



REINFORCING AVIATION SECURITY AT RAFIC HARIRI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - Promoting Airport Security and Cooperation

Executive Summary

Support to the security sector in Lebanon is a high priority for the European Union-Lebanon Partnership. Lebanon being a close neighbour of the European Union, the shared goal of a common area of peace, prosperity, and stability implies working together in key security areas. *Reinforcing Aviation Security at Rafic Hariri International Airport* is the first-ever aviation security action fully funded by the European Union in Lebanon. The project is implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), an international organisation which has carried out several EU-funded projects in the fields of border management and security in Lebanon since 2012.

The direct beneficiaries of this action include the **Airport Security Apparatus**, functioning under the mandate of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, and the **CERSA** (Centre d'Entraînement pour le Renforcement de la Sûreté aéroportuaire). As a result of this action, **Lebanese citizens and airport passengers** will also benefit from reinforced security and improved inter-agency cooperation when using the international airport. Other relevant Lebanese Ministries and security agencies will also be closely involved in the project.

The project funding is in the amount of 3.5 million Euros, with a duration of 27 months starting on 1 September, 2018.

Project objectives

The primary **objective** is to reduce the likelihood of a terrorist attack against the Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport, or prevent the airport from being used to carry out attacks against airlines or passengers. The risk of terrorists and other criminals eluding detection within the airport facilities will also be mitigated.

The **specific objective** of the action is to improve the security of Rafic Hariri International Airport, through the following outputs – delivered to the relevant security agencies and CERSA:

- **Improved coordination and cooperation** among airport security agencies
- **Increased surveillance and security capacities**
- **Improved infrastructure** through the provision of equipment and infrastructural support

Anticipated project results and activities

The project aims to achieve the following results:

- **Improvement of strategic inter-agency cooperation of airport security agencies** through cooperation and working agreements such as formulating a sectoral strategy/action plan and setting up an Airport Coordination and Communication Centre (ACCC).
- **Enhancement of operational inter-agency cooperation of airport security agencies** through a set of capacity-building activities aiming to foster joint Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on agreed-upon thematic areas such as contingency planning, emergency/crisis management & response, etc.

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Anticipated project results and activities (cont.)

- **Increased performance** through a set of capacity-building activities (workshops, technical seminars) on agreed-upon thematic areas including expertise exchange with networks, institutions, or other bodies of the EU and EU Member States.
- **Expansion of the security infrastructure** at the airport through the provision of adequate technical equipment and infrastructure to increase the general security level and prevent all possible security threats.
- **Expansion of the training infrastructure** at CERSA through the provision of adequate technical equipment and infrastructure in order to boost the technical skills of staff members and implement new training techniques.

About the European Union (EU)

The European Union supports Lebanon's stability, independence and sovereignty, its prosperity and democratic order. It helps improve public service delivery for Lebanon's citizens and strives to help protect its environment and natural resources. The EU is committed to the promotion and protection of human rights in Lebanon including defending gender equality, children's rights and freedom of expression. The EU Delegation in Lebanon represents the European Union to the Republic of Lebanon with the objective to maintain and develop mutual beneficial relations. It engages in political, social and economic development activities on behalf of the EU.

The International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)

Founded in 1993, ICMPD is a Vienna-based international organisation with 18 Member States; it is active in more than 90 countries worldwide, with the **Middle East** being a priority region. Its three-pillar approach to migration management – structurally linking research, migration dialogues, and capacity-building – contributes to better migration policy development worldwide. ICMPD holds UN observer status and cooperates with more than 200 partners including EU institutions and UN agencies.

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