EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Directorate E: Migration and Security Funds
Unit E.1: Union actions

Brussels, - 7 AVR. 2016
HOME/E1/LN

EVALUATION REPORT

Part II – Relevance award criterion

Grant award procedure: Call for proposals "Transnational initiatives to fight trafficking in drugs and firearms" (HOME/2015/ISFP/AG/TDFX)

1. Procedure

1.1. Working method

All applications went through the evaluation steps in accordance with the "Evaluation rules for 2015 Calls for proposals" for which Unit HOME.E1 is responsible, established by the note Ares(2015)6011359 of 22 December 2015.

The admissibility, eligibility and exclusion checks were recorded in part I of the evaluation report (Ares(2016)1050969 - 01/03/2016). A letter notifying the ineligibility of one project application was sent on 7 March 2016 (Ares(2016)1148362).

In accordance with the evaluation methodology, the proposals satisfying the admissibility, eligibility and exclusion criteria were evaluated by the Evaluation Committee with regard to the relevance award criterion. Proposals not reaching the threshold of 21 points out of 30 were recommended for rejection.

1.2. Calendar

Publication of the call: 23 September 2015

Submission deadline: 1 December 2015

Conclusion of the admissibility, eligibility and exclusion criteria evaluation: 1 March 2016

With regard to the relevance award criterion, the Evaluation Committee held the following meetings:

Date	Place	Topic discussed	Attendees
1 March 2016	DG HOME	The Evaluation Committee discussed the relevance award criterion of the project applications passing through the admissibility/eligibility/exclusion step.	Members of the Evaluation Committee and the following observers: [redacted] (DG HOME E.1)

The consolidated evaluation forms assessing the relevance award criterion (see Annex 3) and the final list of projects passing the relevance criterion threshold were approved by the Evaluation Committee members by e-mails of 4 April 2016 and 5 April 2016.

2. Evaluation of the relevance award criterion

14 proposals were evaluated and ranked on the basis of the pre-announced relevance award criterion. The threshold was 21 points out of 30.

On the basis of this evaluation it was concluded that the proposals listed in Annex 1 should be rejected because they did not pass the required quality threshold.

3. Conclusions and recommendations – relevance award criterion

On the basis of the above verification the following recommendations are made for the relevance award criterion evaluation:

Rejection reason	Number of proposals	Annex
Relevance criterion	7	1
Total	7	

7 proposals satisfying the admissibility, eligibility and exclusion criteria and the relevance award criterion are listed in Annex 2.

Letters informing unsuccessful applicants (7) will be sent out by the authorising officer.

The evaluation will continue with the remaining award criteria (use of external experts) and selection criteria evaluation.

Members of the Evaluation Committee

Names	Department	Date	Signature
[redacted] - President	HOME.E.1	5/4/16	[redacted]
[redacted] - Member	HOME.D.4	6/4/16	
[redacted] - Member	HOME.D.2	5/IV/2016	

Annexes

Annex 1 - List of rejected proposals based on the relevance award criterion

Annex 2 - List of proposals satisfying the admissibility, eligibility and exclusion criteria and the relevance award criterion

Annex 3 - Consolidated relevance award criterion evaluation forms (14 projects)

Annex 1 - List of rejected proposals based on the relevance award criterion

Proposal N°	Name of applicant	Names of co-applicants	Title of proposal	Score for relevance	Justification
4000008724	Spanish Police Confederation (ES)	1.Latvijas Apvienotā Policistu arodbiedrība (LV) 2.Granski sindikat uprave, pravosuđa, vojske i policije "Nezavisnost" (SRB)	Joint Action of EU Trade Unions in Combating Trafficking of Firearms	13/30	1. While the project objectives correspond to the priorities of the call, the project appears to be at least partially overlapping the EU-Western Balkans Action Plan against firearms trafficking. 2. While the project objectives address a priority concern at EU level, the project should have explained its possible complementarity and coherence with the already existing EU initiatives. 3. The project concerns 5 Member States and 2 Western Balkan countries. A stronger multiplier effect would be achieved through the possible integration of relevant actions within the already existing EU action plan. This implies coordination between the applicant and the Spanish authorities. 4. A proper coordination with Spain as the driver of the firearms EMPACT priority at the Council would have helped to insure better coherence. 5. The same applies for the coordination with Europol, Eurojust and CEPOL actions.
4000008734	Bavarian State Criminal Police Office (DE)	1.Federal Ministry of the Interior / Criminal Intelligence Service Austria (A) 2.Rapid Response and Special Police Service/National Bureau of Investigations (HU)	Cooperation Southeast – Drugs and Firearms	18/30	1. The proposal fits within the three priorities of the call. 2. The action proposed by the team of applicants covers a big geographical area (South East Europe, including Western Balkans) and would be implemented by partners with experience, expertise and good working relations with the law enforcement authorities in the area, which is an important strength. 3. The proposal might overlap with the activities of the Treptower Group whose geographical mandate is also within the same area. The proposal does not mention a mitigation strategy in this context. 4. The proposal is not of operational character and would mainly consist of meetings/conferences/production of dissemination material. 5. The actions proposed within the proposal fit to some extent

					within the current policy developments, however, a clear reference to the current policy cycle and the current Operational Action Plan is not mentioned.
4000008737	Warsaw Metropolitan Police (PL)	1.Prague Police Headquarters (CZ) 2.Berlin Police Prezydium (DE) 3.Turkish National Police (TR) 4.Vilnius County Police Headquarters (LT) 5.Prisztina Police (KO)	The exchange and promotion of best police practices in order to strengthen action against illegal suppliers of arms and drugs	13/30	1. The proposal fits within priorities 2 and 3 of the call. The expected outcomes of the project (best practice exchange, improvement of operational knowledge) also match those provided for in the call. 2. The proposal does not refer explicitly to strategic documents/initiatives or projects already carried out. 3. Consequently, there is a high risk that the proposal might be duplicating or overlapping with similar initiatives. There is no information in this respect provided for in the application package. 4. The scope of the proposal itself is interesting as it strengthens network and trust building among participating law enforcement entities and aims to enlarge best practice exchange and boosting operational knowledge. 5. However, no real benefits beyond the boundaries of the project can be expected.
4000008738	Institute for democratic control of armed forces - DCAF (SI)	1.Center for the Study of Democracy (BG) 2.University of Ljubljana (SI) 3.Institute for Democracy and Mediation (ALB) 4.Centre for Security Studies (BiH) 5.Kosovar Centre for Security Studies (KOS) 6.Association for Policy Research Analytica, Gostivar (FYROM) 7.Belgrade Centre for Security Policy (SRB)	Smart Moves Against Firearms – Enhancing a harmonised response to illicit firearms trafficking through the Western Balkan route	16/30	1. The project targets a priority geographic zone. Nevertheless, even though legal assessment is not strictly excluded from the call, the call prioritises a direct operational cooperation. Consequently, the project is not deemed to have a significant impact on the call priorities. 2. The project demonstrates a sound understanding of current policy and operational developments. 3. Three of the countries covered by the project, as members of the EU, already have ensured (and/or are actively pursuing) legal harmonisation with EU standards. 4. The ability for the project to reach out to the countries concerned, so as to foster legal harmonisation based on the project' findings, cannot be assessed. 5. With the exception of Bulgaria, no other countries concerned by the legal harmonisation provided letters of support, which puts in doubt the delivery of real benefits of the project.
4000008740	European Programs Management Division/Internal	1.CYPRUS POLICE - The Emergency Response Unit (E.R.U.) (CY) 2.BULGARIA CDCOC (BG)	CAPTURE - Capacity Building And Training Police Excellence CenTre for drUgs and	10/30	1. The project targets a priority geographic zone but its objectives remain broad. 2. Physical training can be seen as a very indirect contribution to the call's priorities and expected outcomes. 3. The project does not demonstrate a sound understanding of

	Security Fund (EL)		fiREarms trafficking		current policy and operational developments. 4. The project appears to duplicate, at least partially, other regional initiatives. 5. The project would have benefited from a detailed gap analysis prior to the submission of the application so as to target actual needs.
4000008744	Public ministry – POHCCJ (RO)	1.Public Prosecutors Office of the Republic of Bulgaria (BG) 2.General Prosecutor's Office Republic of Moldova (MO) 3.National Institute of Magistracy (RO)	Mapping new trends, routes and methods to better fight and raise awareness on the trafficking in firearms and drugs	10/30	1. The project targets a priority issue but its objectives remain broad. Its awareness raising dimension falls out of the scope of the call. 2. The project does not demonstrate a sound understanding of current policy and operational developments. Relevant EU bodies and agencies appear not to have been consulted. 3. The project appears to duplicate, at least partially, other ongoing activities at EU level. 4. The project would have benefited from a detailed gap analysis prior to the submission of the application so that it could target actual needs. 5. The mitigation strategy aiming to obtain Member States' interest in participating in the project is rather weak and does not guarantee receiving proper feedback from the relevant countries.
4000008747	Italian National Research Council (IT)	1.Semeion Centro Ricerche di Scienze della Comunicazione (IT) 2.Universitat ROVIRA i Virgili (ES)	Firearms & Drugs Interlinks Sensing (F&DIS)	18/30	1. The proposal fits within the priority of the call relating to linkages between the trafficking in firearms and drugs. 2. The proposal is scientifically solid, but it does not provide an explicit reference to the current state of play in the area of interest of the project and how it would make a difference. 3. The expected outcome of improved expertise on the links between the trafficking in drugs and firearms is presented as fairly academic. 4. The proposal is weak on presenting how it would actually translate the findings into a usable product. 5. The proposal is to be implemented by academia and it is not crystal clear how it would create working relations with the end users (potentially policy-makers, law enforcement authorities) so that tangible effects and real benefits can be felt.

Annex 2 - List of proposals satisfying the admissibility, eligibility and exclusion criteria and the relevance award criterion

Proposal N°	Name of applicant	Names of co-applicants	Title of proposal	Score for relevance	Justification
4000008733	The National Police of the Netherlands (NL)	1.Bundeskriminalamt (DE) 2.Direktion für Spezialeinheiten (A) 3.Keskusrikospoliisi (FI) 4.Carabinieri Raggruppamento Operativo Speciale (IT) 5.Federale Politie België, Directie Special Units (B) 6.An Garda Siochana (IRL) 7.Gendarmerie National ECASGN (FR)	CSW: Cross Border Surveillance on Drugs and Firearms	26/30	1. While the project objectives are very relevant to drug & firearms area, they go even beyond the priorities of the call, thus covering other areas as well (e.g. THB, illegal migration, terrorism). 2. The project is developed in complementarity and coherence with the already existing EU initiatives at Council (EMPACT firearms and cocaine). 3. The project can contribute to enhancing Member States' skills while ensuring better respects of fundamental rights, making the EU a safer place where freedom is better safeguarded. 4. The project has strong operational outputs. 5. Given its critical mass with 14 Member States and Europol involved, the project possesses a good multiplier effect, with obvious benefits for the fight against organised criminals and terrorists.
4000008735	General Inspectorate of Romanian Police (RO)	1.SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER (IO) 2.MINISTRY OF INTERIOR - DIRECTORATE FOR COMBATING ORGANIZED CRIME (BG) 3.DREJTORIA E POLICISE SE SHETIT (ALB) 4.MINISTRY OF SECURITY (BiH) 5.DIREZIONE CENTRALE DELLA POLIZIA CRIMINALE (IT)	Strengthening the fight against firearms trafficking in South-eastern Europe	26/30	1. The project fits the priorities of the call and is highly relevant to a priority geographic zone. 2. The project demonstrates a sound understanding of current policy and operational developments. 3. The project can contribute to enhance Member States' skills while ensuring better respects of fundamental rights, making the EU a safer place where freedom is better safeguarded. 4. The project has strong operational outputs. 5. Involving 12 Member States and the EFE group, the project possesses a valuable critical mass in view of a multiplier effect.
4000008739	Federal Ministry of the Interior/Criminal Intelligence Service (A)	1.The Police of the Czech Republic, the Nat. D. H. of the Criminal Police/Investigation Service (CZ) 2.Ministry of Internal Affair of Republic Kosovo, Kosovo Police (KO)	Joint investigation to fight trafficking in drugs and firearms with the main focus on international airports within and also into the	23/30	1. The proposal fits within the three priorities of the call. 2. The proposal adequately refers to the existing regulatory framework and mentions the key stakeholders. 3. The proposal would contribute to the implementation of the EU Drugs Strategy as well as would support the implementation of the OAPs within the Policy Cycle. 4. The project would be of operational character in three

			EU		airports of various sizes and specificities. 5. The scope of the proposal might be overlapping with the mandate and activities of AIRPOL and the description does not present a mitigation strategy in this context.
4000008742	Research Centre on Security and Crime (IT)	1.RISK MONITOR (BG) 2.VILIAS (LT) 3.ACADEMY OF CRIMINALISTIC AND POLICE STUDIES (SRB)	Project NARCO-MAP. Improving knowledge on NPS and opiates trafficking in Europe	22/30	1. The proposal fits well within priority 3: drugs trafficking. 2. The proposal refers to many existing documents and projects completed in the area, however the list is not exhaustive and does not take account of projects funded from the DPIP and the Justice Programme 3. The reference to key stakeholders in the policy area like EMCDDA, EUROPOL, UNODC is of key importance and involving those in the building of the background could mitigate risks of duplication. 4. The proposal covers an area where further investment is badly needed, in particular as regards enlarging the scientific knowledge base. In that perspective it should be considered as potentially vital for the policy. 5. The proposal is submitted by a wider consortium of partners experienced in the policy area.
4000008745	Karpacki Border Guard Support Center (PL)	1. Police of the Czech Republic National Drug Headquarters Criminal, Police and Investigation Service (CZ)	FADGUNS – Fighting against drugs and guns	25/30	1. The proposal fits well within the priorities of the call, in particular focussing on drugs trafficking. 2. The project responds to the actual needs of law enforcement authorities in the Member States involved (PL and CZ) and can help boost their capacity in the area. 3. The project builds on what has been done so far within the European Pact on drug trafficking and the EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan. 4. It would be most useful to spread widely the results of the project for the benefit of cross-border cooperation in other EU regions, which is currently not explicitly foreseen by the project and might be considered as a proposed non-substantial adjustment to the application at a later stage. 5. It might also be useful to refer to EMCDDA and its role as a data collection mechanism, for the completeness of the project.
4000008746	Federal Police (BE)	1.Bundeskriminalamt Wiesbaden (DE) 2.National Institute of Criminalistics and Criminology (NICC) (BE)	Detection of drugs trafficking & drugs production: Train the trainers course, course curriculum, toolkit &	26/30	1. The proposal fits very well within the priority 3 of the call: drugs trafficking. 2. The action proposed is particularly interesting as it responds to the call from a number of angles. It aims at enlarging the knowledge base (detection), at producing a curriculum and toolkit and provides a training module for

			exchange of best practices		Member States' trainers that will transmit the knowledge in all 28 Member States. 3. Reference to the existing activities/knowledge in the field has been presented adequately. 4. Although the team behind the project is relatively small, the impact of the project would be on EU-28. 5. Involving EMCDDA as a supporting entity makes the proposal a particularly solid one.
4000008748	Flemish Peace Institute (BE)	1.SIPRI (SE) 2.Scuola Superiore di Studi Universitari e di Perfezionamento Sant'Anna (SSSA) (IT)	Studying the Acquisition of illicit Firearms by Terrorists in Europe	24/30	1. The project targets a priority issue. It has the potential to address a key need at EU level that could lead to better tailored-policy. 2. The project does demonstrate an adequate understanding of current policy and operational developments. 3. The project takes account of previous EU funded studies. 4. The project would partially rely on Member States' contributions. Even though sound, the mitigation strategy can only be tested in vivo. 5. The dissemination strategy is sound and could contribute to positive cascade effects.