



**PUBLIC
SPACES**



FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION
FINANCÉ PAR L'UNION EUROPÉENNE



Newsletter #2 July 2021

In this issue

Recent activities
CT in the media
Perspectives



The *CT Public Spaces* team welcomes you to its second newsletter, covering the activities carried out from January to July 2021

CT Public Spaces is funded by the EU, managed by the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), implemented by the Spanish Guardia Civil and the International and the Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP F.S.P.) is the contracting legal entity.

The general aim of the project is to prevent and reduce terrorist attacks and their impact in public spaces. Likewise, it is to collaborate with partner countries (Ghana, Kenya and Senegal) to protect possible targets.

The expected results from the project to protect public spaces are:

COOPERATION with national authorities to increase awareness and capability to protect people and goods at these sites.

COLLABORATION with law enforcements in partner countries to improve command and control systems, risk assessment, tactics, techniques and procedures for protection, reaction to and recovery from potential attacks.

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES for public sector cooperation with local venue operators and private security.



"There cannot be sustainable development without peace and security, and without development and poverty eradication there will be no sustainable peace"

European Security Strategy 2003

"Security is an issue that affects everyone. All government bodies, businesses, social organisations, institutions and citizens must fulfil their own responsibilities in order to make our societies more secure."

European Security Strategy 2020



INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

During the first semester of this year, the project team has proceeded with the activities planned and presented in the Tentative Workplan for 2021. Once the inception phase concluded in 2020, the execution of activities during the implementation phase will include:

- National partner countries authorities' visits to EU police operations dedicated to public spaces protection.
- Training of trainers in the PEFE in Logroño (Spain).
- Specific training in partner countries.
- Support partner countries to develop doctrinal material.
- Conduct Exercises in the partner counties (Table top/LIVEX).
- Organize high-level seminars dedicated to public spaces protection.
- Donation of equipment dedicated to public spaces protection.

Furthermore, **in this first semester of 2021 all partnering countries have been visited and full support from relevant authorities involved in public protection has been obtained.** These efforts have produced different results in the selected partner countries. The situation can be summarized as follows:

GHANA



On April 16th, the Chief Superintendent Raymond Adofiem (Commanding Officer CT Department and Counter Terrorism Enactment and Concentration Camp) from the Ghana Police Service, was appointed as the focal person for the Project. From that moment on, continuous and fluid contacts have been maintained, which have facilitated to carry out the training activities.

From the 5th to the 9th of July, the project team conducted its first visit to the Republic of Ghana. During this visit, meetings were held with national authorities responsible of public protection and CT, in order to facilitate the future implementation of the project.

KENYA



Communications have been frequent with the established PoC and work has been done on the planning of different training activities during this first semester of 2021.

To date it has not been possible to carry out any of the planned training activities with the partner security forces due to the different measures taken against Covid 19, including a compulsory quarantine for travellers, both in Spain and Kenya. However, the training activities that could not be carried out have been rescheduled.

A new visit of the project team to Kenya is planned in early September 2021, to coordinate and promote the activities planned for the second half of this year, both in Spain and in Kenya.

SENEGAL



Good relations with the security forces of the Republic of Senegal have been maintained. This, together with the improvement in the Covid 19 situation, has enabled the planned activities.

In addition, from the 12th to the 15th of April, a third visit to Dakar was conducted, during which the project team met with the Senegalese national authorities to coordinate the next activities to be carried out, both in Spain and Senegal.

In Senegal, the largest number of planned activities have been performed.

ACTIVITIES

12 activities have been conducted up until today and as of January 2021. They all belong to output 2 of the project, that is linked to the “Improved capacities of law enforcement for the use of command and control systems, risk assessment and TTPs for protection, reaction and recovery”:

DATE	ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTICIPANTS
SENEGAL		
10-21 May 2021	Tactical Patrol Training in Spain	7
10-28 May 2021	Command & Control training in Spain	7
10-14 May 2021	Sniper tactical training in Senegal	4
10-14 May 2021	Intervention dog handler training in Senegal	4
17-21 May 2021	Explosive detecting dog handler training in Senegal	4
24-28 May 2021	UAV Tactical training in Spain	4
31 May - 4 June 2021	C-UAV tactical training in Spain	4
31 May - 4 June 2021	Risk analysis training in Spain	8
GHANA		
21-25 June 2021	Precision snipers training in Spain	4
21-25 June 2021	Intervention dog handler training in Spain	4
28 June - 2 July 2021	Explosive detecting dog handler training in Spain	4
28 June - 2 July 2021	Risk analysis training in Spain	8



Some key moments of the trainings in the facilities of the Rural Action Unit (UAR) of the Spanish Guardia Civil and in Dakar, Senegal.

Training in precision snipers and dog handling to protect public spaces was successfully completed

In November 2020, we interviewed 4 representatives of the Senegalese police and national gendarmerie, to learn first-hand about the content and impact of the training courses that were carried out at the Guardia Civil's Special Forces Experiences Complex (PEFE) in Logroño. This first experience resulted in a team of trainers who, upon their return to Dakar, passed on what they have learned with the support of project specialists.



Theoric sessions during the training in precision snipers carried out by the Spanish Guardia Civil.

What are the objectives of this training course?

This is an exchange of experiences financed by European cooperation, thanks to which members of the Senegalese police and gendarmerie have been able to work side by side with the Spanish Guardia Civil. Upon our return from training, we will be able to put the acquired knowledge into practice in Senegal and, in turn, we will become instructors to pass on what we learned to our colleagues in Dakar.

Is the training received appropriate to the Senegalese context, in terms of fighting terrorism and protecting public spaces?

Our day-to-day in Senegal includes making preparations for the fight against terrorism. We must be prepared to prevent attacks and that is why we train accordingly. This is why the training courses we received will be very valuable, so that, if one day there is a terrorist threat, we will know how to deal with it. For snipers it is very useful, since they are exposed on the front line when there is a terrorist threat, which is very important. In addition, all anti-terrorism units have dog handlers. It is an experience in which everyone wins.

Logroño, headquarters of facilities vital for combating terrorism

In March 2021, the mayor of Logroño, Pablo Hermoso de Mendoza, visited the Rural Action Unit (UAR) and the Guardia Civil's Special Forces Experiences Complex (PEFE), located in that city in La Rioja.

During the visit, the director of CT Public Spaces, Colonel Javier Hernández Marco, had the opportunity to present the project, funded

by European Union, with Guardia Civil as an implementing partner and FIIAPP as contracting legal entity.

In addition to the Rural Action Unit, the mayor has been able to visit the Special Forces Experiences Complex facilities, a 32-hectare industrial estate, where both national and international police units carry out all kinds

of specialised training. Its location in Logroño makes the city the ideal place to host the development of a large number of activities of the CT Public Spaces project. In November 2020, a dozen members of the Senegalese Gendarmerie and National Police went there to attend tactical training for precision snipers, intervention dog handlers and explosive detection handlers.



A moment from the visit to the facilities of the Guardia Civil

CT Public Spaces project gathers in Niamey to advance counter-terrorism in the region



CT Public Spaces' project team took part in an international Forum in Niamey

On March 25th, Lieutenant Colonel (from the Spanish Guardia Civil) L. Javier González Benito, representing the *CT Public Spaces* project, actively participated in the Niamey Forum on Peace and stabilization, in Niger.

The Programme focused its interventions on the fight against terrorism and stabilization in conflict zones, taking the Central Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin region as a reference. At the end of the working day, which included high-level panellists, a final document was presented summarizing the most relevant conclusions.

The following day, Friday, March 26th, a parallel conference was held focusing on the commitment and role of Spanish institutions in the fight against terrorism in the Sahel. Among others, it was discussed how the Rural Action Unit (UAR) contributes to security in the Sahel today, as well as the European projects contribution to prevent terrorist attacks in the region. The *CT Public Spaces* project, which is implemented by the Spanish Guardia Civil and FIIAPP as contracting legal entity, was an example of this.

Cooperation activities continue among the Spanish Guardia Civil, FIIAPP and Senegalese Public Institutions to improve the protection of Public Spaces

From the 12th to the 15th April 2021, the CT Public Spaces project team carried out its third mission to Dakar with the aim of coordinating, together with the 3 partner institutions of the

project in Senegal, the implementation of the training activities to be carried out both in Senegal and in Spain. These meetings served to define the next activities, establish the places



Guardia Civil specialists meet with the Deputy Chief of the Senegalese National Gendarmerie.

where the training will take place and review the profile of students, stressing the importance of the participation of women in the project's initiatives. Thus, agreements have been reached for the development of 5 training courses in Logroño, in the months of May and June, in the areas of command and control, tactical patrol, risk analysis, drones and counter-drones. In Dakar, work will focus on capacity building for precision snipers, intervention dog handlers and explosives detection dog handlers.

The Guardia Civil trains the Senegalese security forces in anti-terrorism techniques

Several Senegalese Police, Gendarmerie and CICO personnel travelled to Logroño to receive training in the prevention of terrorist attacks within the framework of the *CT Public Spaces* project. During the training, the Guardia Civil's Rural Action Unit shared its expertise in protecting public spaces with members of the Senegalese security forces who were being trained in Logroño in May 2021.

"Projects of this type can save many lives and are necessary after the tragic events that have occurred around the world", explained Isabel de la Vega, coordinator of the project at FIIAPP. The activity in Logroño was part of a specific training programme covering the protection of public spaces for police forces in the project partner countries: Senegal, Ghana and Kenya. The training techniques taught included the use of dog handlers for explosives detection, attack and defence, for rescue and tactical response, the use and detection of drones, first aid, civilian evacuation and tactical patrols. For these training sessions, which will take place in Spain and in the three countries in Africa, specialists from the Spanish Guardia Civil Rural Action Unit (UAR) and from the European Union High Risk Security Network (EU HRSN) will share their knowledge and expertise.



The Spanish Guardia Civil and a Portuguese expert from the EU HRSN, together with the Senegalese Gendarmerie and Police during one of the trainings in Logroño.

The CT Public Spaces team visits its counterparts in Ghana for the first time

All partners, such as showed their full support for the implementation of the project and the participation of their staff in the planned activities.

Early July this year, the *CT Public Spaces* Project Team had the opportunity to visit the Republic of Ghana. Due to the pandemic caused by Covid-19, the team had to postponed up until that date the visit to this partner country.



This visit has allowed the team to introduce to the national authorities responsible for the protection of public spaces the various actions planned, both prior (since Ghana Police Service, Ghana Immigration Service and National Ambulance Service personnel had already received training in the Rural Action Unit of the Guardia Civil in Logroño) and after the meetings. Among others, meetings were held with the Inspector General of the Ghana Police Service and his staff, the Director of the CT Fusion Center and the Commanding Officer of the Counter Terrorism Enactment and Concentration Camp, that is the Ghana Police Service's counterterrorism training centre.

CT IN THE MEDIA

#CTPublicSpaces #StrongerTogether #EU



We welcome the Senegalese National Police and Gendarmerie representatives 🇸🇳, who will be attending a #CTPublicSpaces 2-week training on drones and counter-drones as of today, in the @guardiacivil facilities of the Rural Action Unit #UAR. @FIIAPP #EU #StrongerTogether



The [CT Public Spaces project website](#) is available as of January 2021 in English, French and Spanish. The website includes a general description of the project, its expected results, and activities. Specific sections include a description of [partners](#), [actions](#) and [news](#). The project website is a valuable presentation letter that allows to raise awareness about the importance of security in public spaces.

Two social media accounts were also activated in January 2021 by the CT Public Spaces team, on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

With the support of the Guardia Civil official twitter account, our top tweet earned 75.000 impressions and more than 3.800 total engagements in May 2021.

On June 23rd FIIAPP launched a communication campaign to make visible the work of public officials in EU projects, to commemorate Public Administration Day.

The work that the director of the CT Public Spaces project is doing to protect public spaces was highlighted in this interview.

More than 140,000 people were reached through the campaign.



Articles and reports about the activities project were published in local and international press with the support of partner countries, Guardia Civil and FIIAPP.

PERSPECTIVES

During these first months of implementation of the Project, an unforeseen risk of global scope has been faced: Covid-19. To deal with it, and to mitigate its effects as much as possible, the *CT Public Spaces* team prepared a **Contingency Plan**. Protective measures have been taken to conduct the training activities in Logroño (Spain), such as the acquisition of protective material for attendees from partner countries and EUHRSN trainers, the creation of bubble groups to perform training activities, or the planning of 11 new activities so that the training actions were separated by countries (instead of doing them altogether as planned prior to the pandemics). The shortest training actions have been planned first, expecting that the situation will improve, and activities could return to normality.

In this initial phase of the project, the activities developed are more focused on **improving the capacities of the security forces in public spaces**. After the initial activities carried out to date and according to the surveys completed by partner countries participants, it can be affirmed that the trainings do contribute to the improvement of public spaces protection capacities. One of the added values of the project is to count on the participation of experts from the EU High Risk Security Network (EU HRSN) in different activities, both in Spain and in partner countries. This support from the EU HRSN is expected to last for the entire duration of the project.

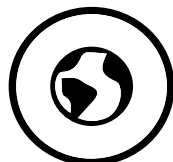
After having visited the three partner countries and having had the opportunity to present the project to different authorities, **CT Public Spaces counts on the support of the Ministries and/or Security Forces of the three partner countries** involved in the protection of public spaces. In addition, the contacts maintained with the authorities of the different partner countries and the assessment missions have contributed to strengthen Ministries and national authorities' awareness of the protection of people and goods in public spaces in the selected partner countries.

In the next semester, the project will **continue its planned actions with Ghana and Senegal and start activities with Kenya** as soon as the health situation allows. Fluent contacts with the partner security forces involved in the project will be maintained, and partner countries will be encouraged to nominate female personnel with the required professional skills for each capacity. If conditions allow, the launching of the project might be performed before the year ends. In addition to the launch event, events in each partner country on the occasion of the donation of equipment will be agreed with the respective EUDELs.

CONTACT



info@ctpublicspaces.eu
(+34) 941 051 500

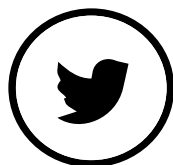


www.ctpublicspaces.eu

SOCIAL NETWORKS



CT Public Spaces



@ctpublicspaces



FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION
FINANCÉ PAR L'UNION EUROPÉENNE

DISCLAIMER: This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the CT Public Spaces project and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.