WHAT IS THE AFRICAN PEACE FACILITY?

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 key EU financial instrument to support cooperation with Africa in the area of Peace and Security is the African Peace Facility (APF).

Supporting African responses to violent conflicts across the continent is of major importance to the European Union (EU). It is therefore the fundamental driver of the APF, which was established in 2004 at the request of the African Union (AU).

Financed through the European Development Fund, the APF allows African institutions to bring “African solutions to African problems” through the operationalisation of the African Peace and Security Architecture.

LESSONS FROM THE AFRICAN PEACE FACILITY EVALUATION

New report delivers unparalleled insight into the state of the APF – the main financial instrument for implementing the Africa-EU peace and security cooperation.

The African Peace Facility (APF) is an effective and highly relevant instrument supporting African efforts to manage conflicts on the continent and enabling African solutions to African problems, according to the newly published APF Evaluation Report. However the AU and the EU need to continue adjusting the role of the APF to new realities. This is one of the key lessons from the APF evaluation, which takes a look back at the trends that shaped APF for the period 2014-2016 and anticipates the next challenges with a focus on two areas :

- support to African-led Peace Support Operations (PSOs)
- capacity building of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA)

Other key findings include :

• The APF has clearly helped African efforts to set up and run PSOs and its contributions led to positive effects on the ground
• The APSA Support Programme has made mixed progress on capacity-building
• The long-term impact of APF is substantial but evidence is still thin
• Shaping joint action between the EU and other partners is complex but has been partially successful

The report examines the APF from a variety of angles, including its relevance, impact and effectiveness, management efficiency, contribution to capacity-building, complementarity with other EU actions, contribution to African ownership, sustainability and added value.

It also makes a number of clear recommendations such as :

• The APF should be leveraged to strengthen the AU-EU partnership
• Complementarity of APF with other peace and security support from different sides should definitely be further developed
• It is paramount to collaborate closely with UN and other strategic partners, while increasing African ownership to ensure sustainability.
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.

DOCUMENTATION
Download the APF evaluation report.
Download the APF brochure.

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