

Evaluation title	<u>Mid-term Evaluation of the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Stability and Addressing Root Causes of Irregular Migration and Displaced Persons in Africa (2015-2019)</u>		
Lead EU Service	Directorate-General for International Partnerships, Unit A.2, Regional and Multi-Country Programmes for Africa INTPA-A2@ec.europa.eu Unit D.4, Performance, Results and Evaluation; Knowledge Management and Collaborative Methods INTPA-EVALUATIONS@ec.europa.eu	Regions of the assessment	Three “windows”: Sahel and Lake Chad (SLC) , Horn of Africa (HOA) , and North of Africa (NOA)
Associated EU Services	Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME), and Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI).	Main policy areas addressed by the evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and employment opportunities, • Youth. • Women. • Resilience of communities and the most vulnerable. • Migration management. • Governance. • Conflict prevention.
Evaluation budget	EUR 478.220	Contractor	GDSI Ltd.
Dates of the Responses of the EU Services	December 2020 - May 2023	Related documents	Evaluation report in English and in French , Annexes , and the Executive Summary .
Additional information	<p>This evaluation provides an independent assessment of the EU’s strategic support to stability and to addressing the root causes of irregular migration in Africa. Its scope included 200 out of over 600 contracted projects implemented between 2016 and 2019. Field visits were conducted in six countries selected to ensure coverage of key dimensions of the Trust Fund: Ethiopia, Libya, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, and Somalia. The evaluation concluded that the EUTF generated important lessons about the management of complex programmes in fragile environments. It allocated significant resources for addressing irregular migration, although the nature of the problem, or the most appropriate means for addressing it, was not well defined in the early stages. A more complete understanding of the contribution that the EUTF made to reducing instability, forced displacement and irregular migration in these situations will become more evident only as the various projects mature. The importance of addressing the root causes of irregular migration in an integrated/comprehensive manner across the EU and with EU MS was increasingly recognised. However, in seeking to address these root causes a complex portfolio of interventions was created (mostly) based on local level knowledge and understanding rather than a more targeted strategic approach across the programme.</p>		

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<p>R1 During the remaining implementation period, the EUTF should focus on generating further knowledge and understanding of its interventions and do this in a collaborative manner with other international bodies.</p> <p>To better capture outcomes and impacts, an ex-post evaluation should be conducted at least one year after all EUTF activities have been completed¹:</p>	<p><u>This recommendation is Accepted</u> (December 2020)</p> <p>The EUTF Africa has continuously paid strong attention and dedicated significant financial and non-financial resources to monitoring, research and learning through the Research and Evidence Facility (REF), the Monitoring & Learning System (MLS) for the Horn of Africa and the Sahel/Lake Chad region and the MENOA for the North of Africa region. This allowed the EUTF for Africa to closely follow the performance of its interventions and to ensure informed decision-making. The MLS contract has been extended until the end of EUTF for Africa to ensure data collection, analysis and a contribution to drawing lessons.</p> <p>In 2019, a Third-Party Monitoring System has been established in Libya with the specific aim to monitor results and scrutinise human rights compliance of EUTF programmes. A lessons-learned exercise – led by Altai Consulting– started in 2019. This will provide valuable analysis and feedback of the migration, mobility and displacement programming in the EUTF Africa region to be capitalised on for the future programming exercises in targeted areas. The Research and Evidence Facility is planning a legacy project to further contribute to and disseminate the evidence base established under the EUTF, but it could be interesting to reflect on the possibility to establish a facility for research and lessons-learned under the new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). An <i>ex-post</i> evaluation, one year after the Trust Fund activities are completed, would be relevant <i>per se</i>. However, please note that the Final Evaluation of the EUTF for Africa will take place at the end of the implementation period that will help to better understand the impact of Trust Fund activities. If completed during the last year of the EUTF implementation period (2024), the Final Evaluation can be useful to feed into the midterm assessment of the MFF in 2024 reflecting on the work done on Migration and forced displacement to inform the period 2025-2027. With regards to generating learning, the EUTF is also producing a wealth of knowledge in several thematic areas including impact assessments and case studies.</p> <p><u>Follow-up (May 2023)</u></p> <p>Since the publication of the Mid-term evaluation, the EUTF Africa has maintained a high level of investment in monitoring, evaluation and learning. As a critical mass of studies and evaluation reports are now available², we are looking at strengthening our information management systems (repository+ dissemination). Dissemination activities will look at specific engagement at sector level and intend to reach out to key stakeholders from the beneficiary countries, the donor community as well as research/CSO community.</p>

¹ For details on the ideas and possible actions proposed by the evaluation team to implement these recommendations, please consult section 5.2 of the evaluation report.

² To measure the collective achievements of its programs, the EUTF for Africa has developed an innovative and reactive Monitoring system which provides results for ongoing programmes and measures progress at regional level. [Hyperlink to the web page](#)

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Although a specific Facility focusing on Outcome and Impact studies was not created, the Sahel and Lake Chad (SLC) and Horn of Africa (HOA) windows funded a large impact evaluation focusing on strategic objective 1 “*Providing greater economic and employment opportunities*” of the fund. The first component covers 9 projects in 7 selected countries applying counterfactual evaluation or quasi-experimental methods. The second component builds on a mixed method approach at macro level for a bigger sample of projects across selected thematic clusters (e.g. SME support to boost decent job creation, dual TVET approach to support decent jobs, access to finance to support income generating activities, financial literacy, etc.). This is one of the first impact evaluation of this kind managed by DG INTPA. Although there is high value in funding such studies, we also note that they require (i) specific in-house expertise in the methodology but most importantly (ii) buy-in and flexibility from implementing partners.

Another large impact evaluation (not managed by the EUTF team but funded by the EUTF) will be finishing in 2023 under the scope of the [EU-IOM Joint Initiative](#).

Outcome data are analysed at different levels by using the data produced by projects individual monitoring systems but also final evaluations of project and programmes. This has led the EUTF to commission a pilot exercise to look into effects produced by the EUTF at country and regional level.

The Horn of Africa’s Research and Evidence Facility (REF) has continued to contribute to policy and research through several in-depth studies, available through the REF site, linked through [the EUTF website](#). The REF organised its second international conference in 2022 showcasing evidence-based knowledge for an improved policy environment on inclusion and protection of migrants and forcibly displaced persons. It brought together a wide range of stakeholders, including from governments, universities, media, research institutions, the EU, the UN, NGOs, civil society and the private sector. Within the last year, the REF reviewed its approach to the visibility of research findings, and a legacy package synthesising key thematic findings and contributions on mobility in the Horn of Africa is under preparation. It will be coupled with a multi-content outreach campaign targeting key stakeholders in the region and the development of migration policy communities.

The REF for the Sahel and Lake Chad and the North of Africa regions has continued to produce reports providing detailed monitoring and political economy analysis on migration patterns, trafficking in human beings and smuggling dynamics in Libya, Tunisia, Morocco and the central Sahel (Niger, Chad and Mali), as well as on any underlying instability or conflict relevant to irregular migratory flows and related business.

As an outcome of the second phase of the Learning Lessons exercise of the EUTF, the final report “[Learning Lessons from the EUTF - Paving the way for future programming on migration, mobility and forced displacement](#)” was published in February 2021. The report was well received, and a virtual event to present findings was held in March 2021 with participation of EUTF stakeholders including donors, concerned EU Delegations, INTPA and NEAR interested staff, partner countries representatives, and a wide range of EUTF implementing partners.

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	<p>Considering that the very complex operational environment in Libya limits possibility for direct monitoring on the ground, since end 2019, two complementary “Third Party Monitoring” (TPM) contracts are operating in Libya, the biggest country portfolio of the EUTF in the North of Africa (NOA). One TPM focusses on assessing results of EUTF-NOA-funded projects, while the second one is assessing compliance with human rights standards and the do-not-harm principle. Both TPM contracts have successfully provided the EUTF with monthly updates as well as comprehensive bi-annual reports since their inception.</p> <p>Finally, we confirm the commitment to commission an external final evaluation of the EUTF in 2024-25.</p>
<p>R2 The EU should consider programming all its interventions in a country or region within one common (analytical) framework.</p>	<p><u>This recommendation is Partially accepted (December 2020)</u></p> <p>For the next EU long-term budget (2021-2027), the Commission has proposed a new Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), which has been endorsed by the EP and the Council. Under this instrument, a geographic approach is introduced, by which the vast majority of the EU cooperation for a given country/region will be provided through a multi-annual country and/or a multi-country/regional programme. Programmes will be based on extensive analytical work to understand the country/region context. Joint programming documents and a Team Europe approach will also be used where possible to help ensure complementarity with Member States. A large part of NDICI programming will be composed of Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs), which also pursue an enhanced collaboration with EU Member States. However, it is possible that not all interventions could be covered under geographic programmes. For example, some actions that may be conducted without the consent of partner countries’ governments (e.g. on human rights) may still need to be dealt through thematic programmes, which are complementary to the geographic programmes.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Follow-up (May 2023)</p> <p>The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI-Global Europe) was adopted in June 2021, with an overall allocation for Sub-Saharan Africa of at least EUR 29.1 billion for 2021-2027. In 2021, 44 country multiannual indicative programmes were adopted with African partners for the period 2021-2027, and migration or forced displacement featured in 26 of them, complemented by a dedicated component foreseen in the regional multiannual indicative programme for Sub-Saharan Africa.</p> <p>On migration and forced displacement, two relevant Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs) have been developed, one on the Atlantic and Western Mediterranean route, and another one on the Central Mediterranean route. Both TEIs have joint intervention logics, elaborated together with participating EU Member States, and were officially launched in Brussels on 12 December 2022.</p> <p>We stand by our response on the possibility to have thematic programmes to complement geographic ones in</p>

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	cases where interventions cannot be covered under said geographic programmes.
<p>R3</p> <p>The EU should have differentiated results framework structures depending on the development challenges in the partner country/region.</p>	<p>Accepted (December 2020)</p> <p>The result framework structures should be built around intervention sectors and reforms in every country, taking into account specific development challenges.</p> <p>The current programming exercise is taking this principle into account. The suggestion of a “tranche programming” suggested in the Final Report is an interesting concept, as foreseen under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI). While indicative allocations for a given stream for the entire programming period can be agreed, the actual programming period for each resource stream may vary.</p> <p>In the particular case of forced displacement, flexibility and adaptation to development challenges would be needed as it would be hard to plan 7 years in advance.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Follow-up (May 2023) - The results framework system at INTPA/NEAR level is a global one including institutional indicators that allow Commission services to aggregate results related to strategic priorities of EU external action. This corporate system complements other frameworks defined at country/regional level (e.g. EU programming documents - multi-annual indicative programmes - MIPs), sector level (e.g. Gender Action Plan III), instrument level (e.g. EFSD+) or intervention level. These country/regional and intervention level frameworks can embed indicators used in national development strategies, whenever relevant. This decision is taken on a case-by-case basis, depending on the objectives of such documents.</p> <p>Regulations and funding modalities of humanitarian actions mainly implemented in conflict settings by DG ECHO provide for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual funding allocation allowing adaptation to the evolution of a crisis; • including specific “crisis modifiers” results in projects to enhance flexibility and adapt the response to unforeseen events; • developing and implementing projects for rapid response to forced displacement and sudden shocks.
<p>R4</p> <p>The EU should strengthen the treatment of migration in its bilateral and regional programmes, ensuring that the entire Valletta Action agenda is covered.</p>	<p>Accepted (December 2020)</p> <p>With indicatively 10% of the NDICI budget dedicated to migration, the EU intends to enhance the inclusion of migration in country and regional programming, ensuring that it responds well to the needs of partners. It is important to ensure that the EU’s migration agenda is equally attuned to Europeans’ as well as to partner’s needs. It is relevant to ensure that all pillars of the Valletta Action Plan agenda, including the pillar on legal migration, are</p>

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addressed and to find ways to do so through country and regional programmes. Experience and expertise developed under the EUTF for Africa should inform as much as possible future country and regional programmes. Similarly, the flexible approach offers a good model for future programmes, and should be maintained. In particular, regional migration support programmes will support comprehensive, balanced and tailor-made partnerships with relevant countries of origin or transit and host countries, following a flexible initiative approach, as per the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument. They will be complemented by actions under the country programmes, where appropriate.

The effectiveness of existing instruments may be enhanced to ensure a greater strategic coherence, promote better information and experience sharing and ensure the adequate linkages to other relevant funding instruments. Relevant services such as HOME, ECHO should be involved, as should EU agencies such as EASO, FRONTEX and Europol, as per their respective mandates.

Most African migration is intra-continental labour migration so a comprehensive migration policy should consider inter-African issues of labour migration, with the Joint Africa-EU Strategy being a strategic basis for regional interventions. Actors such as the African Union, ECOWAS and IGAD may play important roles in promoting mutually beneficial migration and put in place policies and capacities required.

Follow-up (May 2023)

Migration and forced displacement have been integrated in the relevant country and regional multiannual indicative programmes, following the comprehensive approach followed at the NDICI-Global Europe regulation and the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, and reiterated at the sixth EU-AU summit in February 2022. The EU's cooperation in this field covers all pillars of the [Joint Valletta Action Plan](#). This is specially the case in the Team Europe Initiatives on the [Atlantic and Western Mediterranean route](#) and on the [Central Mediterranean route](#).

The main objectives in these processes have been to ensure that migration priorities are addressed adequately; that specific needs both from EU migration policy as well as from a given third country perspective are met; and that timing and volume of programming decisions are coherent and aligned with developments in our relations with partner countries.

The strategic coherence, the exchange of information and experience sharing among EU services and with EU Member States is ensured through the Coordination Group on Migration under the NDICI-Global Europe and Member States' bilateral funds.

This coordination contributes to clarify legal constraints imposed on the respective funding instruments, to maximize synergies and enhance collaboration notably in areas that constitute a “healthy overlap”, including with

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external dimension actions envisaged by EU agencies (e.g. EUAA - formerly EASO - on protection, Frontex on reintegration of returnees, CEPOL on law enforcement training).

The Commission also regularly informs the Council in the context of the high-level group on External Aspects of Asylum and Migration (HLWG)³ and the operational coordination mechanism for the external dimension of migration (MOCADDEM)⁴.

The flexible initiative approach, foreseen under the NDICI-Global Europe regulation, is implemented in particular through the regional multiannual indicative programme, with a dedicated allocation of EUR 600 million for 2021-2027 (please see details of programmes approved in 2022 below).

As regards Africa's intra-continental migration and mobility, the EU will continue supporting ECOWAS on the implementation of the free movement protocol, as well as IGAD, through regional actions adopted in 2022. In 2022, the Commission also adopted an action on Intra-African Mobility.

Sub-Saharan Africa regional programme

In 2022 several actions addressing migration and forced displacement were approved under the regional multiannual indicative programme for Sub-Saharan Africa. These include:

- Flexible Mechanism for Migration and Forced Displacement (EUR 200 million);
- Better Migration Management (BMM) in the Horn of Africa – phase III (EUR 40 million);
- Free Movement of Persons and Migration in West Africa II (EUR 34 million);
- Migration and Mobility Dialogue Support programme – MMD III (EUR 22 million);
- Response to forced displacement in the Great Lakes (EUR 40 million);
- Migrant Protection, Return and Reintegration Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa (EUR 170 million).

The above-mentioned *Migrant protection, assisted voluntary return and sustainable reintegration* programme in Sub-Saharan Africa will build on the outcomes of one of the flagship programmes of the EUTF for Africa, the *EU-IOM Joint Initiative for Migrant Protection and Reintegration*.

Southern neighbourhood regional migration programme

In October 2022, the 2021-2027 regional multiannual indicative programme on migration for the Southern Neighbourhood was approved by the NDICI Committee. The programme covers four main priority areas including: (i) protection of forcibly displaced persons and others in need; (ii) support to migration governance and management; (iii) fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration; and (iv) legal migration and mobility.

In 2022, several actions were approved under the regional multiannual indicative programme for Southern

³ [High-Level Working Group \(HLWG\) on Asylum and Migration](#)

⁴ [Council Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/60 12/01/2022, on the Operational Coordination Mechanism for the External Dimension of Migration](#)

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	<p>Neighbourhood. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Protection and resilience of refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants in Egypt (EUR 23 million) – Protection and integration of returnees, displaced persons and host communities in Tunisia (EUR 14 million) – Budget support for better management of migration flows respectful of human rights and better integration of migrants according to the objectives of the National Strategy for Immigration and Asylum in Morocco (EUR 152 million) – International police cooperation against migrant smuggling in North Africa (EUR 10 million) – Border cooperation and integrated border management in North Africa (EUR 6 million) – Strengthening operational capacity of the Egyptian Navy and Border Guards to manage migration flows and provide search and rescue at sea (EUR 23 million) – Regional support to legal migration in North Africa (EUR 18 million) – Technical support services (EUR 1 million). <p>Additional programmes building on the achievements of programmes funded by the EUTF for Africa will be further financed at national level and/or by different instruments.</p>
<p>RS</p> <p>The EU should develop differentiated contracting and implementation regulations for Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) contexts.</p>	<p>This recommendation is Partially accepted (December 2020)</p> <p>The recommendation is very relevant and so is the need for flexible implementation procedures, as they already exist under the EUTF for Africa. FCV contexts require indeed fast contracting while satisfying, at the same time, checks and balances in terms of sound financial management, transparency and non-discrimination. Flexible contracting procedures under the EUTF, as well as a set of derogations to the standard procedures, respond to such needs. Monitoring will have to be enhanced as well through third party monitoring and on the spot verifications and vetting. However, all interventions need to be conceived under a unique country strategy and coordination among different instruments and interventions needs to be ensured. This should not require differentiated regulations to avoid a mushrooming of different contracting procedures, but just specific provisions on flexibility and conflict sensitivity, which is already the case with some implementing partners. Although the EU could consider including assessment of “do no harm” procedures in the pillar assessment for delegated cooperation as well as develop its own human rights due diligence procedures, this type of procedures is of different nature as compared to the procedures currently assessed and it is possible that these could not usefully and realistically be included in pillar assessments. Developing a roster of potential implementing partners (IPs) is not necessarily a good idea. While the constitutive agreement (art.10) stipulates that delegated cooperation with Member States shall be the preferred option of implementation where the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness can be clearly demonstrated, the EUTF for Africa does not have a policy of preferred implementing partners, but decided to engage with partners with extensive and proven experience in targeted thematic areas. Moreover, the EUTF selected a large array of IPs through competitive processes such as calls for proposals. It would be important to further enhancing the involvement of CSOs/NGOs, if necessary, through ad hoc consortia, in the implementation of</p>

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programmes. This does not require any change to the existing contracting and implementation regulations. It would be important to further enhancing the involvement of CSOs/NGOs, if necessary, through ad hoc consortia, in the implementation of programmes. This does not require any change to the existing contracting and implementation regulations.

Follow-up (May 2023)

Timely crisis response interventions can take place under the Rapid Response Pillar of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument-Global Europe (NDICI-Global Europe). In 2021, an action to support the refugees fleeing the Tigray region in Sudan was adopted under the ‘rapid response pillar’ of the NDICI-Global Europe fund.

The EU continues to engage with Implementing Partners depending on their experience and added value in a particular context. Regulations and funding modalities of humanitarian actions mainly implemented in conflict settings by DG ECHO provide for:

- including specific “crisis modifiers” results in projects to enhance flexibility and adapt the response to unforeseen events.
- developing and implementing projects for rapid response to forced displacement and sudden shocks.
- Making use of specific funding decisions part of the “emergency toolbox” (ALERT, Epidemics, small scale response, support to the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF).

EUTF for Africa:

We stand by our response. On the involvement of CSOs/NGOs, we note that close to 18% of the funds contracted under the EUTF are implemented by NGOs, however this percentage increases to 25% when taking into account contracts implemented by NGOs through contracts signed with UN and development agencies.

R6 The EU support to economic opportunities and employment creation should be embedded within larger market development efforts and private sector involvement.

This recommendation is Accepted (December 2020)

We welcome this recommendation, but we would like to highlight that private sector is largely present in the EUTF for Africa portfolio in the Sahel/Lake Chad region under one of the targeted thematic areas (promotion of economic and employment opportunities), both as an area of support and as an implementing partner. Projects aim at upgrading enterprises, giving access to finance for small and medium-sized enterprises or at reducing skills gaps and setting up training courses in entrepreneurship and mentoring. The adopted approach was meant to be innovative and preparatory to the roll-out of future programs to be funded under the future MFF as well as Team Europe Initiatives. Impact assessments and research outcomes in the area of employment generation and private sector will allow sharing lessons learned.

In most cases, EU programmes aimed at creating economic and employment opportunities are indeed developed taking into account national development programs and country needs in relation to private sector investments and development. However, some EUTF programs are located in areas where larger market development initiatives are very limited or inexistent.

This is to say that stronger private sector involvement and larger market development efforts accompanied by strong measures in favor of a better business environment would be essential for more successful interventions aiming at developing economic and employment opportunities.

Follow-up (May 2023)

[Global Gateway](#) (GG) priorities and investment – EUR 300 billion in investments between 2021 and 2027 – will strengthen EU efforts on market development and private sector involvement in Africa with employment potential. The ongoing comprehensive support to value chain development in priority sectors under this framework creates job opportunities, which require alignment of skills programmes and support entrepreneurs to engage. For example, the [Team Europe Initiative on Opportunity-driven VET in Sub-Saharan Africa](#) (in design phase), will help orient skills programmes to respond to employment opportunities Global Gateway investments and value chain development create.

EUTF for Africa, Window: Horn of Africa

We stand-by our response. In most cases, programmes aimed at creating economic and employment opportunities are indeed developed taking into account national development programs and country needs in relation to private sector investments and development. However, some EUTF programs were located in areas where larger market development initiatives are very limited or inexistent. Nevertheless, we do see a role to play in the production of learning points to enhance future responses given through NDICI-GE funding. As mentioned above, the EUTF is funding a large evaluation covering all our Specific Objective 1 ‘*Greater economic and employment opportunities*’ portfolio but the EUTF also produced more focused pieces of research to inform the work of operational managers in the field. For instance:

- Monitoring and Learning System study “Skills development and job creation: actor and programme mapping”
- Research and Evidence Facility study “[How does technical and vocational education and training \(TVET\) influence dynamics of mobility and conflict?](#) Lessons from the Horn of Africa”

EUTF for Africa, Window: Sahel and Lake Chad

Lessons learnt from programmes funded by the EUTF for Africa have built in the programmes to support the private sector at country level. Examples of how private sector and market development are embedded in Trust Fund programmes include:

- [ARCHIPELAGO](#): an African-European TVET initiative programme is implemented in 12 countries of the Sahel and lake Chad region to better match the offer and demand of labour in line with other EU initiatives (VET toolbox).
- [I&P Accélération au Sahel](#) : *Soutenir les entrepreneurs et les très petites et moyennes entreprises (TPME) en Afrique de l’Ouest* – This programme aims at offering start-ups and SMEs of the Sahel region (9 countries) access to financing and skills to develop and promote job creation. This programme will be continued under the Team Europe initiative [Invest in Young Business in Africa \(IYBA\)](#).

EUTF for Africa, Window: North of Africa

In the North of Africa, private sector is involved in the EUTF for Africa, as well as in the follow up NDICI programmes supporting legal migration, mobility, and skills development. In particular, the Towards a Holistic Approach to Labour Migration Governance and Labour Mobility in North Africa (THAMM) programmes ([phase 1 and 2 funded by the EUTF](#) and phase 3 by the NDICI) which are based on a two-pronged strategy that includes institutional and structural strengthening and mobility schemes towards Member States.

Under the former, support is provided on labour market trends analysis and identification to data gaps of skills needs for the national labour market and that of potential partner countries, and the development of diagnostic studies to support policy development. Under the mobility schemes, private sector involvement is being promoted to support the placement of workers from the partner countries. In the new NDICI programme under the action “EU support to legal migration, mobility and skills partnerships with North of African countries”, it is envisaged to continue conducting in-depth need assessment analysis, in close cooperation with the private sector, of matching skills, skills-levels and labour markets needs of EU Member States and North African countries and ensure cooperation and exchanges among public institutions and private sector in North African countries and EU Member States to build and link the necessary competencies for the preparation and implementation of the specific mobility schemes (including vocational training and legal migration management).

R7

The EU should provide “whole of community” resilience interventions particularly when addressing situations of natural resource fragility.

This recommendation is Accepted (December 2020)

We welcome this recommendation but would like to highlight that the majority of EUTF for Africa resilience programmes in the Sahel/Lake Chad and the Horn of Africa region are already following the “whole of community” approach. Specifically, the work done under the “[Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework](#)” (CRRF), and subsequently under the [Global refugee Compact \(GRC\)](#) in the HOA region has emphasized this approach. An inclusive approach is also adopted in the EU response in Libya in programs aimed at community stabilisation, livelihoods, humanitarian assistance and protection. This approach could be reinforced and not only in situations of natural resource fragility. From its early stages, the EUTF for Africa has made efforts to promote the “whole of community” approach particularly in supporting forcibly displaced people and in promoting resilience. The EU has supported activities targeting vulnerable people and the communities they live in. Resilience interventions are not only focusing on households but also on community structures put in place to engage in preparedness and risk management strategies. The triple humanitarian-development-peace nexus and economic and social cohesion approaches used in several EUTF for Africa programmes are clear examples of actions reaching communities and regions. In some specific contexts, it would be positive to work more extensively with initiatives supporting the resilience of the wider community, such as infrastructure investments on water for instance.

Follow-up (May 2023)

The EU continues to support the work done under the “[Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework](#)” (CRRF), following a “whole of community” approach, also in line with the Commission’s Communication ‘Lives in Dignity’⁵. Political, human rights, humanitarian and development approaches must complement each other to create a ‘win-win’ scenario for both the displaced and their host communities. Since 2019, top-ups and new programmes have been approved in the EUTF for the resilience sector which have targeted in priority the most vulnerable, while abiding by the do-no-harm principle in particular towards host communities. The whole-of-community approach have been particularly addressed in projects in the frame of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and subsequently under the Global refugee Compact (GRC). Under the NDICI-Global Europe, the EU continues to work actively on implementing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, to build the resilience of the affected population, reduce humanitarian needs and to address the root causes of forced displacement, in regions like the Sahel or the Horn of Africa.

Under [NDICI thematic programme Global Challenges](#) – People, the EU will support enhancing development approaches to internal displacement worldwide, promoting a development-approach to internal displacement as well as human mobility / displacement prompted by

⁵ [COM/2016/0234 final - Lives in Dignity: from Aid-dependence to Self-reliance Forced Displacement and Development](#)

		disasters, climate change and environmental degradation. This includes the support to the Geneva intergovernmental Platform on Disaster Displacement (PDD) which the EU is chairing for 18 months from July 2022, the support to the multilateral UN Secretary General Action Agenda on Internal Displacement ; and the support to selected pilot projects addressing the displacement induced by disasters, climate change and environmental degradation.
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