

ISF/SO3/2023/4

Trainings against crime and terrorism

Date of Signing of Agreement:

Project Timeline: 01/5/2022 – 31/12/2024

Project Budget: €298.203,09

Description of the project:

The project is implemented within the framework of Special Objective 3 - Prevention and Combating of Crime, according to the TEA Program 2021-2027 and is based on two pillars as follows:

PILLAR I: Trainings for members of the Motorized Direct Action Unit (MDAU) and the Cyprus Police Academy (CPA):

Regarding the trainings of the MDAU, training programs will be conducted with the aim of strengthening operational capabilities in the areas of prevention and management of terrorism and security-related risks.

Regarding the trainings of the CPA, special training programs will be carried out that will be structured on the basis of the Stockholm Program and the European Law Enforcement Training Program (ELETP).

PILLAR II: Strengthening and upgrading the logistical infrastructure and technological equipment of the Police Academy of Cyprus (PAC)

Upgrading the logistical infrastructure and technological equipment of the Cyprus Police Academy (PAC), will concern either the replacement of older equipment, which was purchased in the framework of the 2014-2020 Program Period, or new.

The main objectives of the project are:

1. The strengthening of the operational capabilities of the Cyprus Police and specifically the Motorized Direct Action Unit (MDAU) and the Cyprus Police Academy (PAC) for the effective prevention and fight against crime, terrorism as well as other incidents (eg drugs, explosives, missing / wanted persons).
2. The upgrading and strengthening of the technological equipment of the Cyprus Police Academy.

In the context of Special Objective SO3, the Cyprus Police will implement actions within the years 2022-2024, in accordance with the Program of the Internal Security Fund 2021-2027, concerning trainings of members of the Police and joint trainings between members of the M.D.A.U. and members of the police from EU member states, for the purposes of preventing and managing the consequences of terrorism and risks as well as strengthening/upgrading the PAC's technological equipment. The project consists of the following Work Packages (WPs) and includes the following Deliverables:

Work Package 1: Trainings/co-trainings in Cyprus and abroad

Deliverables WP 1:

- 1. Joint trainings in Cyprus and Abroad between the members of M.D.A.U. and members of the police from EU member countries. with the aim of preventing and managing terrorist incidents, dealing with security-related risks, preventing and combating cross-border crimes.**

Regarding the **joint trainings between members of the M.D.A.U. and members of the police from EU member states**, for the purposes of preventing and managing the consequences of terrorism and security-related risks, **the Council of Ministers has approved the National Counter-Terrorism Strategy**, which sets priorities on the basis of a multifaceted approach based on three axes: the protection of critical infrastructure, the prosecution of offenders by gathering intelligence, investigating cases and bringing offenders to justice, as well as immediate response in potential security-related incidents, including incidents involving Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear materials.

At the same time, according to Decision 2008/617/JHA of the Council of Europe, the special intervention units of the member states of the European Union will be able to provide assistance and/or carry out operations on the territory of another member state upon invitation and have agreed to do so to deal with a crisis situation. Participating Member States should therefore ensure that special intervention units organize joint training programs and exercises aimed at sharing experience, expertise as well as general, practical and technical information on dealing with a crisis situation.

Co-trainings/trainings will include the **following topics**:

- Specialized combat shots
- Climbing - climbing
- Marine businesses
- Planning police operations
- Dynamic and silent building entry tactics
- First response to armed incidents
- Investigations in special operations buildings
- Control and command of operations and regular deployment of forces in critical incidents in relation to building entries and group disengagement, with the aim of suppressing crimes during the execution of dangerous operations, as well as the organization of response teams.
- Senior level crisis management, information management and assessment, risk and threat assessment, strategic and tactical parameters, dynamics and incident discrimination, protocols and operational response plans (this subject concerns the training of officers at the administrative level).

The joint trainings will take place in Cyprus, **Greece, Italy** and **Bulgaria**. There will be **fourteen (14) joint trainings between Cyprus and Greece** [nine (9) in Greece and five (5) in Cyprus], three (3) joint trainings between Cyprus and Bulgaria, [one (1) in Bulgaria and two (2) in Cyprus], and five (5) joint trainings between Cyprus and Italy [two (2) in Italy and three (3) in Cyprus], with the first one in Cyprus being a coordinating meeting. A total of 62 members of the MMAD and specific members of the Special Anti-Terrorist Team, as well as 62

members of the police from other countries (Greece: 30 members, Italy: 12 members) are planned to participate in the joint trainings, Bulgaria: 20 members).

It is noted that each joint training of members of the MDAU Cyprus with a country concerns different people, depending on the selection criteria of the members set for each training, i.e. the people who will participate, for example, in the Cyprus-Greece joint training will be different from the people which will participate in the joint training between Cyprus and Italy. It is possible, however, that a member meets the criteria for two instances of trainings, in which case, possibly attending trainings in more than one country. It is also noted that the same people will participate in all joint trainings that concern the same country.

2. Training of police dogs with the aim of finding explosives and narcotics more immediately, but also more effectively tracking and finding missing persons or criminals who have escaped or escaped.

With regard to **two (2) trainings for police dogs and their handlers (MDAU members)**, these concern tracking particularly in drug and explosives investigations, tracking missing and wanted persons, but also in general in various criminal activities. The said trainings lasting 40 days each, will be carried out in Cyprus by a police officer - lecturer, a member of the Hellenic Police, with the **participation of 3 handlers and 3 police dogs (6 handlers and 6 dogs in total)**

3. Co-trainings on CBRN-E issues with pyrotechnicians members of the Hellenic Police

There will also be **joint trainings between the members of the Pyrotechnics Branch of the MDAU with pyrotechnicians members of the Hellenic Police**, with the aim of upgrading their capabilities to neutralize bombs, on issues of best practices and specialized field procedures, as well as dealing with incidents involving Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear materials. There will be a total of **four (4) trainings for members of the Fireworks Branch in Greece**, in which all **13 members of the branch and 12 members of the Fireworks Branch of Greece will gradually participate.**

4. Trainings of a Group of Negotiators in Cyprus

Also included are two **(2) Negotiator Team trainings in Cyprus** by two lecturers from the United Arab Emirates in order to handle issues of psychology of vulnerable people and verbal communication. The Negotiators & Crisis Management Team (NCM) consists of 35 members Negotiators from various Police departments (Police Directorates of all provinces and MMAD) all over Cyprus, who every year participate in conservative training, so that these members can respond to incidents involving kidnappings/hostages, hijackings, suicide attempts, securing wanted persons, trapping criminals in a building, hijacking a vehicle and other similar incidents. **All 35 members will participate in the training.**

5. Program trainings «Law Enforcement Training Scheme - LETS»

The Cyprus Police Academy (AAK) organizes trainings of the "Law Enforcement Training Scheme - LETS" program, with the participation of members from various departments of the Police (L&NA, YA&M, DEE-DAS (Intropol, Europe, SIRENE), the Aviation Unit of Operations - MAEP and the Passenger Information Unit - PNR), as well as other services (Customs, Ministry of Justice and Public Order, Department of Population & Immigration Records,

Cyprus Information Service, Asylum Service, etc.), with the aim of preventing and combating cross-border crime but also the cooperation of the PAC with other departments inside and outside the Cyprus Police.

The training programs in question will take place in Cyprus, in rented hotel rooms, aiming to strengthen the operational capabilities in the areas of prevention and combating cross-border crimes, but also to impart sufficient knowledge to the members of the Police regarding the basic principles of effective cooperation for law enforcement, fundamental rights, the role and functioning of European Agencies (Europol, Frontex, Eurojust) and the use of information exchange management tools at European level (Swedish Initiative, SIS).

These special training programs will be structured on the basis of the Stockholm Program and the European Law Enforcement Training Program (ELETP) with the aim of developing and disseminating the necessary knowledge and skills to all members of the Police as well as developing a common culture regarding the Law Enforcement Authorities in the EU. The purpose of the programs is also to impart sufficient knowledge to members of the Police regarding the basic principles of effective law enforcement cooperation, fundamental rights, the role and operation of European Organizations (Europol, Frontex, Eurojust) and the use of tools information exchange management at European level (Swedish Initiative, SIS).

A total of six (6) educational programs will be held. Each program will last two (2) days.

It is noted that these training programs are carried out on an annual basis, with the participation of members of the Police Academy and members from other Departments / Directorates and Services of the Cyprus Police, such as L&NA, YA&M, DEE-DAS (Inrerpol, Europol, SIRENE), the MAEP and the Passenger Information Unit (PNR), as well as from members of other related services, such as Customs, YD&DT, the Department of Population & Immigration Records, the KYP, the Asylum Service, etc.).

Work Package 2: Strengthening and upgrading the technological equipment of PAC

Deliverables WP 2:

1. Reinforcement of the Academy in logistical equipment for the orderly operation of the trainings

Finally, regarding the strengthening and upgrading of the logistical infrastructure and the equipment of the AAK's classrooms / training rooms, it will become easier for the members of the Cyprus Police to continue training in specialized subjects. Part of this equipment concerns the replacement of an older one, which was acquired during the previous Program Period 2014 - 2020. The technological equipment that will be purchased for the Cyprus Police Academy includes the following:

- Purchase of five (5) portable computers,
- Purchase of two (2) televisions – smart tv,
- Purchase of two (2) interactive whiteboards and
- Purchase of one (1) video deposition system (consisting of camera, microphone, computer, etc. for training purposes regarding depositions)

Regarding the equipment that will be procured by the Service, it is noted that it will be for educational purposes and is necessary to achieve the goals of the Fund for the Prevention and Combating of Crime. It is noted that the Cyprus Police Academy, which is the exclusive education and training body for the members of the Police Force, providing the opportunity for training,

education and training, to develop the necessary knowledge, abilities and skills to deal with the daily challenges of modern policing.

Expected benefits and possible consequences

Through the implementation of the aforementioned actions, it is expected that the operational readiness and capacity of the Police will be strengthened in the areas of the prevention and management of terrorism and security-related risks, including incidents involving Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear materials, as well as in the fields of preventing and combating cross-border crimes.

The objective of the trainings is to strengthen the administrative and operational capacities of the members of the Police for the purposes of protecting critical infrastructure and ensuring a timely response to security-related incidents.

Through the trainings of the Cyprus Police Academy and through the purchase of the technological equipment for the Cyprus Police Academy, it is expected that the degree of readiness and the level of ability of the members of the Police to respond and deal effectively with cross-border crime will be improved.

The project is implemented within the framework of the Internal Security Fund (SDF) with the co-financing of the European Union.



Κυπριακή Δημοκρατία



Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση
της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης

