



EU-SOMALIA RELATIONS



POLITICAL RELATIONS

The EU together with Somali authorities and international key partners is engaged in Somalia through an integrated approach based on active diplomacy, support for political change, improving security, development assistance and humanitarian aid.

For the period 2015-2020, the EU and EU Member States cooperation including development aid, humanitarian aid and peacekeeping operations amounts to more than €3.5 billion.

In line with the [New Deal principles for fragile states](#) and the [Somali Compact](#) (2013-2016) endorsed at the 2013 EU-Somalia summit in Brussels and guiding the relationship between Somalia and the international community, Somalia undertook several reform efforts.



With the end of the Somali Compact and with the newly elected President Farmajo and a new Somali government in place, the London Somalia Conference in May 2017, set the new framework for relations between Somalia and the international community. The meeting agreed on the Security Pact – based on the Somali agreed National Security Architecture and setting out the vision of Somali-led security institutions and forces and international support, and (2) endorsed the New Partnership for Somalia, in support of the National Development Plan - the first in 30 years. Both documents set out the terms of international support based on the principle of mutual accountability.

EU support and funding for these and other development goals are guided by the [National Indicative Programme for Somalia \(2014-2020\)](#).

PEACE AND SECURITY



The EU plays a significant role in supporting Somalia's efforts to become a peaceful, stable and democratic country, through contributing to capacity building within the Somali Security Sector while deterring/repressing acts of piracy through continuous at sea presence and contributing to prevent other international crimes through information exchange with partners.

The Operation ATALANTA ([Operation ATALANTA](#)) has made a significant contribution to the reduction in piracy: In 2011, 174 merchant vessels were attacked and 25 ships pirated with 736 seafarers held hostage. In 2013, 7 ships were attacked, none pirated. In 2014 two ships were attacked. There were no attacks in 2015 and one in 2016. In March 2017 a ship was pirated and held for 4 days.




The EU has three security and defence missions:

- The Military Training Mission ([EUTM](#)), which directly supports the build-up of the Somali National Army through training, advising and mentoring activities
- Operation ATALANTA ([Operation ATALANTA](#)), which fights piracy, and
- EUCAP Somalia, which aims to improve Somalia's maritime security capacities.

The EU is one of the main financial contributors to the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) having committed more than €1.3 billion between March 2007 and March 2017.

Through the [National Indicative Programme](#) the EU is also providing €100 million for state and peace-building initiatives between 2014 and 2020.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



The EU is one of Somalia's key development partners. Between 2014 and 2020, the EU's [National Indicative Programme](#) for Somalia provided an initial €286 million to help the country achieve its development goals. The programme has been drawn up to reflect the priorities of the Somali Compact. These have been allocated as follows: state-building and peace-building (€100 million); food security and building resilience (€86 million); education –(€60 million); measure in favour of civil society –(€14 million); and support measures –(€26 million).

This was supplemented with a further €200 million from the European Development Fund's Reserve, which is being implemented through the EU Trust Fund. These new resources, supplemented by EU Trust Fund money, are providing the following additional support:

- 
- A €100 million Somalia State and Resilience Building Contract, which will increase the legitimacy and capacity of the Somali federal state, increase trust between the Federal Government and Federal Member States and reinforce economic reform.
 - An €83 million programme, 'Inclusive Local and Economic Development', which will foster stability by extending state authority and increasing legitimacy of local authorities and services, promoting local reconciliation and peacebuilding, creating economic opportunities, and protecting the most vulnerable.
 - A €40 million programme in support of the police and more accessible, reliable and competent justice provision.
 - Further programmes, including air services (€6.5 million) and supporting resilience (€12 million).

This funding is complemented by other allocations from the EU budget, covering specific issues such as: democracy and human rights, boosting local government, training, food security, and energy and water supplies.

HUMANITARIAN AID



The EU has supported humanitarian aid operations in Somalia since 1994. The assistance is essential as the country has been struggling with internal conflict and natural disasters for decades.

In 2017, the EU, together with other donors, provided flexible and early funding enabling to successfully avert the famine looming in Somalia. The EU indeed mobilised considerable funding for the drought response, totalling €119 million for that year. These funds allowed partners to provide life-saving aid to persons in the regions hardest hit by the water and food shortages, as well as disease outbreaks.

The EU prioritised the delivery of cash assistance to respond to most vulnerable people's basic needs, proving to be an effective and dignified way of giving assistance. Together, the European Union and its Member States currently provide approximately 60% of all humanitarian aid in Somalia.

ECONOMIC RELATIONS



The EU is committed to helping Somalia develop a strong, sustainable economy which can support the country's state and peace-building processes. Relations in this area are guided by the [Somali Compact](#), [New Deal process](#) and the [National Indicative Programme](#). Objectives, priorities and actions are also closely linked to the Somali government's [Economic Recovery Plan](#).

EU engagement therefore aims to revitalise and expand the Somali economy with a focus on improving livelihoods, generating employment, and encouraging inclusive growth. Special attention will be paid to improving economic opportunities for women and young people, ensuring they have greater access to profitable, income-generating activities.

TRADE RELATIONS



To help Somalia expand its trading horizons, the EU's [National Indicative Programme](#) is being deployed to improve productivity in the agricultural, livestock and fisheries sector. Programme interventions also seek to support growth by nurturing Somalia's private sector and business environment.