

Eastern and Central Africa Regional Secretariat

Profile

FRAMEWORK: European Union (EU) Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative. Funded by the European Union and jointly implemented by the EU and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI).

LAUNCHED IN THE REGION: 2012.

LOCATION: Kenya Nuclear Regulatory Authority (KNRA).

OVERALL GOAL: Strengthen capabilities of Partner Countries to mitigate CBRN risks, whether natural, accidental, or deliberate in origin.

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Objectives

- Support the establishment and institutionalisation of inter-agency CBRN National Teams.
- 2 Support Partner Countries in the development of CBRN National Action Plans.
- Facilitate exchange of experience between CBRN CoE Partner Countries.
- Support the definition of regional projects and national activities funded through CBRN CoE.
- 5 Enhance ownership by Partner Countries in the region.
- 6 Engage and coordinate with regional organisations to develop long-term collaboration.
- Reach out to and coordinate with international organisations and donors.



Risk Mitigation Accident
Organised crime
Food contamination CBRN Waste Management
Biological Chemical
Disease Outbreaks Safety and Security
Radiological Agro Terrorism Nuclear

Regional Priorities



Awareness raising for implementation of CBRN NAP



Enhancing CBRN Legislative Framework



Harmonized and Integrated approach to Biosecurity



CBRN Risk assessment



Illicit trafficking of Radiological and Nuclear materials



Identification, Retrieval and Management of old and abandoned chemicals (including explosive precursors)





National Focal Points (NFPs): Lead CBRN CoE activities at the country-level, participate in regional and international Round-Table Meetings and liaise with the Regional Secretariat and relevant regional and international partners. All 11 Partner Countries have appointed NFPs.



National Teams (NTs): Inter-agency teams that identify national priorities for capacity-building, participate in CBRN CoE projects and work towards the establishment of comprehensive and integrated national CBRN risk mitigation policies. All Partner Countries established NTs but over time members were promoted or retired and in some instances still await new designations.



National Action Plans (NAPs): Identify strategic priority actions for capacity-building, to support resource allocation. To date, 2 Partner Countries (Rwanda, Malawi) have completed and officially adopted CBRN NAPs with support from the CBRN CoE. 3 Partner countries have completed their NAP and are currently in the adoption process (Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania). 2 Partner Countries (Burundi, Ethiopia) are at an advanced stage of completing their NAPs.

Projects

13 projects implemented in the region to date, guided by Partner Country priorities. Currently 3 projects ongoing:

Project 99

Strengthening biosafety and biosecurity capabilities in ECA

Budget: €3.5M



Project 94

On-Site Technical Assistance to the EU CBRN CoE Regional Secretariats.

Budget: €7.4M



Project 66 MEDISAFE -

Combating falsified medicines in ECA

Budget: €4M



Recent Achievements

Regional exchange and cross-border cooperation are a key success factor in the CBRN CoE network. Project 60 recently completed with a regional training in detection and identification of sources of radiation and retrieval of radioactive material. A simulated border crossing field exercise put the cooperation and knowledge or the participants into practice.



Three county governments around the Kenyan capital requested the CBRN CoE to support them in a joint chemical incident response exercise. Through the facility of the On-Site technical Expert (OSA), the fire services, police and medical services identified the existing challenges and strength in their joint response.



Substandard and falsified medical products (SFMPs) are a significant challenge to Africa. CBRN CoE Project 66 brought together experiences and lessons learned from the 11 participating countries and partnering international organisations. For example the recent regional seminar on identifying and controlling SFMPs, and to improve inter-agency cooperation at national and regional levels.





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