



# 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 organised crime.**

**It is one of 16 missions under the EU Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) contributing to international peace, stability and security.**

The Sahel is one of the poorest regions in the world. Instability and a low level of security make the region also a safe haven for terrorists and organised crime such as trafficking of drugs, arms and human beings. These threats endanger both local populations and European citizens.

EUCAP Sahel Niger has been launched in 2012 aiming to support Internal Nigerien Security Forces and to strengthen their capacities through training, strategic advice and equipment.

As part of its mandate, the mission also supports Niger to better manage and control irregular migration flows and to fight smugglers and traffickers taking advantage of people in despair.

In 2018, EUCAP Sahel Niger has trained 2,557 women and men and handed over equipment worth a total amount of EUR 4.9 million. Since 2012, more than 13,000 members of the security forces and authorities have received trainings and assistance.

Over 120 experts from European security forces, justice and civil society are permanently deployed to Niger and provide crucial assistance to empower the national security sector. Currently, 14 EU member states contribute to the mission.

Since 2018, EUCAP Sahel Niger increasingly hands over its expertise through "Trainings of Trainers", who pass on their trained skills and knowledge to Nigerien colleagues. In turn, the mission enhances the focus on coaching and accompanying. This approach ensures the sustainability of the work and strengthens the responsibility and ownership of the Nigerien authorities to continue the trainings.



Based in Niger's capital Niamey, EUCAP Sahel Niger has 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, the UNHCR and the UNODC.



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## Ensuring Sustainability

Since the launch of EUCAP Sahel Niger, the mission has achieved major results:

**Border Control Management** – EUCAP Sahel Niger has empowered 29 Nigerien agents to carry out own trainings on document fraud and equipped 31 border control stations. Since 2018, the mission also supports Niger to establish a mobile border control unit which will improve the fight against security threats in instable border regions.

**Justice and Human Rights** – The promotion of human rights is imperative to the mission's objectives. To better integrate them into the security sector, the mission regularly trains key actors on gender and human rights. Also, 3,000 copies of the Nigerien penal code have been handed out to the Ministry of Justice.

**Technical Expertise** – The mission conducts trainings in various domains such as in investigations, human resources, surveillance, forensics as well as in the fight against arms and drug trafficking. This has contributed to an increase of seizures by the Nigerien state. EUCAP Sahel Niger also provides assistance to introduce a West African Police Information System (WAPIS).

## Expanding Assistance

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

**Regionalisation** – Terrorism and organised 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 will provide trainings and strategic advice in other G5 Sahel countries.

**Women and Civil Society** – EUCAP Sahel Niger aims to promote the role of women in security, collaborates with women associations and supports their participation to peace and stability. In addition, the mission finances initiatives aiming to build trust and mutual understanding between the civil society and law enforcement actors.

**EU Conflict Prevention** – The EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) enables the EU to take a leading role in peace-keeping, conflict prevention and in strengthening international security. The CSDP forms the baseline for all activities of EUCAP Sahel Niger.

