

# Collaborative Database (CODABA)



The Collaborative Database (CODABA) is a web-based tool designed to support Member States in sharing information on defence plans and programmes. The aim of CODABA is to provide an overview of European defence capabilities and to support cooperation for the benefit of **European Capability Development** by identifying potential **collaborative opportunities**. CODABA is a user-friendly software enabling easy contributions from Member States and research on collaborative opportunities as of early planning stages.

- Facilitating Enhanced Cooperation: on the basis of CODABA entries, cooperative opportunities can be identified and promoted, especially within Pooling & Sharing of existing capabilities.

## Project goals

CODABA aims at improving the **harmonisation** of capability planning within participating Member States. It serves two main purposes:

- Future Capability Landscaping: defence plans, programmes and in-service capabilities of Member States are compiled in CODABA in order to landscape future European capability development. This is an integral part of the Capability Development Plan (CDP).

## How CODABA works

Using CODABA facilitates **cooperation** "by increased transparency and information sharing in defence planning" (1) which is in line with the Conclusions from the European Council on 19/20 Dec 2013, (2) with the Code of Conduct on **Pooling & Sharing** and (3) with support to the **Capability Development Plan (CDP)**.

The latest version, CODABA 3.0 launched in January 2016, comes with a complete redesign and a user-friendly interface. Users can easily search for, read and export data; set alerts to be updated on selected topics; express interest in chosen records and reports; create, modify and delete records relevant to their own Member State, pending on administrative rights.

CODABA is restricted to **governmental users** representing EDA Member States or Third States, organisations and entities the Agency has concluded an administrative arrangement with, and to governmental authorities representing European institutions. It currently contains more than **2,500 validated records** (some 7,000 records in total) from all EDA Member States, as well as Norway, Switzerland and Serbia; a volume of data to conduct broad and deep analysis. The information comes from different sources such as direct contributions from Member States, a review of open source information and Member States' responses to the capability development process in the EU. Ultimately, CODABA provides a comprehensive overview of plans and programmes as well as current capability inventories.

Publishing in CODABA does not entail any commitment for Member States, Third States and organisations. EDA's detailed analysis - in an advisory role - of all current inputs to CODABA allows the identification of more than 200 areas where Member States requirements, plans and

programmes converge in substance and - to a certain extent - timelines. For each of the identified cases, EDA provides a **Collaborative Opportunity and Landscaping Report**, available in CODABA. Such collaborative opportunities identified through CODABA led to the launching of the EDA projects on anti-tank weapons, optimisation of the main battle tank capability in Europe, deployable field camp solutions and medical evacuation. Many other promising cases have been selected to potentially be taken forward as projects in the EDA framework, e.g. in the area of fast-jet pilot training, short range air defence, ground surveillance, light multirole helicopters, armoured vehicles or CBRN protection.

A dedicated working body with participants from all Member States, the **CODABA-Team**, has been established to support populating, using and nationally promoting the CODABA approach. The CODABA-Team meets up to three times a year in EDA.

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