EU4Monitoring Drugs

Making the link between drug-related problems and security and health threats in the European Union and neighbourhood countries

The EU drugs agency in Lisbon, as part of its ongoing commitment to strengthening cooperation and sharing expertise, has developed the EU4Monitoring Drugs (EU4MD) project. Funded by the European Union, the project will run from 2019 until the end of 2021 and will involve countries in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) area. It will support national and regional readiness to identify and respond to drug-related security and health threats. Whilst fostering regional cooperation and cooperation between the ENP and the EU, the EU4MD project will:

- help beneficiary countries be better prepared to respond to existing and future drug-related threats through capacity-building and partnerships;
- facilitate the identification, understanding and reporting of new and emerging drug-related threats and the analysis of their implications for security and health;
- support a strategic analysis of developments in the drug market and how these impact on security and health.
Networking and partnership are central to EU4MD. The project will deploy a participatory approach to capacity-building (‘learning by doing’) and activities will focus on developing practical and scientific knowledge, along with the skills of professionals and organisations.

On the supply side, EU4MD will support a better understanding of drug markets; capacity development for forensic analysis; assessment of the environmental impact of drug production; identification of ‘hot spots’; mapping of production and trafficking dynamics; technological innovations; threat assessment and responses to emerging issues.

On the demand side, work will focus on identifying trends in prevalence and patterns of drug use; drug-related harms; supporting treatment, harm-reduction and prevention activities; dissemination of innovative monitoring approaches; development of gender-appropriate responses; and assessment and promotion of services for vulnerable populations.

Proven tools and methods developed by the EMCDDA will be used in order to improve drug monitoring and support the introduction of evidence-based practices to better respond to the health and social problems resulting from drug use and the drug market.

EU4MD will help implement key objectives of the EU Drugs Strategy (2013–20) by strengthening dialogue and cooperation between the EU and third countries on drug issues. It will also improve the understanding of drug use and drug problems in order to inform future policies and actions.

The total project budget is EUR 3 million.

### Potential beneficiaries

- Algeria
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Egypt
- Georgia
- Israel
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Moldova
- Morocco
- Palestine*
- Tunisia
- Ukraine

The involvement of other countries bordering the region is also possible. Participation in the project activities will be on a case-by-case basis, within the context of EU4MD’s overall objectives.

* This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.