The African Peace Facility
A tangible commitment to peace and security in Africa
In an increasingly challenging geopolitical environment, achieving stability in Africa and maintaining security in Europe go hand in hand.

Under the Africa-EU partnership, the strategic objective on peace and security is not only to ensure a peaceful, safe, secure environment, but also to foster political stability and effective governance, while enabling sustainable and inclusive growth.

The African Peace Facility (APF) was created to respond to these strategic objectives and is the EU’s main instrument for implementing the Africa-EU Peace and Security Cooperation.

Created in 2004, the APF:

- Is built on the core principles of Africa-EU partnership, African ownership and support for African solidarity.
- Has provided more than €2.7 billion to the African Union (AU) and Regional Economic Communities since its inception.
- Enables African solutions to African problems: funding is demand driven, with initiatives planned and carried out by African states.

A pan-African vehicle in nature, the APF has been a game changer making possible a growing number of African-led responses to political crises on the continent.
The African Peace Facility (APF) was established in 2004 in response to a request by African leaders. Financed through the European Development Fund, it is also:

- The main source of funding to support the AU’s and African Regional Economic Communities’ efforts in the area of peace and security with an overall amount of more than €2.7 billion.
- The only instrument providing short-term and longer-term support to African led Peace and Security Operations.

The APF addresses three inter-linked priorities and key objectives:

- Enhanced dialogue on challenges to peace and security.
- Operationalisation of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) by training African forces, strengthening AU institutions and improving coordination with Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms.
- Strengthening African Peace Support Operations by increasing cooperation on addressing root causes of conflicts: terrorism, transnational crime (human and arms trafficking) and maritime security threats.
Back to African solutions to African problems in the area of peace and security

The APF is active on three fronts to support African responses to conflicts on the continent:

**Early Response Mechanism**

The Early Response Mechanism (ERM) is an emergency instrument providing funding to the AU in less than ten days, aimed at prevention, management or resolution of crises. This rapid response allows the AU and its local partners to take immediate action to support mediation, capacity building or any other activity to prevent the escalation of mounting tensions in troubled areas.

Actions supported by the ERM have been instrumental in either preventing or mitigating conflict in African regions; for example, it allowed the AU to support ECOWAS in ensuring respect for the results of Gambia’s presidential election and contributed to the consolidation of peace between North and South Sudan by supporting negotiations on outstanding disputes such as border demarcation and wealth sharing.

**Peace Support Operations**

Peace Support Operations (PSOs) are designed to enhance the security and stability of an area and provide a basis on which to build sustainable development. They lead on a variety of tasks, including peacekeeping, maintenance of public order, policing, infrastructure reconstruction, political dialogue and reconciliation.

African led PSOs were pivotal to the recovery and stability of Somalia, helping it rebuild after Al Shabab control ended. They depleted Boko Haram’s strength by supporting the release of hostages and the destruction of terrorist camps and surrender of Boko Haram fighters. In Guinea Bissau PSOs provided the security conditions and stability needed to enable peaceful elections and a return to constitutional order after the 2012 coup.

**Capacity Building**

African institutions need sound structures and sufficient resources to plan and conduct PSOs and address local security challenges effectively. The EU is financially supporting the operationalisation of the different elements of the African Peace and Security Architecture, enabling them to strengthen the basic institutional capacities and efficiency of the AU Commission and Regional Economic Communities.

Since 2004 the APF has provided €164 million in support to the African Peace and Security Architecture.
Early Response Mechanism since 2009

A source of immediate funding for the first stages of actions aimed at the prevention, management or resolution of crises

**Mediation actions**
- Madagascar: AU-SADC mediation operation
- Sudan: AU high level implementation
- Guinea Bissau: ECOWAS-Burkina Faso mediation
- Somalia: Office of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) facilitator
- Niger: AU mediation efforts
- Uganda: Fight against Lord Resistance Army
- Ivory Coast: High Level Group
- Libya: AU ad-hoc High Level Group
- Sahel region: AU Sahel program
- South Sudan: AU and IGAD mediation / High Level Revitalisation Forum
- Central African Republic: AU mediation / Forum de Bangui

**Fact-finding missions / observing missions and crisis monitoring**
- Madagascar: Establishment of AU-SADC Liaison Office
- Mali: AU-ECOWAS Human Rights observers
- Burundi: AU Human Rights observers
- Great Lakes: International Conference of the Great Lakes Region

**Early support to Peace and Security Operations**
- Gambia: ECOWAS Mission in The Gambia
- Great Lakes: Joint verification mechanism of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region

**Electoral violence prevention**
- Kenya: IGAD support
- Burundi: COMESA-EAC support
- Liberia: ECOWAS support

**Support to African-led peace operations since 2004**

**African Union**
- Darfur/Sudan: AMISOM, 2007-2017

**Central African Republic**
- FOMUC/MICOPAX, 2014-2018

**Comoros**
- AMISOM, 2007-2017

**Somalia**
- AMISOM, 2007-2017

**Uganda**
- Fight against Lord Resistance Army
- High Level Group

**Ivory Coast**
- High Level Group

**Libya**
- AU ad-hoc High Level Group

**Niger**
- AU mediation efforts

**Uganda**
- Fight against Lord Resistance Army

**Ivory Coast**
- High Level Group

**Burundi**
- AU Human Rights observers

**Great Lakes**
- AU mediation / Forum de Bangui
- AU-ECOWAS Human Rights observers
- AU Human Rights observers
- AU mediation / Forum de Bangui

**Burundi**
- AU Human Rights observers

**Great Lakes**
- Joint verification mechanism of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region

**Gambia**
- ECOWAS Mission in The Gambia

**Electoral violence prevention**
- Kenya: IGAD support
- Burundi: COMESA-EAC support
- Liberia: ECOWAS support

**ECOWAS**
- Mali: AFISMA, 2017-2019
- Guinea Bissau: ECOMIB, 2016-2017
- The Gambia: ECOMIG, 2018

**Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD)**
- South Sudan: MVM South Sudan/CTSAMM, 2014-2018
- Mauritanian, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Chad: G5 Sahel, 2017-2019
Total APF budget: €2.7 billion since 2004

€164 million
The contracted amount for capacity building since the inception of the APF.

SDG16
APF contributes to UN Sustainable Development Goal SDG16 which aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.

By 2020
APF plays a special role in the nexus between peace, security and development in Africa, and in supporting African-led efforts to silence the guns by 2020.

€1.5 billion
AMISOM (Somalia) is the largest supported mission and has played a crucial part in significantly reducing terrorist threats in the country.

14 PSOs in 18 countries
APF has provided support to 14 African-led Peace Support Operations in 18 countries since 2004.

37 actions
37 actions have been funded by the Early Response Mechanism (ERM) since 2010 to ensure efficient mediation and to prevent or mitigate conflicts across Africa.

www.africa-eu-partnership.org