stockpiles and/or aid Ukraine.

Can Member States only procure ammunition?

The 'Collaborative Procurement of Ammunition' project is indeed only for the procurement of different types of ammunition.

EDA has been working since November 2022 on three areas for common procurement: ammunition, soldier systems and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) equipment.



Work is still ongoing in relation to soldier systems and CBRN equipment.

INDUSTRY

Will industry be able to deliver the orders?

Yes. However, the defence industry is already working at pace to deliver ammunition. By consolidating a larger demand, we hope to send a strong signal to industry and help them to ramp up their capacity and reduce expected delivery times.

Which industries and in which countries will be producing?

This is yet to be determined. The focus will be on a small number of artillery systems and corresponding rounds for the systems provided by EU Member States that the Ukrainian forces are using.

UKRAINE

Have you been in contact with Ukraine?

Yes. We have been in contact with the Ukrainian authorities to understand their specific needs.

What types of ammunition & systems?

The Ukrainian authorities have confirmed a need for 155mm ammunition to use in the systems provided by EU Member States.

When will Ukraine Armed Forces receive ammunition?

We are at the start of the process, as the project arrangement has just been signed. Further steps will need to be taken before orders can be placed. It will then be for industry to produce the ammunitions.

The lead time for delivery cannot be specified at this time.