

**Action Document for EU Trust Fund to be used for the decisions of the Operational Board**

**1. IDENTIFICATION**

Title/Number	External Monitoring and Evaluation for the EUTF in Response to the Syrian and Iraq Crisis, the Madad fund		
Total cost	Total estimated cost: <b>EUR 1,850,000</b> Total amount drawn from the Trust Fund : <b>EUR 1,850,000</b>		
Aid method / Method of implementation	Procurement of services		
DAC-code	430	Sector	Other multisector

**2. RATIONALE AND CONTEXT**

The **overall objective of the Trust Fund** is to provide a coherent and reinforced aid response to the crises in Syria and Iraq and the threat posed by Da'esh on a multi-country scale, responding primarily in the first instance to the needs of refugees in their host and transit countries, internally displaced persons (IDPs), as well as of the communities hosting the refugees and IDPs and their administrations as regards resilience and early recovery.

The purpose of this action is to assess, across various levels, the degree to which the Overall Objective of the Trust Fund has been achieved. The action complements monitoring and evaluation activities at individual programme level as well as the internal Monitoring of programs conducted by EUTF local officers.

**2.1. Summary of the action and its objectives**

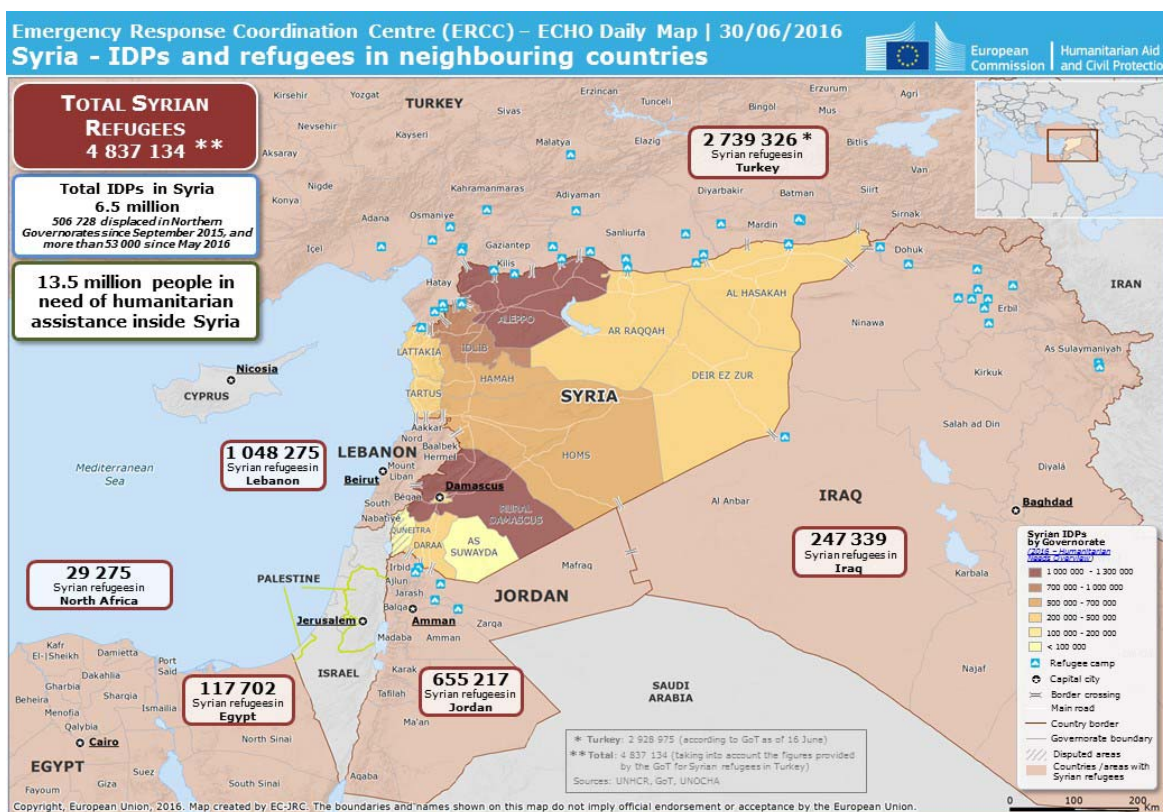
The **Overall Objective** of this action is to ensure an improved outcome monitoring for MADAD financed programmes by the developing of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation tool for MADAD financed programmes.

The **Specific Objectives** are:

- **RESULTS-ORIENTED MONITORING (ROM) and AD HOC MONITORING:** To monitor the implementation of and develop recommendation for Madad-financed programs and provide evidence based knowledge on the results and outcome, as well as the follow up on the monitoring of output indicators at programme level.
- **DATA COLLECTION:** To assess effectiveness of the EUTF at thematic and country level, through regular data collection and sector analysis.
- **IMPACT ASSESSMENT (evaluation):** Assess the progress, efficiency and effectiveness of ongoing programs and/or thematic priorities.

## 2.2. Context

The Syrian conflict has since its emergence in March 2011 had a devastating and lasting impact on Syria, the neighbouring countries and across the region. There are more than 13.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in the country and around 4.8 million people have left to the neighbouring country (1 m to Lebanon, 2.7 m to Turkey, 0.6 m to Jordan and ¼ m to Iraq<sup>1</sup>).



In response to the crises and under UN leadership the neighbouring countries concerned have established individual humanitarian and Resilience Response plans under the overarching framework of the 3RP.

The conflict is one of the longest in contemporary history. It had direct implications on the security and migration policies of the European Union in September 2015 at the latest where hundreds of thousands of people (predominantly Syrian) made their way via the sea from Turkey to Greece and then via the western Balkans to central and northern European Union Member States.

The event of 2015 in general and fall 2015 in particular were an important prove of the fact that the Syrian neighbouring countries cannot cope with this massive refugee crisis as well as the Syrian refugees themselves opted for a live threatening journey to European shores and against remaining in their current situation. Moreover, it also demonstrates that targeted population are losing hopes to return to Syria in the short or medium term.

<sup>1</sup> See ECHO fact sheet March 2016 [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/factsheets/syria\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/factsheets/syria_en.pdf)

This situation has led to the EU to mobilise significant additional financial means to alleviate the plight of Syrian refugees. One of the vehicles to translate this decision is the EU Trust Fund in response to the Syrian Crises, the "MADAD" fund targeting the neighbouring countries where Syrian refugees, Internal Displaced Persons and vulnerable host communities find themselves. Furthermore, experience shows that a return of refugees is often a long process even after a crisis ends, long-term sustainable solutions are needed where also the MADAD is considered to play a role.

### **2.3. Lessons learnt**

- In line with the recommendation of the report of the Court of Auditors on the EU external migration spending in Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Neighbourhood countries until 2014, the identification of clear and measurable objectives and concrete deliverables is of paramount importance in the co-operation frameworks in the Neighbourhood
- A dedicated monitoring and evaluation tool for the EUTF can help better programmatic targeting and allows for quick response to emerging challenges.
- Experiences have shown the need for a clear and concise assignment for monitoring and evaluation to reach a common understanding of expectations
- The monitoring and evaluation tool will build forward on lessons learnt from the Monitoring and Evaluation tool developed by the Facility for Refugees in Turkey and the two upcoming ROM reviews.

### **2.4. Complementary actions**

The proposed action is expected to be harmonised and aligned with the DG NEAR guideline on Monitoring and Evaluation, and with the Monitoring and Evaluation system and results framework being developed under the Facility for Refugee in Turkey as well as with the results framework developed under the North of Africa window of the EUTF addressing root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement in Africa..

The proposed action shall also compliment the monitoring on project level by the implementing partner and the internal monitoring of the EU Delegation reinforced by EUTF staff.

Moreover, the other partners such as the United Nations, World Bank and/or other donors have put in place monitoring and evaluation arrangements for individual project or situational analysis on national and regional level.

Finally, national systems of collection of data complement the M&E framework the EUTF is operating in.

## 2.5. Donor co-ordination

The EU Commission also hosts regular meetings of the Core donors group on Syria, including key institutional and bilateral donors to the Syrian crisis on resilience and recovery funding. The EU is actively involved in the coordination of the response to the Syria crisis, under the auspices of the United Nations.

At country level, the respective EU Delegations are leading coordination efforts with EU Member States, national authorities and others organisations, in particular under the framework of the coordination platforms issued from the various National Response Plans to the refugee crisis.

## 3. DETAILED DESCRIPTION

### 3.1. Objectives

The **Overall Objective** of this action is to ensure improved outcome monitoring for Madad financed programmes by the developing of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation tool for Madad financed programmes.

The **Specific Objectives** are:

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### 3.2. Expected results and main activities

The **expected results** are:

- a tailored-made results-based monitoring mechanism for Madad financed programs in place
- a disaggregated database for Madad to track progress on immediate outcomes
- An ongoing impact-assessment framework is in place

The **main activities** are:

- ✓ Aggregation of indicators and set up of an outcome monitoring mechanism, in line with the overarching Madad logframe and building forward on the Internal Monitoring Mechanism already undertaken by EUTF staff

- ✓ Periodical field monitoring missions are organised for Madad programmes. Key findings and recommendations feed reporting to stakeholders, including the progress reports
- ✓ Data collection of Madad financed programmes; statistical and data analysis are conducted and feed the database
- ✓ A number of specific impact assessments (evaluation) are conducted at programme, sector and/or country level

### **3.3. Risks and assumptions**

The main risks are:

- Lack of access to reliable statistical data and information,
- Security to access all project sites
- Monitoring indicators are not adequately developed at the design stage

The main assumptions are:

- Effective coordination and collaboration with all stakeholders,
- Partners are providing relevant data and support in the collecting of information in time

Mitigating measures have been considered, including:

- Collaborative approach for external M&E; all actors shall be included at different stages of this assignment. Effective coordination with Headquarters for the follow up and reporting will be ensured.

### **3.4. Cross-cutting issues**

The proposed outcome monitoring tool will ensure that indicators will be designed respecting the principles on human rights, gender equality, good governance and environment. The database will capture this differentiation.

### **3.5. Stakeholders**

- EUTF management;
- EU Delegation (Madad liaison officers);
- Trust Fund donors;
- Implementing partners;
- national and local authorities;
- direct and indirect beneficiaries of Madad financed programs.

#### **4. IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES**

##### **4.1. Financing agreement, if relevant**

In order to implement this action, it is not foreseen to conclude a financing agreement with the partner country, referred to in Article 184(2)(b) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

##### **4.2. Indicative operational implementation period**

The indicative operational implementation period of this action is 36 months from adoption of this Action Document by the Operational Board. The latest date for implementation is 14 December 2019, the end of the legal duration of the Madad EUTF.

Extension of the implementation period may be agreed by the EUTF Manager, which will be communicated to the Operational Board.

##### **4.3. Implementation components and modules**

In order to achieve the objectives mentioned, procurement for services will be launched through an international restricted procedure, in order to select the best consortium able to fulfil the expected results.

##### **4.4. Indicative budget**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Amount in EUR thousands</b>
Procurement for services	<b>1,850,000</b>

##### **4.5 Performance monitoring**

Monitoring will be ensured by the Contracting Authority of the contract for services that will issue the procurement for services. Madad EUTF Management, in headquarters as well as in EU Delegations, in particular through the Madad Trust Fund field & liaison officers, will ensure a regular monitoring of the activities implemented, under the basis of the contract signed, including the methodology and results to be achieved agreed.

The Trust Fund and actions financed by it are subject to the monitoring and evaluation rules applicable to EU external programmes, in order to ensure the respect of the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness, as per Article 13 of the Agreement Establishing the Madad Trust Fund.

##### **4.6 Evaluation and audit**

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audits or expenditure verification assignments for one or several contracts.

#### **4.7 Communication and visibility**

The proposed action will directly be used as provider of data for visibility and communication activities of Madad EUTF interventions, through the collaboration with EUTF management as well as the relevant organisations that the Trust Fund might contract for visibility purposes.

Nevertheless, the action itself will not be subject to communication and visibility measures, except for the purpose of justifying the correct monitoring and evaluation framework put in place for the Madad EUTF.