



Contracting Authority: European Commission

ANNEX I – Description of the Action

Reference: MIGR/2016/379-723
EuropeAid/150632/DH/ACT/MULTI

Dossier No	MIGR/2016/379-723
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General information

Reference of the call for proposals	EuropeAid/150632/DH/ACT/MULTI
[Lot number you are applying to:]	LOT N° 1
Number of the proposal ¹	<i>Number applicable for Restricted procedure only.</i>
Name of the lead applicant	JEFATURA FISCAL Y DE FRONTERAS DE LA GUARDIA CIVIL
Title of the action	BLUE SAHEL
Location of the action	Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau, Cape verde
Duration of the action	36 months

The action²

1.1. Description of the action

Sector context

– **The European Agenda on Migration**, which was adopted by the European Commission on 13 May 2015, identified **the fight against migrant smuggling as a priority**, to prevent the exploitation of migrants by criminal networks and reduce incentives to irregular migration

The European Agenda on Security, adopted by the Commission on 28 April 2015, also singled out cooperation against the smuggling of migrants inside the EU and with third countries as a priority in the fight against organized crime networks.

– Close co-operation with third countries along the entire smuggling routes is essential for targeting migrant smuggling and for ending impunity through effective investigation and prosecution. This should be seen in connection with persistent EU efforts to **address the root causes of irregular migration**, in cooperation with countries of origin and transit. The focus should be on support on border management, youth and employment, mobility.

The EEAS and the Commission will launch or enhance the bilateral and regional cooperation frameworks with relevant partners focusing on practical measures to address smuggling of migrants, including through **the Rabat and Khartoum Processes**, the ACP-EU Dialogue, the EU-Africa Migration and Mobility Dialogues and the **Malta Summit** devoted to migration

– The ECOWAS Sahel Strategy, the IGAD peace and security strategy, as well as the **EU Sahel Strategy**, recognize the importance of a dedicated approach for peripheral areas, like Sahel, which are characterized by very low State presence and porosity of borders, leading to the marginalization

¹ When the Contracting Authority has evaluated the concept note it informs the lead applicant of the outcome and allocates a proposal number.

² The evaluation committee will refer to information provided in the concept note as regards objectives and the relevance of the action.

and destitution of local minorities and increased vulnerability to irregular migration, extremism, trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants.

In the EU Sahel Regional Action 2015-2020, adopted by the Foreign Affairs Council on 20 April 2015, border management and fight against illicit trafficking and transnational organised crime features as one of the key priorities

– So one of the priorities of EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling (2015 - 2020), it is to provide capacity building to third countries and to enhance financial and technical assistance to third countries, to support the development of **national and regional strategies** against migrant smuggling as well as the setting up of integrated **border management systems**. This should include risk analysis, joint border control and border patrolling

In this sense **BLUE SAHEL PROJECT will be focused** on *strengthening institutional capacities to fight against transnational organised crime, and in particular the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings networks, both in origin and transit countries located along the **West Sahel routes**, and raise awareness on this problem among the security forces of those countries.*

The Blue Sahel countries are Mauritania, Senegal, The Gambia, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Mali.

All of them are located in the Sahel Region but also almost all of them in the Atlantic Coast; this is the reason of the project chosen name “Blue Sahel”.

Mali as a key country with common borders with many of the others because of that it is necessary to include Mali in the project to give consistency Blue Sahel project as a Regional project.

Complementary Actions

BLUE SAHEL project stems directly from the successful action currently being developed in Western Africa within the framework of both Seahorses and West Sahel Projects

The **Seahorse Projects** have enabled the creation of an important collaboration infrastructure between Spain, Portugal, Mauritania, Senegal, and also another Sahel countries like Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Cape Verde, which has culminated in the signing of different collaboration agreements, the performance of maritime joint patrols, the exchange of liaison officers, the creation of a communications network (SHA) and even the entry of FRONTEX in these countries mainly Senegal, through the HERA joint operation, which is coordinated by the Agency and led by the Guardia Civil

Other countries, like Mali have been included in the **West Sahel projects**, in order to help them to fight against irregular immigration, and reduce, the risk of increasing use of the dangerous routes that cross the West and Central Sahara desert.

Rabat Process dialogue

The Rabat Process is a framework for dialogue between the countries of the European Union and the countries of West and Central Africa. This migration dialogue aims at the implementation of cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination for migration.

On November 23 2011, the Third Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development was held in Dakar, Senegal, consolidating the achievements in the implementation of the three-year Paris Cooperation Program, and adopting a new strategy for the years 2012-2014 (the Dakar Strategy). Part of this Dakar strategy it is to fight against irregular migration, especially improving border management and reinforcing the protection for vulnerable groups.

In this context, the European Commission has launched at the beginning of 2013 an initiative aimed at supporting the Rabat Process by extending the open consultation framework which was set up during the previous phases, while strengthening the leadership of key participants and promoting the Euro-African dialogue as well as the exchange of good practices. This initiative is designed as an open but structured instrument aimed at encouraging and supporting progress achieved in the Rabat

Process by allowing the participating States to implement concrete measures on all migration related issues

In implementing these initiatives, it is important to ensure consistency and complementarity between the Rabat Process and other regional frameworks on migration between the European Union and the African States (the Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment between the European Union and Africa, as well as the Dialogue between the EU and the ACP countries on the basis of Article 13 of the Cotonou Agreement). It is vital to promote synergies between the different frameworks in order to avoid any overlap, particularly in the implementation of specific projects, and to ensure that their actions are complementary in their respective geographical and thematic contexts

As well as promoted by Rabat process, (i.e. Rome Declaration and Programme 2015-2017) **Blue Sahel** tries to advance cooperation with strategic countries along the important Western African migration route

Concept and Project objectives:

Blue Sahel project stems directly from the successful action currently being developed in Western Africa by Spain within the framework of both Seahorse and West Sahel Projects

The Seahorse Projects have enabled the creation of an important collaboration infrastructure between Spain, Mauritania, Senegal, and also another Sahel countries like Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde, which has culminated in the signing of different collaboration agreements, the performance of maritime joint patrols, the exchange of liaison officers, the creation of a communications network (SHA) and even the entry of FRONTEX in these countries through the HERA joint operation, which is coordinated by the Agency and led by the Guardia Civil

Other countries, like Mali and Guinea Conakry have been included in the ongoing Blue Sahel project, in order to help them to fight against irregular immigration, and reduce, the risk of increasing use of the dangerous routes that cross the Atlantic and West Sahel.

The project's **overall objective** is to *fight against irregular immigration and protect migrants' rights*.

This would be done in particular through strengthening the operational and strategic capabilities to allow the States concerned to ensure an effective, integrated and coordinated border management in order to fight against cross/border crime.

Especially supporting the creation of **cross border patrols** in Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia and Guinea borders with the mentioned countries, and reinforcing the cooperation and exchange of information in the common border of the concerned countries, through which these Sahel countries would share among themselves in timely manner, information as regards illegal or suspect activities originating in or transiting through any of their respective countries and directed towards the others, as well as to organise a coordinated response to prevent these activities or to address their consequences.

More **specifically**, **Blue Sahel** project as specific objectives aims to:

1. - Strengthen both in origin (Senegal, Mali, Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau, Gambia) and in transit (Mauritania, Cape Verde) countries located along the West Sahel Routes the capacity to fight against the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings.
2. - Facilitate cooperation between border control and migration agencies of the countries participating in the project, improving exchange of information.

3. - Strengthen the protection of migrants' rights in transit countries, with focus on asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, apprehended irregular migrants, and vulnerable migrants.

4. - Contribute to create better information on the risks of irregular migration, by enhancing the capacity of national and local Authorities of the origin countries to address the phenomenon

5.-To share common best practices and operational procedures in carrying out land border control and maritime surveillance patrolling. Improving capacities of "Blue Sahel" countries (Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Cape Verde, Guineas Bissau and Guinea Conakry) to manage their own borders and ensuring adequate treatment of migrants and asylum seekers in line with international and EU standards will be a key priority of the initiative.

A number of **training activities** for the law enforcement officers from the target countries will be performed within the project implementation, including on:

- Training courses on irregular immigration to be developed in main Ports and Land border BCPs of the region.
- Adequate treatment of migrants and asylum seekers, in full respect of human rights and in line with international and EU standards
- Practical training course on common operational procedures and on the use of technical equipment installed in Seahorse Contact point at Bamako/Dakar/Nouakchott.
- Training on intelligence and risk analysis.
- Different training courses on fluvial and land Border surveillance, including techniques to control de territory.

The applicant has obtained **support from Mauritania and Mali Gendarmeries as co-applicants**, but also from the following **Associated Institutions: Gendarmeries from Senegal and Guinea Conakry, National Guard from Guinea Bissau, Police and Coast Guard from Cape Verde, Immigration Service and Navy from Gambia**, So in all the mentioned countries the applicant will have one or more associated Security or Police Forces wishful to participate in the project.

The target groups are:

- the relevant authorities of Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau and Guinea Conakry
- the staff of "Blue Sahel" countries who will attend the training courses on maritime and land border surveillance, that will be performed under the action;
- Staff of relevant authorities responsible for gathering and sharing data relevant for border management.
- Law Enforcement Community engaged in combating irregular migration from the countries involved in the project: Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Cape Verde, Guinea Conakry and Guinea Bissau
- Migrants in general included asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors and vulnerable migrants

The final beneficiaries are:

- The authorities of mentioned countries in charge of border control and migration management;
- Migrants potentially intending to reach the EU irregularly, who will be less at risk from loss of life whilst crossing the Sahel areas.
- The society and population of the aforesaid countries; the African countries, which the migrants come from, and the EU as a whole

Estimated numbers of direct and indirect beneficiaries:

It is expected to train at least 270 Officers on Land Border Surveillance, 200 Officers on irregular immigration issues, 100 officers on fluvial or maritime border surveillance and 100 on intelligence and risk analysis matters. A not yet accountable number of law enforcement officers who will benefit of training and tutoring by the above trained officers, on the basis of a sort of “cascade effect”.

The perceived needs and constraints are: Lack of border management policy. Lack of border control staff adequately trained. Lack of land borders surveillance equipment. Lack of protection of migrants’ rights and awareness of Security Forces

Expected results and main activities:

Blue Sahel project will focus on the strengthening of the operational and strategic capabilities to allow the States concerned to ensure an effective, integrated and coordinated border management.

Expected results are:

- Strengthen both in origin (Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Guinea Conakry) and in transit (Mauritania and Cape Verde) countries located along the Western African Route the capacity to fight against the transnational crime and in particular smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings.
- Significant increase in the number of relevant staff trained on the modalities to use border surveillance equipment.
- To reduce trafficking of migrants.
- Increased inter-agency cooperation between concerned African countries and EU.
- To strength the protection of migrants’ rights in particular the vulnerable ones.
- To make border management agencies aware of the importance of migrants’ human rights
- Contribute to create better information on the risks of irregular migration, by enhancing the capacity of national and local Authorities of the origin countries to address the phenomenon
- To step up dialogue and collaboration between third countries and the European Union on migration question
- Discourage irregular migration

This initiative is built on the positive experience got by the applicant (Guardia Civil) in implementing the Seahorse and West Sahel projects. Moreover, this project will take advantage by the cooperation relationships that the applicant, have already set up bilaterally with Mauritanian and Mali Gendarmeries, but also other Associated Institutions. **Blue Sahel pretends** to create **synergies**, with actions included in West Sahel and Seahorse projects, and to extend the action to other Border Sectors, with the main objective of preventing irregular migration flows and fight against cross-border crime.

A high degree of complementarity will be ensured with ongoing and future activities and programmes supported by EU funding in order to avoid the risk of duplication.

The total duration of the Action will last 36 months and the main planned activities are:

Activity 1) Creation of Cross-Border Patrols.

Capacities of Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia and Guineas borders with the mentioned countries to fight against any kind of cross border crime will be improved, with the creation of specific cross-border patrols, inside Border Guard of these countries **to facilitate join patrols** among them. **The training will include specific module to improve codes of conduct, with fully awareness over**

human rights respect. Together with the training to perform their mission, the Border Patrols to be created will be provided of a minimum of material for Border surveillance.
Creation of a **Canine Unit in Mali**, to be deployed in borders with Mauritania and Senegal.

Activity 2) Training Courses on irregular immigration. They will be developed in main Ports, and Land Border BCPs of Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Guinea Conakry, Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau. The main objectives will be the protection of migrants' rights in transit countries, with focus on vulnerable migrants, as well as to improve border controls and strengthen the control of persons and goods, but respecting the intra-regional mobility of persons. In performing the training activities, a **gender dimension** will be introduced, by promoting the participation of law enforcement women from the target countries.

Activity 3) Fluvial and Maritime Border surveillance training for Security Forces, of Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde.
Spanish Guardia Civil, **in order to give quick visibility to the project** and allow African Security Forces to assume a visible role in guaranteeing the livelihood and security of the population, will initiate the training in early stage of the project, using vessels donated to African Security Forces, following the successful model of joint patrols already implemented in Mauritania
The Training will include a module to **improve codes of conduct with fully awareness over human rights respect.** Also special attention will be given to risk analysis and the creation of intelligence Units in coordination with Seacop project.

Activity 4) To reinforce cooperation and exchange of information with neighbouring countries and EU. In order to take advantage of Seahorse network to exchange operational information a National Contact Point will be created in Bamako, in order to include Mali in the Seahorse Network. It will be assured the contact Bamako-Dakar-Nouakchott with some improvements in the network already established. With this measure it will be increased inter-agency cooperation with concerned countries, and EU. Also **training on Intelligence and Risk analysis to evaluate migration trends and their** consequences as well as training of Services specialised on controlling cross-border crimes will be provided to Security Forces involved.

Activity 5) International Police Conference Europe-Africa with a view to fostering coordination, dialogue, sharing experience between partners responsible for migration management of the African countries concerned as well as to establish a process of regular dialogue with them. The **International Conference** will be organized, focused on core areas of relevance for the project, including border surveillance, sharing of data and respect of rights of migrants intercepted.

Activities description and results expected:

ACTIVITY 1.-Training of National Authorities

Training of officers of African officers will be carried out in order to share best practices in land border control and surveillance, managing their own border, and ensuring adequate treatment of migrants and asylum seekers in full respect of human rights in line with international and EU standards. The training activities will promote the exchange of experiences between different actors involved, to enhance the mutual trust and cooperation between all of them.

This activity matches the following specific objectives:

The following **training activities** for the law enforcement officers from concerned countries will be performed within the project implementation:

Activity 1.1) Creation of Cross-Border Patrols in Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, and Guineas.

The main objectives of this activity are:

- 1.-To achieve the improvement of the African authorities' capabilities within the field of land border surveillance.
2. - To strengthen the border control in the internal borders of the concerned countries what can allow them to improve their capacity to effectively tackle the criminal organisations involved in the smuggling and trafficking of human beings.
3. - To strengthen the protection of migrants' rights in transit countries, with focus on asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, apprehended irregular migrants, and vulnerable migrants.

As weak law enforcement capacities hamper exchange of information and co-operation, as well as the investigation and prosecution or smuggling offences in third countries, the **transfer of skills and resources** is essential.

It is necessary to reinforce the financial and technical assistance to third countries, to support the development of **national and regional strategies** against migrant smuggling, anti-corruption policies that address the smuggling of migrants, as well as the setting up of integrated **border management systems**. This should include risk analysis, **joint border control and border patrolling**

On this sense the development of a network of Border Patrols with the same doctrine of action in all common borders of the West Sahel countries, can be a starting point that marks the difference to improve the capacity building in these borders.

So, theoretical-practical courses on Land Border surveillance and control of the territory will be developed in Borders between Mauritania and Senegal (Rosso-Sant Louis), Mali borders with Mauritania (Selibaby-Kayes) and Niore du Sahel-Gogui), Mali-Senegal (Kidira), Mali-Guinea Conakry (Kourimale), and Senegal-Guinea Bissau borders (Ziguinchor-Varela-Sao Domingos) and Senegal-Gambia borders in order to facilitate the performance of land border joint patrols in the concerned countries.

Capacities of Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia and Guineas borders with the mentioned countries, to fight against any kind of cross border crime will be improved, with the **creation of specific cross-border patrols**, inside Gendarmeries or National Guard of these countries.

They will be created 12 Cross-Border Patrols (3 in Mauritania, 3 in Mali, 3 in Senegal, 1 in Gambia, 1 in Guinea Bissau, 1 in Guinea Conakry).

Half of them it is foreseen to be deployed during the first half of the project implementation, immediately after finishing the tender procedures to acquire the material foreseen for border surveillance, in order to create added value and **significant quick impact of the project** on cross border criminal activities.

The Training will have two phases. The first will consist of training the trainers in Europe. The second phase will extend the training on the ground with the participation of African officers and the cooperation of EU advisors. **The training will include specific module to improve codes of conduct** of African security Forces, **with fully awareness over human rights respect**.

Together with the training to perform their mission, the Border Patrols to be created will be provided of a minimum of material for Border surveillance. Each Border Patrol will receive a border surveillance module with at least 2 vehicles T/T, night vision glass, lanterns, and prismatic.

It is foreseen to train a total of 270 agents. At least 30 officers from Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Guinea Conakry will be **trained** on land border surveillance and techniques to control of the territory **in Spain**. A number of law enforcement officers (At least 240) will benefit from training and tutoring by the above trained officers, with the support of European

advisors, on the basis of a “cascade effect”, with the main purpose to create rapid reaction teams for intervention on land borders in remote areas, following the Frontex model for European Border Guard Teams

All the courses will include a component related to the **protection of the fundamental rights** of migrants. Also it will include a **practical component** with night vision goggles, driving off road and other border surveillance techniques. Following this method, the action's efficiency can be strengthened and the capacity building is assured through measures aiming to implement the learned techniques in practical terms.

As example, it is necessary to remark that areas around Bassikounou region in Mauritanian-Mali borders are reported to be the path for important numbers of **Siryian refugees** that are arriving to Mauritania in growing numbers through flights Istanbul-Nuackchott, and later cross to Mali and far north. So it is necessary to make new efforts inside the Law Enforcement Agencies in Mauritania and Mali and order to help them to deal with this new type of refugees (for them) always according to international standards, under the point of view of respecting human rights.

This implies strengthening the capacities of associated countries, improving their human capabilities through training and also capability to participate in joint activities between them and with international partners

Expected results are:

To increase number of relevant staff trained on border surveillance and migrant's rights.

To increase levels of interception of irregular migrants, in the concerned countries.

To avoid trafficking of migrants, explosives, arms, and another illegal goods

To strength the protection of migrants' rights in particular the vulnerable ones.

Activity 1.2 Also it will be developed training and creation of a **Mali Gendarmerie canine Unit**, to be deployed in the borders with Mauritania, and Senegal, similar and complementary to the one already created in West Sahel Project in Mauritania.

In this field they will be developed training of **Mali and Mauritanian canine Units**, to be deployed in Mali borders with Mauritania and Senegal, and Mauritanian borders with Senegal.

Dogs and some very specific material will be bought mainly **for Mali Gendarmerie** (It is expected the purchase of a number of dogs (8) and all the necessary basic equipment for it, including dogs houses). The courses will be developed in Bamako (Mali), in place to be determined by Mali Authorities.

In Mauritania it will be performed in Nuackchott, and this action will give continuity to the training already initiated in the framework of project West Sahel Mauritania.

Plan agreed with Mali Gendarmerie

This training to eight training guides and their dogs would be done by SECIR imparting two course. It would last about 75 days, with a total of 520 hours per course. Dates to develop teaching activity preferably will be in the last quarter of the year as the weather at that time would favour the formation.

In the teaching activity mentioned it is expected the forming of a total of eight members of the Mali National Gendarmerie.

Course content

In order to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively perform the tasks assigned to the specialties of Guide Dogs, the courses would be taken under the stages, duration and subjects that are as continuation

Basic Generic Phase (140 hours long):

Cynological Area:

- **General Cynology, theoretical part** -. General knowledge of dog training. Man-dog socialization. Opportunities, situations and ways of working police dog. Training materials.
- **Psychology, theoretical part**.- Knowledge of animal behaviour, psychological aspects that influence the dog for learning (conditioning and operant conditioning), changes in behaviour, strengthening programs, motivations and incentives.
- **Veterinary knowledge, theoretical-practical part** -. Knowledge about prophylaxis for most common canine diseases and first aid techniques in case of accidents.

Generic Training Area:

- **Handling and Basic obedience, theoretical and practical parts**.- Dog handling and knowledge and realization of basic obedience exercises.

Specific phase (380 hours long):

Specific Training Area with the Dogs : theoretical and practical part.

RESOURCES

Human resources

The contribution of two Guide Dogs possessing the enabling degree and recognized experience and expertise in the subjects to be taught (an officer / NCO, coordinator of both courses and two guards instructors' experts in the respective subjects to be taught).

Material Resources

- 8 selected dogs.
- 8 properly conditioned kennels and 8 stalls with automatic water would be needed.
- Training materials necessary for 8 dogs.

In the case of **Mauritanian Gendarmerie**, a Canine Unit has been already created with similar characteristics, in the framework of West Sahel Mauritania project, so now in the framework of Blue Sahel project will be included a complementary action to give sustainability and continuity to the work done, consisting on the monitoring of the Unit, checking of living conditions of dogs, review of training techniques already imparted to Mauritanian officers, and improvement if necessary.

Activity 2.1) Training Courses on irregular immigration.

The main objectives of this activity are:

1. - To improve border controls and strengthen the control of persons and goods, but respecting the intra-regional mobility of persons.

2.- To strengthen the protection of migrants' rights in transit countries, with focus on asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, apprehended irregular migrants, and vulnerable migrants.

3.-To make border management agencies aware of the importance of migrants' human rights.

Capacity building at the national and sub-regional levels is critical. Capacity building of immigration officials is most critical as well as urgent. Presently functioning as border control and security officials, their role has to be transformed into that of migration management, helping to facilitate rather than restrict migrations in regular situations

In most countries of the sub-region, the institutional capacity required to manage migratory flows and for effective policy formulation and implementation is weak, and **must be strengthened through training and retraining of key officials**. Capacity building of officials – customs, immigration, police, security - to deal with free movement of persons and goods, and on the rights and obligation of migrants should be a continuing process.

In order to reinforce the efficiency of the Land border patrols, it is necessary that Law Enforcement officers are able **to control effectively also their Border Crossing Points**.

So, inmigration courses are foreseen to be developed in main Ports, and Land Border BCPs of Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Guinea Conakry, and Guinea Bissau. In concrete in Mauritania (Rosso-Kaedi), Senegal (Sant Louis and Richard Toll), Mali (Kayes and Bamako), Gambia (Banjul) Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, and Cape Verde (Praia and Mindelo).

The Methodology to be used will be based on the **train the trainer's method to ensure sustainability of the action in the future**.

All the courses will last at least one week with a theoretical component, and also a practical training component performed in one specific BCP (border crossing point). A module on Human rights and Police Codes of conduct will be included in the curriculum.

Besides in performing the training activities, a **gender dimension** will be introduced, by promoting the participation of law enforcement women from the target countries.

The participation of some Humanitarian Organization like Red Cross will be considered to assure the Humanitarian component of the Courses, not only the Police aspects

As it was said one of the objectives it is to combine in a balanced way the Police component of the staff training and the protection of migrants' rights in transit countries, with focus on asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, apprehended irregular migrants, and vulnerable migrants

At this stage it is considered more convenient to make the training of African officials in their countries as a way to be sure of the multiplier effects of the action.

The exact location to deliver the courses will be decided jointly with local partners, as there are some implications that should be solved on the ground (existence of convenient previous teaching infrastructure, logistic issues such as transport of material, visibility considerations for Local Authorities, etc.

Target groups for this activity: Officers from Mauritanian, Mali, Senegal, and Guinea Conakry Gendarmerie, National Guard from Guinea Bissau, Navy and Immigration Service from Gambia, Coast Guard and Police from Cape Verde. It is expected that 20 officers will attend each course

At least 200 law enforcement officers will be trained on irregular immigration and border control.

This activity will be developed to avoid overlapping and in synergy with projects (in the countries concerned) implemented by other actors involved in the management of the borders like IOM, etc.

EU Delegation in each target country will be informed in advance for coordination of activities.

2.2. In the framework of the immigration courses will be developed an awareness campaign on the dangers of irregular immigration and the use of dangerous routes, addressed to the African security Forces involved in the project

Raising awareness of the risks of smuggling and of irregular migration is crucial for preventing prospective migrants, including people in more vulnerable situations such as children, from embarking on hazardous journeys, also from transit countries. Evidence gathered from migrants confirms that smugglers use social media platforms widely to share information on the services they provide. It is, therefore, important to develop a **counter-narrative**.

Government agencies should endeavour to provide their nationals with adequate information on risks of using dangerous smuggling routes.

The use of “Gendarmeries”, Police Forces deployed in rural areas guarantee the extension and success of this campaign.

The historic experience of Guardia Civil, regarding the implementation of humanitarian actions in the past, let Guardia Civil win the so called name of “Benemerita”, given by the Spanish People.

This fact together with the exhaustive knowledge that Guardia Civil has at this moment of the concerned African countries and their High Rank Officers, especially Senegal, Mauritania, Mali and Guinea Bissau (thanks to the implementation of Seahorse projects), as well as the rural areas in general, will drive Guardia Civil to try to export this model to African Gendarmeries.

Similar action was performed in Mauritania and Senegal in the framework of West Sahel project. Other countries like Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Gambia have asked to replicate the initiative.

If we are success the benefits for the population in the concerned countries (final beneficiaries of the action) and the objectives will be accomplished.

Main products to be used during the campaign, DVDs and Brochures will be sent to the Commission together with a report of the results of the activity.

Expected results are:

To reinforce the skills regarding the training on location of false bottoms or hidden spaces in vehicles, and passenger and goods control in the framework of fight against trafficking and smuggling.

Strengthen the protection of migrants’ rights in transit countries, with focus on asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, apprehended irregular migrants, and vulnerable migrants.

To sum up to make police forces aware of the importance of migrants’ human rights

Activity 3) Fluvial and Maritime Border surveillance training for Security Forces, of Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde.

The main objectives of this activity are:

1.-To achieve the improvement of the African authorities’ capabilities within the field of **sea and fluvial** border surveillance in order to improve their capacity to effectively tackle the criminal organisations involved in the smuggling and trafficking of human beings and other forms of criminality.

2. - To strengthen the protection of migrants' rights in transit countries, with focus on asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, apprehended irregular migrants, and vulnerable migrants

In the framework of fight against irregular migration and in coordination with Frontex joint operation HERA and other EU initiatives, Spanish Guardia Civil, in order to give quick visibility to the project and allow African Security Forces to assume a visible role in guaranteeing the livelihood and security of the population, will initiate the training in early stage of the project, **using vessels donated to African Security Forces**, following the successful model of joint patrols already implemented in Mauritania.

The donation of these vessels will be executed through bilateral agreements between Spain and the concerned African countries and the costs of the vessels or their transport **will not be considered eligible costs for the project**. Nevertheless important synergies will be created.

The Training will be addressed to navy pilots, and naval mechanics, sea rescue and security, maritime communications and radar and planning of maritime operations: and will provide i) technical; ii) administrative, iii) basic computer science, iv) Fiscal, v) legal, including human rights, and vi) operational training, including *inter alia*, on fight against a) organized crime (including trafficking with specific reference to women and children b) irregular migration.

It will include a module to **improve codes of conduct** between the staff of African Coast Guards, **with fully awareness over human rights respect**.

Due to the complexity of the matters, a mentoring system will be established with the presence of EU instructors for a minimum period of 3 months to guarantee ownership of the knowledge, and that following the system train the trainers, the proposed multiplier trainees can continue the training action in future.

In cooperation with SEACOP project a Maritime Intelligence Unit (MIU) would be also be established in Noadhibou, Sant Louis, Banjul, Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Cape Verde, and will be given the specialist training and intelligence tools to identify possible illicit maritime shipments and threats, as well as the criminal groups involved

At Bissau Port will be created a Section specialized in Fiscal and Security matters.

In the case of the Guinea Bissau **Coast Guard**, **Spanish Guardia Civil**, in order to give quick visibility to the project and allow National Guard to assume a visible role in guaranteeing the livelihood and security of the population, could initiate the practical training in early stage of the project, using Spanish vessels following the successful model of joint patrols already implemented in Senegal and Mauritania. Later these vessels (two) will be donated to Guinea Bissau.

The Training in general, will develop new and creative solutions to common problems; contributing to **improve codes of conduct** between the staff of the National Guard, **with fully awareness over human rights respect**. The action will constitute a positive and tangible impact improving the operational procedures and capacity for implementation of border surveillance, as well as the capacities of staff in charge of migration management in Guinea Bissau.

Special importance will have the possible development of sea border mixed and joint patrols, between GB Coast Guard and Guardia Civil what will create relevant synergies with other EU initiatives mentioned, and will have special **added value** as it is the first time to be implemented in GB.

This model would replicate what has been done in Mauritania and Senegal with Security forces of those countries and has contributed to mitigate irregular migration in Atlantic routes, avoiding the loss of hundreds of lives at sea.

Also practical courses and basic material will be provided for **fluvial border surveillance** in river Senegal (Richard Toll in Senegal and Gogue-Kaedi in Mauritania) with the purpose to facilitate joint patrols in the river between Mauritania and Senegal Gendarmeries. Also it will be trained fluvial Detachments in Guinea Bissau (Cache-Farim) and Ziguinchor (Senegal).

It is expected that will be trained at least 100 agents in maritime and fluvial surveillance.

Vessels used by African security Forces will be repaired and in some cases provided with new engines able to allow to use them for fluvial surveillance.

Training related to Activities 1, 2, 3

Training on Police Codes of Conduct Regarding Respect of Human Rights of Migrants

Special attention will be given to the treatment of asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, apprehended irregular migrants, and vulnerable migrants **including Police Codes of conduct focused on the respect for Human Rights.**

All the courses performed in the framework of the project (regarding border control and border surveillance) will include a specific training module on these topics. Regarding this issue training will be provided by qualified Spanish officers.

With this it will be managed an efficiency of the resources and it will be guaranteed that any border Guard trained through the project aware of the importance of migrants' human rights, and how it connects with operational matters.

The methodology that will be followed is the system of "train the trainers" in order to assure the multiplier effect of the action, in future.

In performing the aforesaid training activities, a gender dimension will be considered, by encouraging and promoting the participation of female law enforcement officers from the target countries

Including this specific module about Police Codes of conduct, in all training activities to be performed, will have the added value that the capacities of the participant partner countries will improve considerably in dealing with border control, migration and asylum matters at national and international level, but also and not least the rule of international law and the respect of fundamental rights of migrants.

Activity 4) Reinforce cooperation and exchange of information with neighbouring countries and EU.

The main objectives of this activity are:

1. - Facilitate cooperation improving the exchange of information between border and migration agencies of the countries participating in the project.
2. - To strengthen the border control in the internal borders of the concerned countries what can allow them to improve their capacity to effectively tackle the criminal organisations involved in the smuggling and trafficking of human beings.

Gathering and sharing information on modus operandi, routes, economic models of smuggling networks, on links with trafficking in human beings and other crimes, and on financial transfers, **is crucial for targeting it effectively.**

At present, knowledge and information about migrant smuggling are sporadic, because of the underground and rapidly changing nature of this crime. The networks' modus operandi depends largely on the region and the circumstances of the migrant who is paying. Obtaining region-specific information is crucial. The criminal organizations involved in migrant smuggling may be active both in legitimate and illicit businesses, although lack of research and evidence obscures our understanding of these links.

The capacities of African Agencies to collect, exchange and analyze information on migrant smuggling should be reinforced. Full use should be made of the risk analyses on migrant smuggling routes produced by Frontex.

In this framework in order to take advantage of Seahorse network to exchange operational information, **a National Contact Point will be created in Bamako, in order to include Mali in the Seahorse Network.**

Also it will be assured the contact Bamako-Dakar-Nouakchott- with some improvements in the network already established. With this measure it will be increased inter-agency cooperation with concerned countries, and EU.

Activity 4.1 Training on Intelligence and Risk analysis on border surveillance will be provided to all Security Forces involved. It is expected to train at least 100 agents.

As mentioned, regarding risk analysis in order to guarantee a standard training it will be followed the model provided by Frontex through **CIRAM 2.0.**

During the courses attempts will be made to undertake cooperative research and information sharing between countries of origin and destination.

Heads of Investigation Units in respective countries will be invited to participate in seminars on intelligence and risk analysis, in order to create an environment of mutual trust, that produce an effective and increasing exchange of relevant information. Special attention will be given to the treatment of confidential information including dossiers about persons involved in human trafficking offences.

The fight against trafficking in women and children requires the cooperation of all stakeholders. It is important that governments fully implement ECOWAS and EU recommendations to combat trafficking in children and women, migrants' smuggling and trafficking, and set up legal framework for the arrest, prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators of trafficking, and for the protection and rehabilitation of victims

During the courses this important point will be put on the table in such a way that final beneficiaries of the action (victims) could get an effective protection.

It is obvious that migration cannot be managed effectively by unilateral action: many countries simultaneously serve as origin, transit and destination of a variety of migrations. Hence bilateral relations should be forged between the countries sending and receiving migrants within and outside the sub-region.

At the national level, collaboration between and within agencies of government dealing with migration matters is essential but rarely exists at the moment.

Cooperation between governments of sending, transit and destination countries is also crucial to combating trafficking, more so because strict immigration policies in developed countries can actually fuel markets for trafficking and smuggling and irregular migrations.

So, it is imperative for law enforcement authorities of recipient countries to share information on numbers and nationalities of trafficked persons, smuggling routes, and methods of interdiction with

countries of origin's agencies, and to also institutionalise operational contact between them. These courses will be used as a starting point for it.

Cooperation between researchers in origin and destination countries that focus on, for example, tracer studies of trafficked victims is going to be encouraged. Above all, channels of communication between countries of destination and origin will be established and reinforced, as information sharing is a major component of cooperation.

Benefits so will be clear in the framework of capacity building in the concerned African countries target of this action.

Liaison Officers deployed by the project will participate in these training activities and will coordinate it with respective EU **Delegations** directly or through the EU Network of Immigration Liaison Officers (ILOs) Cooperation with the **Africa Frontex Intelligence Community (AFIC)** will be considered as a platform for information-sharing and joint analysis with third countries.

Reports of the results of the courses will be produced and sent in due time to the Commission.

Expected results of this activity are:

Enhanced capacity to make use of intelligence sources to identify and prosecute the facilitators of the irregular migration.

Enhanced exchange of information on cross-border movements with authorities of neighbouring countries

Activity 4.2- Preparing the Establishment of the Mali National Coordination Centre and Seahorse NCP in Bamako (Mali)

The activity will start with the identification in Mali, of the public department to locate the **National Coordination Centre** as well as the Seahorse **National Contact Point (NCP)** within the framework to join Mali to the Seahorse network. This identification will be made by the authorities of Mali, with the assistance and under the encouragement of the project implementer and its partners.

Mali Authorities has expressed their commitment to join to Seahorse network. Initially a Spanish Liaison Officer will be deployed in Bamako to work closely with the EU Delegation in Mali regarding the implementation of the project in this country, which has already indicated its commitment to participate in the project. This officer will work 100% for the project and will participate in the design and possible implementation of all activities performed by the project in Mali, under the Coordination of the Applicant and the EU Delegation in Mali.

If necessary, an external consultant will be recruited to provide technical assistance to the project coordinator on technical matters.

Activity 4.3 - Setting up the the National Coordination Centre for Border surveillance and Seahorse NCP in Bamako (Mali)

SEAHORSE network consists of **setting up a secure network in the Atlantic and Mediterranean to exchange information** on irregular migration..

This network will be based on National Contact Points (NCP) in concerned African countries that will be connected by satellite to the EUROSUR network through selected Member States National Coordination Centres (NCCs) in order to achieve a rapid and secure exchange of information

Blue Sahel project will pursue the following technical goals for establishment of the Mali National Coordination Centre for border surveillance and Seahorse NCP at Bamako:

The establishment of a **National Contact Point** in the targeted African country is expected to include:

- System software (including licenses)
- Videoconference equipment
- Operator consoles (PC-workstations, monitors, IP telephone, auxiliary elements, etc.)
- Other specific necessary equipment (videowall, etc.)
- Auxiliary equipment (routers, switches, printers, etc.)
- Infrastructure and facilities:
 - Power supply items (SAI, batteries, generator, air conditioning, etc.)
 - Cabling
 - Basic services installation
 - Conditioning (painting, furniture, canalization, etc.)
 - Satellite antenna

The Mali National Coordination Centre and Seahorse NCP, is supposed to improve situational awareness and increase reaction capability at external borders of Mali. The aim is to prevent cross-border crime and irregular migration and contribute to protecting migrants' lives.

So through the Seahorse NCP it will provide:

- A quick and secure communication channel to be used as an early warning system to share alerts on possible threats and incidents and to prevent the risks related to irregular migration, and to permit the national authorities involved (European and African) to coordinate their own activities and collaborate in an effective manner for common actions.
- The possibility to manage information of different types and nature (voice, data, tracks and even video), so improving the information exchange capability;
- The integration of the communication systems available (telephone, radio, mobile networks, etc.)
- The secure and permanent contact with neighbour countries that belong to Seahorse Network especially to NCPs in Dakar and Nuackchott

Possible model to be followed will be POLICE AND CUSTOMS COOPERATION CENTERS (CCPA 'S) already existing in Europe

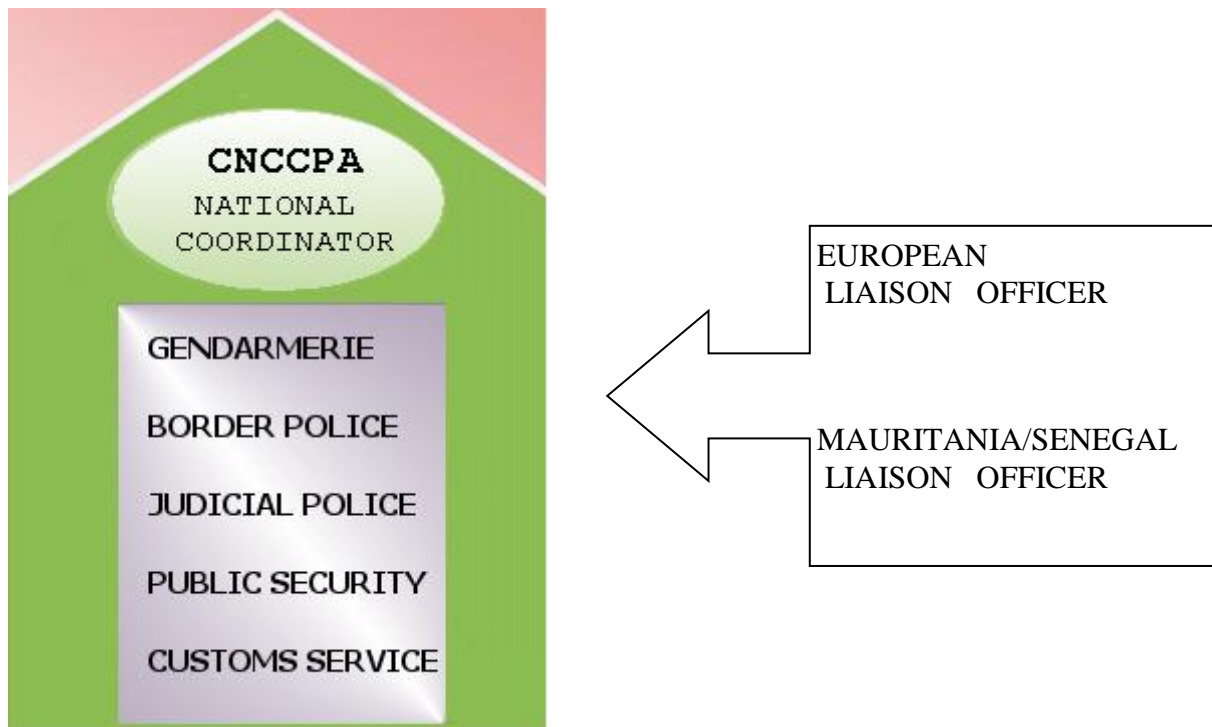
Police and Customs Cooperation centers (CCPA 'S) are support structures for exchange of information and support to operational forces in the performance of their duties as police, border and customs control in the border areas.

- The CCPA are created by agreement between the participating
- The CCPA facilitate the activities of operational forces operating immediately
- : - Monitoring, investigations and operations in border areas
- Control and joint surveillance in border areas
- Cross-border law enforcement operations

- Analysis of data on cross-border crime.

CCPA staff role is to quickly provide information to operational forces carrying out an intervention, in accordance with the Framework Decision on simplifying exchange of information and intelligence between law enforcement authorities of the Participating States.

Possible Structure:



CCPA's ATTACHED OFFICIALS STRUCTURE

Operations & Command room:

- Police
- Gendarmerie
- Customs
- Other Mall Authorities to be considered. (National Guard)
- Liaison Officers from Europe, Mauritania and Senegal.

Specific functions:

- Customs service
- Safety of installations.
- Mixed patrols in border areas (Gendarmeries)
- Aliens & Borders unit (Police)

Personnel: A number of Agents to be determined by Mali authorities

Activity 4.4 Running and using the NCP Bamako for sharing communication

Some practical **training courses for NCC Coordinators, Liaison Officers and operators** will be implemented, on common operational procedures and on the use of technical equipment that will be provided under the action in order to set up the National Coordination Centre. Building on the

experience from the Seahorse Atlantic network, the system will be cost-effective and user friendly to ensure that all members of the Coordination Centre can use it in a secure and effective manner. At least 20 officers will be trained as operators

With this action the competent Mali authorities will be given the opportunity to become familiar with the functioning of EU IBM cooperation mechanisms at operational level, by participating as staff of the Centre or performing coordinated joint patrols or operations at the external border of Mauritania.

The main **task of the “Liaisons officers”** will be to promote regional collaboration by networking Inter-Agency authorities and providing advice and expertise of staff in charge of managing migration issues and raising the awareness of the authorities of the target countries on the respect for human rights of migrants.

Operators.-

It will be asked that all personnel performing the tasks in the NCC of Bamako (Mali) as operator, have professional experience, detailed knowledge of the organization and functioning of the body of their origin, as well as adequate expertise in information processing.

It is advisable that the staff has certain stability and avoids continuous changes in the personnel serving in the BMCC.

At the centre, the components of each service, are grouped by units (Gendarmerie, Customs, Police, etc.), under the command of a unit manager, appointed by their home institution.

The staff of each country (hereinafter Part), work in teams, taking into account the fundamental principle of reciprocal cooperation and coordination

A Team leader of each Part will be responsible for providing input and output communications and requests he/she receives.

Operators will address their team leader when receiving any communication from its police force, which is to be treated by the other Part or one of the liaison officers of another State. These operators receive from their team leader, communications from the other part and / or liaison officers, which should be treated by their police force.

Operators work in teams, taking into account the fundamental principle of reciprocal cooperation and coordination, and will be members of the institutions represented in the NCC. This team will be integrated with the agents of the other Part on a Common Operating Room of the Centre, which is responsible to realize the tasks and responsibilities entrusted to the NCC.

By the competent authorities will have to draw up a regulation where the roles of the operators are set. In these Rules the training actions to be imparted will be also specified.

All personnel will receive specific training on intelligence and risk analysis as described in activity 3.

Activity 5 . International Meetings. Police Conference Europe-Africa

The main objectives of this activity are:

1. - Facilitate cooperation improving the exchange of information between border and migration agencies of the countries participating in the project.
2. - To strengthen the border control in the internal borders of the concerned countries what can allow them to improve their capacity to effectively tackle the criminal organisations involved in the smuggling and trafficking of human beings and other forms of criminality.

Police Conference Europe-Africa

It will be developed an **International Police Conference Europe-Africa** with a view to fostering coordination, dialogue, sharing experience between partners responsible for migration management of the European and African countries concerned as well as to establish a process of regular dialogue with them. This Conference has especial relevance because of its multiplier effect, especially to make police forces aware of the importance of migrants' human rights

The planned Conference in the framework of Blue Sahel project **will be in line with the mandate of Rabat process and will be focused on concrete core areas of relevance for the project**, like fight against trafficking, smuggling and criminal networks, border surveillance, sharing of data, Intra-Agency and Interagency cooperation, and respect of human rights of migrants intercepted.

Expected result is to step up dialogue and collaboration between third countries and the European Union on migration question and contribute to create better information on the risks of irregular migration, by enhancing the border control capacity of national and local Authorities of the origin countries to address the phenomenon

This Conference is expected to be essential for the follow up of the project and as a multiplier effect, especially to make police forces aware of the importance of migrants' human rights. In this sense the Conference could be used as a particular forum to present results obtained through the project.

The Conference could be organized at the end of year 2017 or 2018.

The growing number of migrants and the complexity of the migratory configurations within and across the countries of ECOWAS and the Maghreb necessitate a more coherent, co-operative inter-state approach to migration management. The need is for clear objectives, opportunities for the exchange of experiences and best practices in respect of human trafficking, increasing irregular migration, migrants' rights, and brain drain. Greater cooperation and coordination among countries of ECOWAS and dialogue with Maghreb states and European Union countries is most urgent.

A survey about the added value of this type of Conference will be produced to show the benefits and favourable attitude about it among African Delegates.

2.2 METHODOLOGY

The applicant has already obtained **support from Mauritania and Mali Gendarmeries as co-applicants**, but also from the following **Associated Institutions**: Gendarmeries from Senegal and Guinea Conakry, National Guard from Guinea Bissau, Police and Coast Guard from Cape Verde, Immigration Service and Navy from Gambia.

This gives a broad **Regional dimension** to the project **including seven countries involved directly in the Rabat process**.

The project contains evident **synergies** with previous **West Sahel** and **West Sahel Mauritania project** developed from 2012 to April 2016 with the objective to manage the reinforcement of African countries cooperation and improvement of their capacities to fight against irregular migration, especially among Mauritania, Senegal, and Mali. In such a way Blue Sahel pretends to give sustainability to some of the actions performed, and what is more, pretend to become a real **Regional project** creating a network in Sahel countries and extending the action to all the West Sahel countries

The participation of Mauritania and Mali as co-applicant assure the **ownership** of the project.

Relevance

This project will address the objective constraints existing in the target countries related to the absence of an appropriate and sure platform to be used to share information on irregular migration and to the sort of reluctance of the target countries to exchange such information each other. In addition, the project will spur the target countries to improve their own capacity in coordinating the activities of the different national agencies and bodies playing a role in migration related matters.

The analysis carried out by Spain, as well as the tailored risk analysis and assessments performed by the relevant European agencies, like FRONTEX, clearly show the involvement of the target countries in the irregular migration dynamics which have been characterizing the region in the last years. The political and social crisis currently affecting Africa has produced direct and serious effects on the irregular migration flows originating from and/or transiting through this region.

It seems to be very realistic to predict that in the near future the irregular migration flows will increase rather than decrease, due to the worrying scenario not only in the Maghreb and Mashreq countries, but also in the Sub-Sahara area, characterized by a serious economic crisis, deepen by the scarcity of water and of other natural resources and by the progressive desertification, by tribal and religious tensions, by the extreme volatility of the political situation also in those countries that were traditionally considered as stable ones. Possible military intervention due to Migratory crisis in central Mediterranean could make change the flows dramatically in next future. So it is necessary to take preventive measures.

This initiative is built on the positive experience got by the applicant (Guardia Civil) in implementing the Seahorse projects funded by Europe-Aid, involving the African countries along the Atlantic coast, and West Sahel project involving other additional actors of the Trans-Sahara routes like Mali. Moreover, this project will take advantage by the cooperation relationships that the applicant, have already set up bilaterally with the target countries. **Blue Sahel project pretends to create synergies**, with actions, performed by other actors on the ground, mainly Projects led by DUE Mauritania and IOM to develop Border Management Cooperation Centre in Selibaby or in Mali.

In this last case Blue Sahel actions in the KAYES Region at Mali borders with Senegal, Mauritania and Guinea Conakry, it is totally complementary with action planned by DUE Mali and PSDC EUTM Mali and EUCAP SAHEL MALI in the region of Gourma-Liptako (Sévaré Gao-axis), and particularly the area of three borders Burkina Faso / Mali / Niger to allow the strengthening of the rule of law on this strategic border area.

Main gaps already identified in the area are: The need to continue developing the capacity building of the relevant authorities of the Western Africa countries in charge of border control and irregular migration management.

The need to contribute to the improvement of the bi-multilateral cooperation between the countries of Western Africa (origin and transit), with the view of affirming a coherent approach to migration based on the principle of a co-shared responsibility of the concerned countries (by developing joint patrols).

The need to developing the regional cooperation so that links between the Western Africa countries will be enhanced (by developing Border Management Cooperation Centers and Seahorse network). And the need to strengthening the national strategies of the third countries concerned, that are supposed to face the phenomenon of irregular migration, in particular smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings.

Method of implementation

The Action will be awarded in accordance with art 168.1.f of the Implementing rules to an authority dealing with border surveillance and migration management of one of the EU Member States. For instance, Spain's Guardia Civil, which has a considerable experience in coordinating this type of projects.

The project's implementation will naturally fully use the experience acquired in designing and implementing the above-mentioned network in the Atlantic region (the Seahorse project) -which represents the model and the main source of inspiration for the project giving also sustainability to the already finished West Sahel project. Spain's Guardia Civil, (a police force under the supervision of Spain's Ministry of Interior, which was responsible for the implementation of that project), is making available its experience for the preparation of this action and playing a proactive role in coordinating and mobilising support from West Sahel countries.

Besides thanks to the intense cooperation at local level since 10 years ago, Mauritanian and Mali Gendarmeries will be fully involved in the management of the project as co-applicants

In any case, a **Steering Committee (SC)**, composed by representatives from each of the ' agencies involved in the project, and the European Commission and in principle also the DUEs appointed, will decide on the main orientation and strategic choices necessary to adjust the project to changing circumstances. The SC will in principle meet once a year; also it will be taken advantage of the performing of the international Police Conference to use it as a platform where to meet also the Steering Committee

As mentioned Blue Sahel project stems directly from the successful action currently being developed in West African countries within the framework of the Seahorse and West Sahel Projects

The Seahorse Projects have enabled the creation of an important collaboration infrastructure between Spain, Mauritania and Senegal, and also another Sahel countries like Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde, which has culminated in the signing of different collaboration agreements, the performance of mixed or joint patrols, the exchange of liaison officers, the creation of a communications network (SHA) and even the entry of FRONTEX in these countries through the HERAS Operation, which is coordinated by the Agency and led by the Guardia Civil

Other countries, like Mali (Mali Gendarmerie) or Guinea Conakry have directly requested to Guardia Civil specific cooperation to fight against irregular immigration, and have addressed to us, the risk of increasing use of the dangerous routes that cross the West and Central Sahara desert.

In the case of **Mali** exists a specific request to be part of the Seahorse network.

The partnership (beneficiaries)

The main reason to involve in particular these African countries, as regards, Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Gambia and Cape Verde, is to prevent and combat irregular migration to Europe from/via Africa using the West cross-Sahara routes that drive irregular migrants to the Mediterranean and the Atlantic coasts, in order to reach later European soil.

Blue Sahel it is an integral project and combine different types of activities. If we wish to create mutual trust and true cooperation from our African partners in order to manage their direct participation in the struggle against criminality, especially human trafficking, then it is necessary to provide them with the tools to do that.

Not just right training, but also the materials to perform their tasks in a professional way according with European standards. Providing them with some equipment like vehicles, visors, prismatic, torches, etc, we can ask them to accomplish with the other side of the deal: Full respect of human rights and right treatment for migrants in general.

This mutual trust and financial and technical support, together with the right training it is what will drive them to cooperate in another activities like the launching of awareness campaigns over the danger and risk of irregular immigration or the increasing exchanging information.

Cooperation between Guardia Civil and some of the Institutions participating in this project (like co-applicants, Mauritania and Mali Gendarmerie) show us that. In fact formal and written compromise has been already managed.

Without local cooperation it is not possible not only to start the initiatives described in this project, even it is not possible to fight against irregular migration and of course to try to improve the human rights and life conditions of the victims of Human traffickers.

That is the main lesson learned from cooperation started more than 10 years ago by Guardia Civil in Africa. Only way to be success in this struggle, it is to perform actions directly in third countries, and support and involve their Security Forces in this affair.

So Guardia Civil will have in each country of the project, one or more associated Security or Police Forces wishful to participate in the project.

Main partners Co/applicants will be:

- Mauritanian Gendarmerie.
- Mali Gendarmerie

ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

- Senegal Gendarmerie,
- National Guard from Guinea Bissau
- Gendarmerie from Guinea Conakry
- Immigration Service from Gambia and Navy from Gambia
- National Police and Coast Guard from Cape Verde

The Authorities of each of the countries concerned co-applicants (Mali, Mauritania) and Associated (Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde have already signed a partnership declaration and designed their local interlocutors. All of them high ranks, what it is a proof of the real interest of these countries, in Blue Sahel project and activities.

The main **coordinator of the Project** is the Spanish Guardia Civil, a Police Force that depends on the Internal Affairs Ministry (Home Office). In particular in the field of Border management the Guardia Civil Force is in charge of the following tasks:

- Coasts and borders surveillance including fight against irregular migration
- Custody and security at Ports and airports
- Control and Surveillance on the territorial Sea
- Fiscal keeper of the State
- Fight against smuggling and other illicit traffics

All these competences are assumed by the Fiscal and Borders Command inside General Directorate of Guardia Civil, through the competent Services, as regards the Coast and Borders Service and Maritime Service. In this field it has to be noted that the Guardia Civil Force is leading in Europe, Frontex joint operations like Indalo or Hera.

Guardia Civil is responsible for Border Surveillance in Spain and leads the National Coordination Centre, including the **connection to EUROSUR** for these matters.

Organisational structure and team proposed for implementation of the action

Regarding the project, the **Blue Sahel Team** is composed by a Director, a Project Manager main expert and programme Coordinator, and a financial expert.

The staff belongs to the Fiscal and Border Command inside General Directorate of Guardia Civil, more concretely to "Management Section" that will be involved directly in the action at full time, taking care of all organization aspects, including, personnel, logistics, and financial issues.

This Office Programme, in collaboration with the zone office programme (liaison Officer in Mali and Mauritania plus Mauritania and Mali Gendarmeries representatives) will coordinate the activities implemented on the ground

For each specific activity, it will be nominated specialised personnel. Mauritanian and Mali Gendarmerie have already designed their local interlocutors..

The Fiscal and Border Command will be international contact point in order to coordinate and guarantee the successful implementation of all international activities foreseen

Technical support will also be provided at field level during interventions. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting mechanisms will be put in place for better monitor and ensure performance of the different activities.

Main means proposed for the implementation of the action (equipment, materials and supplies to be acquired or rented)

For the creation of the foreseen Cross-border Patrols together with the training to perform their mission, the Border Patrols to be created will be provided of a minimum of material for Border surveillance.

This material it is essential, as Land Border Surveillance Courses are not theoretical but practical courses.

In order to give full operational training to Border Patrols to be created and trained, all of them will be equipped with a minimum of material for border surveillance.

It has been established a module composed of the following equipment:

2 vehicles TT, night visors, tactic lanterns, prismatic, material for road controls.

Regarding maritime means the ones already used or provided by other donors will be repaired or maintained. Beside in some case as Guinea Bissau two vessels will be donated without any cost for the project.

On the other hand it is quite relevant that the awareness campaign was performed in Mauritania Mali and Senegal, now will be extended to Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Gambia.

Procurement and grant award procedures

All contracts implementing the action must be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents lay down and published by the Commission for the implementation of external operations, in force at the time of the launch of the procedure in question.

Participation in the award of contracts for the present action shall be open to all natural and legal persons covered by the Financial Regulation applicable to the General Budget.

The essential selection and award criteria for the award of grants are laid down in the Practical Guide to contract procedures for EU external actions. They are established in accordance with the principles set out in Title VI 'Grants' of the Financial Regulation applicable to the General Budget.

Performance monitoring of activities:

Liaison Officers in the countries where the action is performed will be tasked with specific missions of monitoring and continue evaluation of the project. Reports about effectiveness of present and former related actions will be issued, including a study of means deployed for border surveillance in the area of interest of this project in the concerned African countries

Besides performance monitoring will be ensured through reporting requirements, regular debriefings and the full involvement of the Steering Committee in the planning process.

The performance of the implementation of the Action will be measured notably on the basis of the following indicators:

- Number of meetings organized
- Quantity of communications made and quality of the information shared by the participants
- Number of interventions implemented by the authorities of the countries participating to the Blue Sahel project in land borders and sea borders
- Number of irregular migrants intercepted, of migrants in distress searched and rescued, of smugglers and traffickers arrested in the coastal regions and in the territorial waters of the countries participating to the network, as well as in the land borders among participating African States.

During the first 6 months of inception period of the project, the mentioned indicators will be updated following the baseline developed.

Progress reports

Liaison officers will be responsible for monitoring the project and for preparing the corresponding progress reports. All progress reports must be submitted within 30 days after the end of each six-month period, and the final report within 30 days following the final disbursement. These reports, to be submitted in a format previously agreed upon with different DUEs, will include the work plan and disbursement timetable for the following six months; and cover all project financing and activities undertaken to date, together with results measured in terms of the verification methods and indicators set out in the project's logical framework.

The Project implementer through its Liaison Officer in Mauritania and Mali will use these reports to monitor progress in project implementation and to prepare the project completion report within three months following the final disbursement.

Evaluation and audit

Each activity will be subject to internal evaluation. External evaluation it is expected and wished to be executed by EU. For this possible external evaluation, DUEs in Mauritania and Mali (as main locations of the action) will be consulted about the possibilities to perform it by experts selected by them.

The internal evaluations will be performed by a team specializing in IBM, selected by the implementer. The mid-term review will be carried out once 50% of the total funding has been committed, and will cover at least the following points: (i) institutional capacity of African security Forces; (ii) activities in connection with training courses; and (iii) review of the funds used. This report, to be delivered within two months after it has been commissioned, will evaluate whether the

African partners are implementing the project as agreed with the implementer; otherwise, it will specify the actions needed to ensure correct project execution.

The second evaluation will be performed when at least 90% of the project funding has been disbursed, and will analyze at least the following points: (i) the degree to which the project's specific objectives have been achieved; and (ii) the number of people trained and the training programs developed by the agency to ensure that all personnel with important roles in airport security have the necessary expertise. This report is to be presented to the Implementer within three months after the date on which it is commissioned.

Statistics provided by the Spanish Ministry of Interior will be essential in order to identify or not a real decreasing in the number of irregular migrants arriving to Europe from Western African routes.

In the case of Liaison officers, all of them will elaborate a threat assessment and risk assessment as well as real situation report over their area of responsibility, in order to evaluate the possible establishment in such areas of permanent Liaison Officers

In the case of the courses on irregular immigration at Ports and main BCPs, as well as Land border surveillance training, all the participants in the course will be evaluated by Spanish Instructors and collaborators previously trained at Spain following the system train the trainers.

It will be made a survey to all participants about different aspects related to the course (content, organization, usefulness, results, etc

Besides it is foreseen to realize a visit to the participant countries in order to evaluate in situ the progress of this activity, and the possibility to provide with some additional equipment to the concerned countries on bilateral bases

Regarding the international meetings, similar process will be made. In any case any suggestion from European Commission regarding the Agenda of such meetings will be welcome.

It is planned to send the European Commission the Agenda of the meetings. This Agenda can be modified regarding the priorities of the European Commission, related to the African countries involved.

In any case the organization will make an internal evaluation report on the global impact of the meetings in short term criteria, as well as the progress reached.

A final evaluation-audit will be catered for under the project budget. Additional external evaluations and audits might also be carried out by independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission in accordance with EC rules and procedures and in line with specifically established terms of reference.

Communication and visibility

Adequate communication and visibility of the Action will be carried out by the Implementing Partner via widespread dissemination of project achievements and results in line with the relevant articles of the standard contribution agreement and the EC Visibility Guidelines. Public events such as training activities, meetings, conferences and opening- and hand-over ceremonies will be carried out when and where applicable.

All the equipment donated will have visibility elements of the EU funding.

After ending the project, it will be written a comprehensive memory with description of all activities, and their results.

All the documents produced will show the logo of the European Commission and explicit reference to the funds given by DCI programme will be mentioned
Some visible elements (pen-drives, folders and metopas) with the logo of the project and explicit reference to EC funding will be delivered to participants during the activities (Training Course, conferences, and meetings)

1.2. Indicative action plan for implementing the action (max 4 pages)

The action plan will be drawn up using the following format:

Timeline

The operational duration of the Action is 36 months. The project is expected to start before ending 2016.

Year 1 2017													
Activity	Semester 1						Semester 2						Implementing body
	Month 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Preparation Activity (Land Border surveillance courses in Spain) Train the trainers													Applicant,
Execution Activity (Land Border surveillance courses in Spain). Train the trainers													Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Preparation Border Patrol training in Africa Tenders included													Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Execution Activity Border Patrol training in Africa													Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Preparation Activity (Migration courses)													Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Cape Verde
Execution Activity (Migration courses).													Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry Cape Verde
Preparation <i>Technical and feasibility studies for installation of NCP in Bamako</i>													Applicant, Mali.
Execution <i>installation of NCP in Bamako</i>													Applicant, Mali
Preparation Activity (Regional Meeting)													Applicant, 7 African concerned countries
Execution Activity (Regional Meeting)													Applicant, 7 African concerned countries

Preparation Activity (Fluvial/Maritime Border surveillance courses)														Applicant, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde
Execution Activity (Fluvial/Maritime Border surveillance courses)														Applicant, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde
Preparation Activity Awareness campaigns														Applicant, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Gambia
Execution Awareness campaigns														Applicant, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Gambia
Preparation Activity (Meeting Europe-Africa)														Applicant
Execution Activity (Meeting Europe-Africa)														Applicant, Delegations from Europe, Africa and International Organizations
Preparation Activity (liaison officers)														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Senegal, Gambia
Execution Activity (liaison officers deployment)														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Senegal, Gambia

Year 2 2018														
Activity	Semester 1						Semester 2						Implementing body	
	Month 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
Preparation Activity (Land Border surveillance courses in Spain)														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Execution Activity (Land Border surveillance courses in Spain).														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Preparation Border Patrol training in Africa Tenders included														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Execution Activity Border Patrol training in Africa														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Preparation Activity (Migration courses)														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Cape Verde
Execution Activity (Migration courses).														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Cape Verde
Preparation <i>Technical and feasibility studies for installation of NCP in Bamako</i>														Applicant, Mali.

Execution of installation of NCP in Bamako														Applicant, Mali
Preparation Activity Intelligence and risk analysis courses														Applicant, 7 African concerned countries
Execution Activity Intelligence and risk analysis courses														Applicant, 7 African concerned countries
Preparation Activity (Fluvial/Maritime Border surveillance courses)														Applicant, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde
Execution Activity (Fluvial/Maritime Border surveillance courses)														Applicant, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde
Preparation Activity Awareness campaigns														Applicant, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Gambia
Execution Awareness campaigns														Applicant, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Gambia
Preparation Activity (Meeting Europe-Africa)														Applicant
Execution Activity (Meeting Europe-Africa)														Applicant, Delegations from Europe, Africa and International Organizations
Preparation Activity (liaison officers)														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Senegal, Gambia
Execution Activity (liaison officers deployment)														Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Senegal, Gambia
Preparation Activity (Monitoring-Evaluation)														Applicant
Execution Activity (Monitoring-Evaluation)														Applicant. Co-applicants (Mauritania-Mali)

Year 3 2019													
Activity	Semester 1						Semester 2						Implementing body
	Month 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Preparation Activity Intelligence and risk analysis courses													Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Execution Activity Intelligence and risk analysis courses													Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Preparation Border Patrol training in Africa Tenders included													Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry

Execution Activity Border Patrol training in Africa																					Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry
Preparation Activity (Migration courses)																					Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry Cape Verde
Execution Activity (Migration courses).																					Applicant, Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Gambia Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry Cape Verde
Preparation <i>Technical and feasibility studies for installation of NCP in Bamako</i>																					Applicant, Mali.
Execution <i>installation of NCP in Bamako</i>																					Applicant, Mali
Preparation Activity (Regional Meeting)																					Applicant, 7 African concerned countries
Execution Activity (Regional Meeting)																					Applicant, 7 African concerned countries
Preparation Activity (Fluvial/Maritime Border surveillance courses)																					Applicant, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde
Execution Activity (Fluvial/Maritime Border surveillance courses)																					Applicant, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde
Preparation Activity (Meeting Europe- Africa)																					Applicant
Execution Activity (Meeting Europe- Africa)																					Applicant, Delegations from Europe, Africa and International Organizations
Preparation Activity (liaison officers																					Applicant, Mauritania, Mali Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Senegal, Gambia
Execution Activity (liaison officers deployment																					Applicant, Mauritania, Mali Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Senegal, Gambia
Preparation Activity (Monitoring- Evaluation)																					Applicant
Execution Activity (Monitoring- Evaluation)																					Applicant. Co-applicants (Mauritania-Mali)
Preparation Activity (Audit)																					Applicant
Execution Activity (Audit)																					Applicant Externat consultor

2.3 Sustainability of the action

•Expected impact

It is expected that the action will improve the situation of target groups

On this field these are the expected results:

- Third countries capacities of their administrations are improved including management and co-operation capacity between the Institutions with competence in the field of asylum and migration management at national and international level
- Improved training on fundamental rights and Ethic Police Codes of conduct.
- Awareness in third countries of the importance of migration, not only for the European Union, but also for boosting their own development
- Dialogue and collaboration between third countries and the European Union on migration question are stepped up
- Capacities for collating and processing data on migratory flows and the capacities of staff in charge of migration management are improved
- Expertise is developed
- The proposed financial and technical assistance is an incentive for follow up activities and starting of awareness campaigns on dangers and risks related to irregular migration
- Collaboration and information exchanges between the relevant administrations of the third countries and the Member States improve and expand

The technical and management capacities of target groups (Associated Institutions) will improve as follows:

- Personnel of Immigrations Services and Police Forces deployed in main BCPs and Ports from Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Gambia and Guinea Conakry will be fully trained according to E.U. Member States best practices.
- Improved procedures, fully operational, and strengthened capacity for implementing land border surveillance in Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Gambia.
- Improved procedures, fully operational, and strengthened capacity for implementing fluvial or maritime border surveillance in Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Guinea Conakry and Gambia.
- Capacities for collating and processing data on migratory flows and the capacities of staff in charge of migration management are improved in all countries concerned.

•Dissemination plan.

The results of the International meetings Europe-Africa, will be sent to the Commission as well as to all participant countries and International Institutions. In Last Euro-African Conference held in 2015 in the framework of West Sahel Mauritania project, 53 Delegations attended to the Conference. So the multiplier effect and dissemination of conclusions elaborated among all participants are clear.

Regarding the Training courses on land and maritime border surveillance, or irregular migration: The target group will be Officials appointed to Services responsible of combating irregular migration at Central level and/or appointed to Ports and BCPs suspicious to be used as departure points to Europe by criminal organisations for trafficking in human beings.

The methodology used, the system “train the trainers” it is a guarantee of the multiplier effect of the action. Similar concept will be applied to the Land border Surveillance courses,

Risks and assumptions

General Risks

- The unpredictability of the political and security situation in both, targeted countries and neighbouring countries may cause a delay in the implementation phases that should be addressed by planning the implementation in flexible time scales leaving out time enough for those activities more time consuming or more lobbying needed.

With regard to the risk that the project might face, a number of political risks, economic and security was taken into account, including possible changes in policy affecting the priorities of the Government of security and management boundaries or even a possible deterioration of the situation safe or economic region of the West Sahel. This proposal is designed to reduce the impact of such risks on the implementation of activities.

With regard to the political risks, Spain through Guardia Civil maintains a deployment of liaison officers and bilateral cooperation with the main actors in the West Sahel region.

What is more an agreement of collaboration has been already reached with Gendarmeries from Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Guinea Conakry and National Guard from Guinea Bissau, as well as with Coast Guards of the mentioned countries besides Gambia and Cape Verde, what will ensure to maintain close collaboration with services both at central level and at regional and local level both. This will allow Spain to adapt the project to situations encountered while achieving defined goals.

Regarding the security situation, Guardia Civil is an experienced actor strongly present in the region and will take all necessary measures to ensure the smooth running of the activities.

Cooperation with different African security Forces and bilateral agreements with them has been tested in the Seahorse and West Sahel projects. Guardia Civil counts with the advantage comparing with other Organizations also efficient, as Guardia Civil does not need to recruit external experts. During last ten years, Guardia Civil has accumulated a capital of experimented human resources with experience in African countries.

In regards to training, and other initiatives of reinforcement of capacities, the activities to be carried out will contribute to improved cooperation and the strengthening of mutual trust between agents from both sides.

- Activities to be jointly carried out by the different institutions involved may be impacted by emerging priorities/wishes of targeted countries which may cause a shift in the whole project implementation. A customised project implementation calendar set for every target country should be agreed upon with local authorities.
- The implementation can be affected by equipment supply delays. The fact that it is a long term project (3 years) gives enough flexibility to the project to react in case of need.

Assumptions

- The present proposal is to be complementary to other EU Member States activities and previous WEST SAHEL projects. It is assumed that all countries involved will contribute to the information-gathering and cooperation on which the project is based as well as relevant local interlocutors are identified and available.
- Targeted countries willingness to progress on operational cooperation on irregular migration.
- Close-cooperation is guaranteed and fully accepted by the African countries due to the previous projects, the Memorandums of Understanding (already signed or in process to be signed), the particular requests of Aid already addressed by some Institutions like Mali and Mauritania Gendarmerie, and the formal written support to the project given by High Authorities of the other

Associated countries to the Action: Gambia, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Cape Verde.

Financial sustainability:

The project budget has enough guaranties to be covered during the project circle life. Guardia Civil get the compromise to assume about 20% of total costs for the Action.

As State Police Force Guardia Civil budgets are covered with the guarantee of the Spanish State through the annual approval by the parliament of Spanish National Budgets.

According to bilateral agreements, Spanish presence in all participant African countries it is guaranteed for next years as Memorandums of understanding signed with local authorities put in place Spanish cooperation and technical and financial support to Police Forces of these States. (Including maintenance of means donated)

Besides regarding the equipment to be donated to African gendarmeries, a list of spares has been included in the budget in such a way that the maintenance of the equipment will be covered in next years. Technical assistance for maintenance will be provided by Spanish officers.

Institutional sustainability:

The participatory design of the project with participation of Africans co-applicants is opened to design the activities to be developed in Africa) and the previous 10 -years of trust, cooperation and capacity building exercise carried out by Guardia Civil through the SEAHORSE projects, will ensure the sustainability of the results.

The methodology used, guarantee the future existence of local ownership of action outcomes.

The action will also help enhance the dignity of human beings because they are the main victims of irregular immigration. And it will be inspired in the use of best practices.

The action will contributes to sustained eradication of problems, for example, the system “train the trainers” guarantee the future existence of local ownership of action outcomes
Authorities of concerned countries will be encouraged to hold the celebration as a formal forum the Sub-regional West Sahel meetings in future to advance in regional cooperation.
Also it is therefore imperative for each member state to establish an Advisory Board on Migration. They will be encouraged to do it.

Policy level sustainability,

The action will be inspired in the use of **best practices** for the following reasons:

The action will develop new and creative solutions to common problems; contributing to improve codes of conduct between the staff of the concerned countries, with fully awareness over human rights respect, as well as to aware population in general, about the risks of irregular immigration. The action will constitute a positive and tangible impact improving the operational procedures and capacity for implementation of border surveillance, as well as the capacities of staff in charge of migration management in the concerned countries. Special importance will have the development of land border joint patrols and Police cooperation centres what will create relevant synergies with other EU initiatives mentioned, and will have special **added value** as it is a best practice recommended even in the Schengen Catalogue.

The action will have a sustainable effect and will contribute to sustained eradication of problems, for example, the system “train the trainers” guarantee the future existence of local ownership of action outcomes. In performing the training activities mentioned in the project, **a gender dimension will be introduced**, by promoting the participation of law enforcement women from the target countries.

Moreover, the action - specially the training activities - will promote the exchange of experiences between officers from the target countries, contributing not only to develop friendship and fellowship between them, but even to enhance the mutual trust and cooperation between the countries concerned

Special attention will be given to the treatment of asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, unaccompanied minors, apprehended irregular migrants, and vulnerable migrants **including Police Codes of conduct focused on the respect for Human Rights.**

All the courses performed in the framework of the project (regarding border control and border surveillance) will include a specific training module on these topics. Regarding this issue training will be provided by qualified Spanish officers.

With this it will be managed an efficiency of the resources and it will be guaranteed that any border Guard trained through the project aware of the importance of migrants' human rights, and how it connects with operational matters

The action has a potential for replication as it can serve as an inspirational framework for generating and multiply these policies and initiatives both in the concerned African countries, and in another neighbouring African countries. Besides **reports about effectiveness** of present and former related actions will be issued, including a study of means deployed for border surveillance.

2.4 Logical Framework

Logical Framework attached to the Annex I – Description of the Action

2.5 Budget, amount requested from the Contracting Authority and other expected sources of funding

Annex III – The Budget

2.6 Experience

The below information will be used to assess whether you have sufficient and stable experience of managing actions in the same sector and of a comparable scale to the one for which a grant is being requested.

(i) Experience in similar actions in the past 3 years (Maximum 1 page per action)

Project title: SEAHORSE COOPERATION CENTRES MIGR/2006/120-179 (61)		Sector			
Location of the action	Cost of the action (EUR)	lead manager or partner	Donors to the action (name) ³	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy)
Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal, Cape Verde, Gambia and Guinea Bissau	2.502.557,68	GUARDIA CIVIL	EU Commission DCI Thematic Programme	2.000.000 €	01/01/2009-31/12/2010
<p>Object and results of the action:</p> <p><i>The general aim of the project is:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish in the third countries concerned an effective policy to prevent irregular migration including efforts to stop trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants. <p><i>The main activities of the project were:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of Seahorse Network (NCPs in Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Morocco) Creation of Cooperation Centres in Morocco, Senegal, Mauritania and Cape Verde Network of Liaison Officers Training Course on Ports and Coastal Surveillance Training courses for Maritime Service of Mauritania and Senegal. International Police Conference Europe-Africa <p><i>The expected results were:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve third countries capacities of their administrations including management and co-operation capacity between the Institutions with competence in the field of asylum and migration management at national and international level To step up dialogue and collaboration between third countries and the European Union on migration question. To improve capacities for collating and processing data on migratory flows and the capacities of staff in charge of migration management. To develop expertise. To expand and improve collaboration and information exchanges between the relevant administrations of the third countries and the Member States. To increase levels of interception of irregular migrants in the concerned African countries. 					

³ If the Donor is the EU Commission or an EU Member States, please specify the EC budget line, EDF or EU Member State.

Project title: WEST SAHEL MIGR/2006/120-179 (61)		Sector			
Location of the action	Cost of the action (EUR)	lead manager or partner	Donors to the action (name) ⁴	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy)
Mauritania, Senegal , Mali and Niger.	2.500.000	GUARDIA CIVIL	EU Commission DCI Thematic Programme	2.000.000 €	01/01/2009-31/12/2010
<p>Object and results of the action:</p> <p>Overall objective(s) Fight against irregular immigration and human trafficking, protect migrants' rights and facilitate their readmission</p> <p>Specific objective(s) Strengthen capacities to fight immigrant and human trafficking. Facilitate cooperation among the police forces of the countries participating in the project in criminal investigation and repatriation. Strengthen the protection of migrants' rights in transit countries, preventing the loss of human life. Foster the necessary legislative reforms to punish members of criminal networks trafficking with migrants. Provide information on the risks of irregular immigration, strengthening the capacities of local authorities</p> <p><i>The main activities of the project are:</i></p> <p>Theoretical-practical courses on Land Border surveillance. Training on immigration in general and migrants' human rights. Meetings about criminal networks trafficking with irregular migrants and seek forms of collaboration in the exchange of information and in joint investigation. Transmission of awareness raising campaigns in the media of involved African countries on the dangers of immigration. Organisation of an annual Euro-African Police Conference on Irregular Immigration</p> <p><i>The expected results are:</i></p> <p>Improvement of Land borders surveillance capacities, Make the population aware of the risks of irregular immigration and dispel any false expectations they may have of destination countries, contributing to save lives. To foster collaboration among concerned African countries in the fight against irregular immigration Make police forces aware of the importance of migrants' human rights</p>					

⁴ If the Donor is the EU Commission or an EU Member States, please specify the EC budget line, EDF or EU Member State.

Project title: WEST SAHEL MAURITANIA MIGR/2006/120-179 (61)		Sector			
Location of the action	Cost of the action (EUR)	lead manager or partner	Donors to the action (name) ⁵	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy)
Mauritania, Senegal and Mali	620.000	GUARDIA CIVIL. Leader Partners: Mauritania, Mali and Senegal Gendarmeries	EU Commission DCI Thematic Programme	500.000 €	01/01/2014-30/04/2016
<p>Object and results of the action:</p> <p>Overall objective(s) Fight against irregular immigration and protect migrants' rights.</p> <p>Specific objective(s) Strengthen the capacity of Mauritania to fight against the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings. Facilitate cooperation between border control and migration agencies of Mauritania Senegal and Mali. Strengthen the protection of migrants' rights in borders between Mauritania, Senegal and Mali.</p> <p><i>The main activities of the project were:</i> Land border and fluvial surveillance courses to facilitate mixed and joint patrols (inter-agency and international) as well as mixed and joint operations. Enhance exchange of operational information. Training on immigration in general and migrants' human rights. Creation of Border Management Cooperation Centre in Selibaby. Organisation of a Euro-African Police Conference on Irregular Immigration.</p> <p><i>The expected results were:</i> Improvement of Land borders and fluvial surveillance capacities in Mauritania (Rosso) and Senegal (Sant Louis) Establishment of Border Management Cooperation centre in Selibaby and performing multi-agency patrols, in cooperation and coordination between services from all three countries. Still pending. As the Centre was not built by IOM in time. Make law enforcement officers aware of the importance of migrants' human rights, and to foster collaboration among concerned African countries in the fight against irregular immigration</p>					

⁵ If the Donor is the EU Commission or an EU Member States, please specify the EC budget line, EDF or EU Member State.

Project title: SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEAN Network. MIGR/2006/120-179 (61)		Sector			
Location of the action	Cost of the action (EUR)	lead manager or partner	Donors to the action (name) ⁶	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy)
ALGERIA, TUNISIA, LIBYA, EGYPT Southern Mediterranean (Northern Africa)	4.500.000	GUARDIA CIVIL	EU Commission DCI Thematic Programme	4.500.000 €	01/09/2013-31/08/2016
<p>Object and results of the action:</p> <p>Overall objective: To increase the capacity of the authorities of the North African countries to tackle irregular migration and illicit trafficking by strengthening their border surveillance systems.</p> <p>Specific objectives of the project</p> <p>a) to enhance the situational awareness of the authorities of Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt on the irregular migration flows and illicit trafficking originating in, transiting through or destined to their territories and in particular those taking place in their coastal regions and territorial waters, and;</p> <p>b) to reinforce their reaction capacity, both at national level and in cooperation with the other countries of the Mediterranean region, to preventing and tackling these phenomena including as regards the capacity to respond to emergencies requiring the search and rescue of stranded migrants or asylum seekers, with a focus on those embarking on dangerous journeys at sea.</p> <p><i>The main activities of the project were:</i></p> <p>1 - Establishing the Seahorse Mediterranean Network by setting up a secure network in the Mediterranean to exchange information on irregular migration by sea. This network will be based on National Contact Points (NCP) in concerned African countries that will be equipped through communication tools allowing their connection by satellite to the EUROSUR network through selected MS NCC (Member States – National Coordination Centers) in order to achieve a rapid and secure exchange of information</p> <p>2 - Training of officers of the border and migration authorities of the North African countries involved in various issues, including Maritime Training (Rescue and Sea operations), Coast and land borders Surveillance training, Police Codes of conduct, Respect of Migrants Human rights etc.</p> <p>3. Identifying and Implementing Additional Activities to Strengthen National Capacities to Collect Information to feed the SMH Network and Give Adequate Follow-up to Information Received through the SMH Network</p> <p><i>The results were:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional cooperation among the border and migration authorities of the North African countries and between them and the Mediterranean Member States of the EU is developed, in particular through the establishment and the running of the Seahorse Mediterranean Network. - The border and migration authorities of North African countries have enhanced their capacity to receive and share information in a timely and secure manner on irregular migration flows and illicit trafficking, in particular through their active participation in the Seahorse Mediterranean Network - The border and migration authorities of North African countries have increased their capacity to collect information relevant for the prevention of irregular migration and illicit trafficking or of emergencies at sea, as well as to react in an effective manner to these situations. 					

⁶ If the Donor is the EU Commission or an EU Member States, please specify the EC budget line, EDF or EU Member State.

(ii) Experience in other actions in the past 3 years (Max. 1 page per action and max. 10 actions)

Name of the organisation:					
Lead applicant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Co-applicant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Affiliated entity <input type="checkbox"/>					
Project title:			Sector (ref. list of sectors in Sectorial experience in PADOR):		
Location	Cost of the action (EUR)	Role: Coordinator, co-beneficiary, affiliated entity	Donors to the action (name) ⁷	Amount contributed (by donor)	Dates (from..to) dd/mm/yyyy
...
Objectives and results of the action					

⁷ If the donor is the European Union or an EU Member State, please specify the EU budget line, EDF or EU Member State

