



EUCAP Sahel Niger

Partnership for Security in the Sahel

EUCAP Sahel Niger is a civilian mission of the European Union and assists Niger in the fight against terrorism and organized crime.

It is one of 17 missions under the EU Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) contributing to international peace, stability and security.

The Sahel is a vast region marked by extreme poverty and low levels of human development. Instability and a lack of security capacities make the region also a safe haven for extremist groups and criminals such as traffickers of arms, drugs and human beings. These threats endanger both local populations and European citizens.

EUCAP Sahel Niger was launched in 2012 and aims to support the Nigerien Internal Security Forces and to strengthen their capacities through training, strategic advice and equipment.

As part of its mandate, the Mission also assists Niger in better managing and controlling its borders and in fighting smugglers and traffickers who take advantage of migrants in despair.

In 2019, EUCAP Sahel Niger trained 3,218 women and men and handed over equipment worth a total amount of EUR2.1 million. Since 2012, more than 19,000 members of the security forces and authorities have received training and assistance.

At present, 120 Europeans from 16 EU Member States, their security forces and civilian structures, are permanently deployed to Niger and provide crucial assistance to empower the national security sector.

Since 2020, EUCAP Sahel Niger has increased the focus on strategic capacity building, planning and coordination within and among the Internal Security Forces. Advising, coaching and mentoring of key services including the expansion of the Mission's "Training of Trainers" program ensures sustainability and strengthens the responsibility and ownership of the Nigeriens authorities.



Based in Niger's capital Niamey, EUCAP Sahel Niger established in 2016 a permanent field office in Agadez to carry out its mandate in the northern region.

EUCAP Sahel Niger works in close cooperation with other CSDP missions and EU agencies such as EUCAP Sahel Mali, EUBAM Libya and FRONTEX as well as with international partners including the International Organisation for Migration, UNHCR and UNODC.



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Ensuring Sustainability

Since the launch of EUCAP Sahel Niger, the Mission has achieved significant results:

Technical Capacities – The Mission conducts training in various areas such as in criminal intelligence, human resources, surveillance, forensics as well as in the fight against trafficking of arms, drugs and human beings, which has contributed to an increase in the number of seizures by the Nigerien services. Specialized trainings are also carried out to respond to specific needs.

Strategic Advising, Justice and Human Rights – EUCAP supports the implementation of the National Internal Security Strategy (SNSI) and fosters collaboration among security and judicial authorities to strengthen the penal chain. Likewise, the Mission regularly provides training and interacts with key actors on the protection of human rights and gender.

Border Control Management – EUCAP Sahel Niger has empowered Nigerien agents to carry out own training on document fraud and equipped border control stations on migration routes. Since 2018, the Mission supports the establishment of mobile border control units aiming at securing unstable border regions.

Expanding Assistance

The mission promotes security and stability beyond the support to Nigerien Internal Security Forces:

Regionalisation – Terrorism and organized crime are cross-border phenomena and require a comprehensive response. To enhance regional capacities, the Mission supports the establishment of a police component within the G5 Sahel joint forces and contributes to the Regional Advisory and Coordination Cell in Mauritania. Moreover, the Mission provides training and strategic advice in other G5 Sahel countries.

Women, Youth and Civil Society – EUCAP Sahel Niger aims to promote the role of women and youth in security, collaborates with dedicated NGOs and supports their participation in security talks. In addition, the Mission finances initiatives aimed at building trust and mutual understanding between civil society and law enforcement actors.

EU conflict prevention – The EU Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) enables the EU to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in strengthening of international security. The CSDP forms the baseline for all activities of the Mission.

