

P108

Strengthening the control and analytical capabilities to improve the security of the food chain in the African Atlantic Façade

AT A GLANCE



DURATION

36 months
2025 - 2027



BUDGET

€3.5 million (European Commission's Foreign Policy Instruments)



IMPLEMENTING CONSORTIUM

Expertise France (main implementer), GIZ, France Vétérinaire International, University of Liège

With the support of UNICRI and the EU Joint Research Centre

CONTEXT

In the African Atlantic Façade region, foodborne infections and intoxications pose a significant public health challenge. Every year, foodborne contamination accounts for a significant number of illnesses and deaths in Africa, with a disproportionate burden borne by the most vulnerable groups. Effective control and protection of the food chain require a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach that strengthens prevention, detection, and crisis management capabilities. However, such mechanisms are often lacking or inadequate in the AAF countries. As a response, the EU CBRN Centres of Excellence launched **Project 108** to help 10 partner countries to **strengthen their legal, analytical, and crisis response capabilities**, aiming to assure that the populations of the AAF Region have safe, well protected and healthy access to food.

OBJECTIVES

- 1 To develop and enhance the **legal framework** and knowledge of international, regional, and national food legislation and standards related to food safety, food defense and food fraud.
- 2 To enhance partner countries' **analytical capabilities** and boost **regional and interregional collaboration**, ensuring increased participation and representation of women, to contribute to the control to ensure food safety.
- 3 To enhance **emergency preparedness** for effective intervention and **response capabilities** in the face of a food crisis.

PARTNER COUNTRIES



Benin



Cameroon



Gabon



Ivory Coast



Liberia



Mauritania



Morocco



Senegal



Sierra Leone



Togo

AREAS OF ACTION

Project 108 adopts a **comprehensive approach** that tackles three distinct but intertwined areas:



Phase 1: Diagnosis

- The first phase, spanning 2025-2026, entails an **assessment of partner countries' existing legal provisions, structures and resources** in the areas of food safety, food defense and food fraud.
- Based on this diagnosis, **priority actions** to optimise the regulatory framework and control mechanisms will be defined in collaboration with national authorities.
- An **awareness-raising campaign** will target institutional stakeholders, professionals and the general public, with a dedicated focus on women.

Phase 2: Capacity Building

- In 2026-2027, **technical training and workshops tailored to identified needs** will help stakeholders to enhance their skills on food hazards, detection, inspection and international standards.
- Workshops will also support the **development of practical food defense and fraud prevention plans** in each partner country.
- **Regional tabletop and field exercises** will test national emergency preparedness and crisis response mechanisms.

THE EU CBRN CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

A gender strategy was developed for the project based on the following three pillars: raising awareness and building capacity among stakeholders, integrating gender considerations into various activity areas, and implementing measures to promote women's participation in Project 108.



[Learn more about Project 108](#)



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