

## COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

# EU Training Mission in Mali (EUTM Mali)

Updated: July 16

### **Mission Background**

The restoration of a lasting peace in Mali is essential for long term stability in the Sahel region and in a broader sense for Africa and Europe. At the request of the Malian Government and on the basis of UN resolutions, in particular the UN Security Council Resolution 2085, the Member States of the European Union agreed to establish a mission to train the Malian Armed Forces (MaAF), in the framework of the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). The First Mandate for the EUTM Mali was established in February 2013. In May 2014 the second Mandate was decided which lasted until May 2016.

### **Current Mandate Objectives**

In order to continue providing military training and advice to the Malian Armed Forces the Council of the European Union approved in March 2016 EUTM Mali's third Mandate, which will last until May 2018. EUTM Mali will train, educate and advise the MaAF under the control of legitimate civilian authorities, in order to contribute to the restoration of their military capacity. This will better enable them to contribute to maintaining a safe and secure environment within their national borders and, working with G5 Sahel partners across the region, to reduce the threat posed by terrorist groups.

The strategic direction for Mandate Three places greater emphasis on leader education, and the provision of operational advice to the headquarters staff of the military regions. Consequently, the mission area was extended northwards towards the river Niger loop and now includes the municipalities of Gao and Timbuktu.

### **Training Concept**

In order to facilitate a transition to autonomous MaAF training in the future, EUTM Mali will concentrate on a gradual "Train the Trainer" and "Monitor the Trainer" approach focusing on Malian Armed Forces leaders mainly in the military region headquarters garrisons, Malian military schools or at the EUTM Training Centre in Koulikoro.

### **Education concept**

In order to enhance leadership skills in the MaAF, leadership education and training, especially for the junior and middle leadership, is crucial. The Mission aims to develop the military education system by integrating EUTM Mali instructors into the officer and non-commissioned officer schools, in order to improve the authority, legitimacy, actions and behaviour of each MaAF leader. The main focus lies on legal and leadership skills education as well as on tactical and strategical education, training planning process, basic military principles and International Humanitarian Law.

### **Advisory Concept**

EUTM Mali provides advice at both strategic and regional level, to the Ministry of Defence, MaAF authorities and to military headquarters in the military region garrisons in support of the implementation of the structural reforms encompassed in the Defence Programming Law.

## **FACT AND FIGURES**



**Theater :** Mali

**Headquarters:** Bamako

**Head of mission:** Brigadier General Eric Harvent (Belgium)

**Mission strength:** 506

**Mission budget:** The common costs are € 33.4 millions

**Contributing states:** 27 (23 EU members + 4 non EU members)

### **Political control and strategic direction**

Under the responsibility of the Council and of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) exercises the political control and strategic direction of the European Union military mission. The PSC, at regular intervals, receives opinions and reports from the chairman of the EU Military Committee (EUMC) regarding the conduct of the military mission, and reports to the Council.

### **Military direction**

The EUMC monitors the proper execution of the EU military mission conducted under the responsibility of the Mission Commander. The Chairman of the Military Committee is the primary contact point for the Commander of the EU Mission.

### **The EU's comprehensive approach**

The EU is implementing a comprehensive approach to the crisis in the Sahel region. In March 2011, the Council welcomed the presentation of an EU Strategy for Security and Development in the region. That strategy is notably based on the fact that development and security are closely linked and can be mutually reinforcing, but also on the fact that the solution to the complex crisis afflicting the Sahel demands a regional response.

The EU has allocated over € 1.569 billion to Mali, Mauritania and Niger under the 10th European Development Fund (2007-2013). In its strategy for the Sahel, the EU has not just mobilized additional financial resources for projects relating to development and security, with a budget of € 167 million, in July 2012 it also launched a civilian mission under the CSDP, named "EUCAP Sahel Niger", to contribute to combating crime and terrorism in Niger and the region. Liaison officers for that mission are currently deployed in Nouakchott (Mauritania) and Bamako (Mali).

The EU is the largest contributor to Mali's development. At the donors' conference in Brussels on 15 May 2013 for Mali, the international community made commitments worth € 3.2 billion (including € 523 million from the European Commission).

The EU is determined to maintain its commitment to Mali, to help the Malian authorities consolidate peace and security and more generally to find lasting solutions to the crisis in the Sahel region, in close coordination with other regional and international stakeholders.