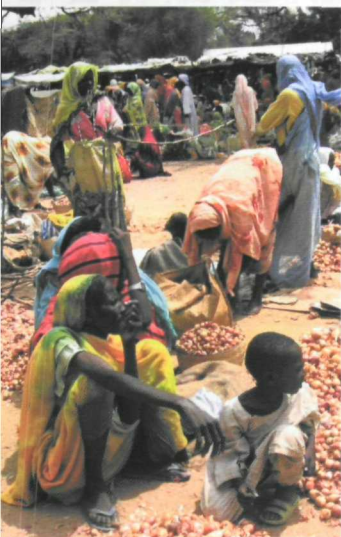


The African Peace Facility

The peoples of Africa, and particularly its poorest communities, have suffered from armed conflict more than most in the past century. Although it is not by any means the only problem Africa faces, violent conflict has caused untold suffering and has set back the development of the continent by decades.

In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the interlinkages **between development and security**: there can be no sustainable development without stability and security and without development there can be no sustained peace. This is true in Africa as well as the rest of the world. These interlinkages are also explicitly recognised in the new **EU Strategy for Africa**, adopted by the heads of state of the EU's Member States in December 2005. One central goal of this new strategy is to step up the EU's efforts at all stages of the conflict cycle and to support the emerging new structures, collectively known as the 'African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA)', with the African Union (AU) and its Peace and Security Council at the centre. These new realities have significantly changed the context for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in Africa. It also confirms, once again, the growing political will in Africa to find African solution to African conflicts and the EU's determination to support these efforts.



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The African Peace Facility: a unique instrument

In 2004, in response to a request from the AU Summit in Maputo (2003), the EU established a €250 million development instrument in support of African peace support operations (PSO) and capacity building in the area of peace and security, the **African Peace Facility (APF)**.

Funded from the resources of the 9th European Development Fund (EDF), €200 million were earmarked for Peace Support Operations (PSOs), €35 million for capacity building purposes and the remaining €15 million for audits, evaluations and contingencies. This instrument is managed according to the core principles of African

ownership, EU/AU partnership and solidarity between AU Member States. The funds from the APF can be used to finance some of the costs incurred by African peace-keeping forces, such as cost of carrying troops, soldiers' living expenses, development of capabilities, etc. Under no circumstances can the money be used to cover direct military and arms expenditure.

A **Mid-Term evaluation** of the APF, carried out by independent consultants end 2005, confirmed that the **instrument had proved to be very relevant and generally effective**, and that the core APF principles of African ownership, **African-European partnership and African solidarity** had contributed to its success.

Africa

Restoring security in the Central African Republic

The Central African Republic (CAR) has experienced major security problems since 1996, with a succession of political-military disturbances involving regular clashes between rebel and loyalist groups. This has also resulted in a general breakdown in law and order with many bandits and 'coupeurs de routes' operating in rural areas, particularly in the north and east of the country.

In 2002 the leaders of neighbouring countries agreed, under the leadership of Gabon and with the agreement of the Government of CAR, to establish FOMUC, the *Force multinationale* of the CEMAC (*Communauté économique et monétaire de l'Afrique centrale*), as a Peace Support Operation. UN Security Council approval for the Force was given on 18 October and the French Government subsequently agreed to provide financial and military backing. At this stage, after a request from CEMAC and the AU, the European Commission also decided to provide funding for the efforts of the FOMUC operation to restore peace and stability in this volatile region.

The force started off with around 200 men and was subsequently increased to 380. Its objectives are to contribute to the security of the CAR, contribute to the restructuring of the *Forces armées centrafricaines* (FACA) and accompany the process of transition for national reconciliation, the rapid return to constitutional order and the restoration of a lasting peace. The force was essential to ensuring an adequate measure of security for a constitutional referendum on 28 November 2004 and legislative and presidential elections in early 2005.

Helping the African Union take action in Darfur

The Peace Facility has rapidly become the financial foundation of Africa's emerging peace and security architecture, underpinning the leadership of the AU and the sub-regional organisations. It has so far been used to fund the efforts of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS), the *Force Multinationale en Centrafrique* (FOMUC) of the *Communauté économique et monétaire de l'Afrique centrale* (CEMAC) in the **Central African Republic** as well as to fund a smaller short-term AU-led mission in the Comoros and to provide **capacity building support** for the AU.

The bulk of the funds earmarked under APF for peace support operations (PSO) have been used to support the African Mission in Sudan (AMIS), the AU's peace support operation in the Darfur region of Sudan. By the end of June 2006, a total amount of €192 million had been committed for this operation under four subsequent contribution agreements, with further support being considered. It is clear that the support the EU has provided for the AMIS operation not only

contributed to the improvement of the overall security situation in the Darfur region of Sudan, but has also served to strengthen the **African Union's leadership role** on the continent. In practical terms the EU support has been essential to the conduct of the operation, providing the funding for most of the operation's running costs. The AMIS operation reflects well the risks at hand, but also **the difference African states and organisations can make** when acting collectively. Where AMIS has been deployed, it has significantly contributed to decreasing violence and increasing security. The Commission has earmarked additional funds in order to further **support the AMIS operation**, together with other international partners, **during the transition to a UN-led operation**.

In addition to the AMIS operation in Darfur, the APF has been used to fund the deployment of FOMUC in the Central African Republic: €11.38 million have already been used for this purpose and the Commission is currently preparing a third support package, which would take the total APF funding for this operation to nearly €20 million.



Helping the AU establish peace in Darfur

The escalation of violence in Darfur began in February 2003. Between 150,000 and 200,000 people are estimated to have died during the last three years as a consequence of the conflict and an estimated 2 million people have fled from their homes. The international situation, the views of Sudan's neighbours and the Government of Sudan meant that the African Union (AU) was the only actor which could take action. The first AU actions were to initiate peace talks, to expand the negotiations to the second largest rebel group, and to invite EU/US observers. A Ceasefire Commission with representatives of all parties and EU/US observers was established to monitor compliance with ceasefire agreement. A small group of 30 military observers and 300 protection troops, AMIS I (African Union Mission in Sudan), were deployed as of June 2004.

Wide-spread violence continued however and by October 2004 the AU Peace and Security Council approved an expanded mission (AMIS II), a 3,320 strong police and military force, which was endorsed by the UN Security Council. The mandate was to observe, monitor and report violations of the ceasefire agreement. In April 2005, the AU Peace and Security Council decided to enhance AMIS to 7,731 persons. Following several months of negotiations, in early May 2006 the government and the main Darfur rebel faction signed a peace agreement in Abuja / Nigeria. By the end of June 2006 an amount of €192 million has been committed under the APF to AMIS. The support the EU has provided for the AMIS operations has not only contributed to the improvement of the overall security situation in the Darfur region of Sudan, but has also served to strengthen the African Union's leadership role on the continent.

Building African capacity for the future

Out of a total of €35 million under the Peace Facility set aside for capacity building purposes, an initial amount of €6 million has been committed for the enhancement of AU capabilities in the area of Peace and Security. An evaluation of the further needs of the AU and the sub-regional organisations (foreseen for 2006) will allow for moving forward with a second, more comprehensive capacity building programme. Expenditures could include supporting the AU in the development of a comprehensive peace and security policy, as well as support to enhancing AU and sub-regional capacities for the preparation of peacekeeping operations and

for financial and administrative management of peacekeeping operations. Funding is also planned for **workshops** aiming at the establishment of the **African Standby Force (ASF)** where the EU is a lead partner for "Doctrine" and "Standard Operating Procedures".

Future funding

In December 2005, the European Council adopted the EU Strategy for Africa and decided to strengthen the APF with substantial, long-term, flexible and sustainable funding. **In April 2006, the EU agreed to provide €300 million** for an initial three-year period (2008-2010) **for the future APF**.

Key events in the history establishment & implementation of the APF

DATE	ACTIVITY
July 2003	Request from the African Union (AU) Maputo Summit to the European Union to establish a Peace Facility for Africa from the European Development Fund
December 2003	EU adopts a Security Strategy entitled: <i>A Secure Europe in Better World</i>
December 2003	Decision No 3/2003 of the ACP-EC Council of Ministers on the use of resources from the long-term development envelope of the 9 th EDF for the creation of a Peace Facility for Africa
March 2004	EU member states' approval of a European Commission's proposal for an €250 million Peace Facility and adopts a Financing Proposal for the Africa Peace Facility (APF)
April 2004	EC makes a financing decision of an amount of €250 million to support peacekeeping operations in Africa
July 2004	EC signs the first agreement with the AU for €12 million as a contribution for the deployment and operation of a ceasefire monitoring commission in Darfur
September 2004	EC signs the first agreement with the AU for an amount of €6 million in support of capacity building of in the area of Peace and Security
December 2004	EC signs the first contribution agreement with CEMAC (<i>Communauté économique et monétaire de l'Afrique centrale</i>) for the amount of €3.3 million, to support the multinational peace operation for the restoration of stability in the Central African Republic
October 2005	The European Commission adopts its Communication "EU Strategy for Africa: towards a Euro-African pact to Accelerate Africa's development", COM (2005) 489 where it proposes to strengthen and replenish the African Peace Facility
December 2005	Mid-term Evaluation of the African Peace Facility
December 2005	The European Council adopts the EU Strategy for Africa and decides to strengthen the APF with substantial, long-term, flexible and sustainable funding
April 2006	EU Council decision to provide for the future APF an amount of €300 million under the 10th EDF for an initial three-year period (2008-2010). A comprehensive evaluation of the Facility will take place during the third year

... WHERE CAN I READ MORE?

All documents that explain the EU Strategy for Africa in greater detail (as well as the full text of the Strategy itself) can be consulted at the following website: www.europe-cares.org/africa

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