



FONDAZIONE
SAFE

2023

**Mission
Report**

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Foreword

The year 2023 marked yet another period of growth, evolution and consolidation for Fondazione SAFE.

We began the year with the launch of project number 38, celebrating an important milestone in our young albeit dynamic history. Little did we know that less than ten months later we would have added twelve more projects to our portfolio, closing the year with the signature of our 50th project.

Beyond our imagination was also the opportunity we would gain to be a pivotal partner in a strategic EU initiative such as DG ECHO rescEU's programme, contributing to the first Italian project funded within this framework, building the next generation of civil prevention and response vehicles for large scale events in Europe. And as our portfolio kept expanding so did our team, through the continuous growth in competence and skills of our members, and the acquisition of a new Headquarters, recovered and rebuilt from an early 20th century school located in the hills of Soave (Verona).

Amidst the achievements of the year, however, the challenges of an ever-changing global landscape, with conflicts dramatically unfolding in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, loomed large.

This increasing instability serves as a stark reminder for all of us at SAFE of what we are trying to achieve – a more secure and free world, for all. The world around us seems to remind us that while it is important to celebrate our small successes, what we are doing at SAFE and what we have collectively achieved so far, is not enough.

Uptake of new technologies for enhanced peace and security is too slow, especially in light of the unprecedented return to armaments we are facing – a worrisome development, as science and knowledge should be placed at the service of communities, not war. Investments in building resilient institutions at the service of citizens and in blending civilian and military capabilities to prevent and respond to crisis, risk becoming entrenched in a narrow vision of “allies versus enemies”. International cooperation for development and supra-national institutions, including the United Nations and the European Union, are facing internal and external crises, boosted by actors which consider instability the only way forward to maintain power and hegemony, disregarding democratic principles, civilian oversight, and respect of fundamental rights.

What can be SAFE's contribution to such a complex and worrying context? While we can certainly not influence world dynamics, we can keep our steering wheel straight onto our vision.

Our focus and energy should remain fixed on creating ever more innovative and concrete initiatives, that foster exchanges of knowledge and skills among different actors, within and beyond Europe. We can continue to fight evolutionary forms of organized crime, which exploit chaos to seep into society's most vulnerable sectors. We can create bridges between researchers, innovators, start-ups in and public administrations, ensuring innovation can take place now, not in the future. We can continue investing in training and capacity building, as investment in knowledge is the only path towards ensuring freedom. We can challenge preconceptions and "go against the flow", allowing skills and abilities that are present in public institutions in Europe as well as our neighbouring countries to shine, demonstrating that excellence can - and should - be found everywhere, and that if excellence is placed at the service of peace, stability, security and freedom, then citizens will drive forward change.

Beyond the number of projects awarded, the people engaged in our activities, the training sessions implemented and the number of innovative technologies tested - which remain impressive - I believe that the crucial result of 2023 at SAFE has been our ability to remain faithful to our principles and continue to be reliable partners for public sector innovators in Italy, Europe and beyond.

Looking ahead to 2024, I can only wish for SAFE to continue charting unexplored routes, inspire change, and lead by example, propelling us ever closer to our vision of a safer, more secure world.

Andrea D'Angelo

President - Fondazione SAFE

Fondazione SAFE

Company profile

Fondazione SAFE, established in 2018, is a non-profit foundation that has swiftly positioned itself as a vital force in the promotion and implementation of security, defence, and civil protection initiatives across Europe and beyond. With a robust track record of managing more than 50 projects, SAFE blends its commitment to European values with practical action, aiming to create a more secure and stable society.

Being a non-profit organization, Fondazione SAFE operates with a principle of impartiality and dedication to the public interest, operating as a private entity serving the public interest.

This status allows SAFE to work closely with a variety of stakeholders, including public institutions and private companies, ensuring that each project is tailored to meet communal needs and enhance societal welfare. The Foundation's non-profit nature fosters an environment where innovation can thrive, unencumbered by the drive for financial returns, allowing for a focus on creating impactful and sustainable solutions.

Innovation is at the core of Fondazione SAFE's operations. SAFE is not just a facilitator of change but also a hub of innovation, fostering cutting-edge technologies and methodologies to address contemporary challenges in security and defence. This innovative spirit is complemented by SAFE's collaborators, whose expertise is critical in driving the success of its initiatives. The team's direct management of activities combines personal expertise and industry best practices, enhancing project outcomes without outsourcing. This approach not only adds a human touch but also consolidates the Foundation's leadership position.

Fondazione SAFE's commitment to excellence is reflected in its approach to project management, where it leverages the internal competencies of its staff to achieve the highest standards in projects design, coordination, and support to technical implementation.

The Foundation's focus on civil protection, security innovation, and threats prevention highlights its key role in strengthening Europe's defence against global security risks. Its dedication to cultivating strategic partnerships plays a crucial role in augmenting the collective capacity to approach global security challenges.

Championing European Values and International Security

Facilitation, Leadership, and Innovation

Fondazione SAFE functions as facilitator, leader, and innovator in projects that enhance security, bolster defence mechanisms, and uphold peace and stability. The Foundation's role extends to pioneering developments and guiding critical projects in these sectors.

Promoting European Synergies

Fondazione SAFE supports the promotion of European values on an international stage. It spearheads collaborations among diverse organizations, catalyzing opportunities and fostering a united front to advance the Union's principles.

Cultivating Public-Private Partnerships

Fondazione SAFE is instrumental in creating and nurturing synergies between public institutions, academia and private entities. These partnerships are central to advancing shared objectives and enhancing collective capabilities in the field of security and defence.

Management of International Projects

With a proactive stance in the fields of security, defence, and emergency management, including civil defence, Fondazione SAFE takes a prominent role in the research, implementation, and management of international projects.

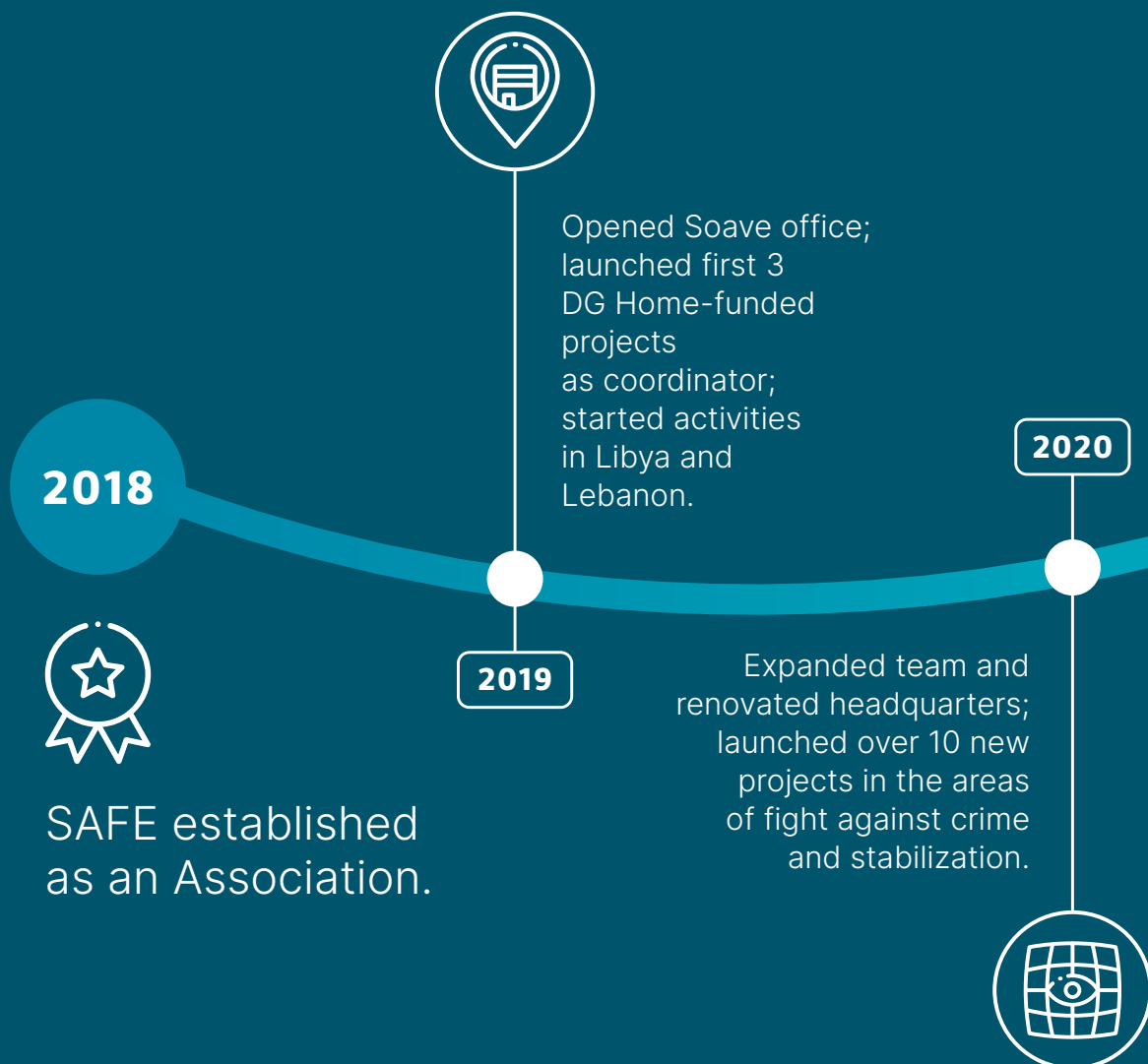


Photos reference from top left:

- HEAT Training
- RUNNER Project
- POSEIDON Project
- Panel NATO STO
- SHRINEs Project
- rescEU Project

Our history

Specializing in sectors such as security, defence, peace & stability, and fundamental rights, SAFE engages in building strategic partnerships and leading projects that aim for significant societal impact, operating both locally and internationally. Since 2018, Fondazione SAFE has worked on the implementation of 50 projects, amounting to a total value of nearly 90 million euros, supporting over 50 public and private institutions, including civilian and military first responders, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), research institutions, private companies, and international organizations.





SAFE became a Foundation, gained recognition as a public interest institution; took management of the ex-military base "Monte Calvarina" and joined European Security and Defence College (ESDC); over 20 projects under implementation.

2021

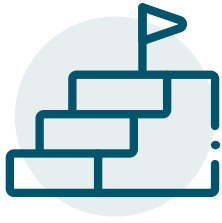
Start of large research projects on technologies for law enforcement; signed three-years framework agreement with Italian Defence General Staff for innovation and training projects.

2022

Team consolidation; purchase of a new headquarters; launch of HEAT courses dedicated to RAI journalists; award of the first large civil protection project under rescEU; regular use of Calvarina as a training and testing facility; development of VR training scenarios; 50 projects managed.

2023





Mission

At Fondazione SAFE, we are dedicated to enhancing security and freedom, with a blend of innovation and expertise. Our team, fueled by passion and creativity, is committed to delivering enabling solutions of exceptional quality. Recognized for our dynamic leadership and collaborative approach, we excel in designing and implementing complex projects, ensuring each initiative is both strategic and impactful.



Vision

Our vision is to cultivate a safer world for everyone, exploiting niche opportunities beyond the state-of-the-art. We set new standards for innovation uptake, capacity enhancement and collaboration, acting as a facilitator and a network-builder. We are committed to bringing tangible value to society, fostering positive and sustainable changes.

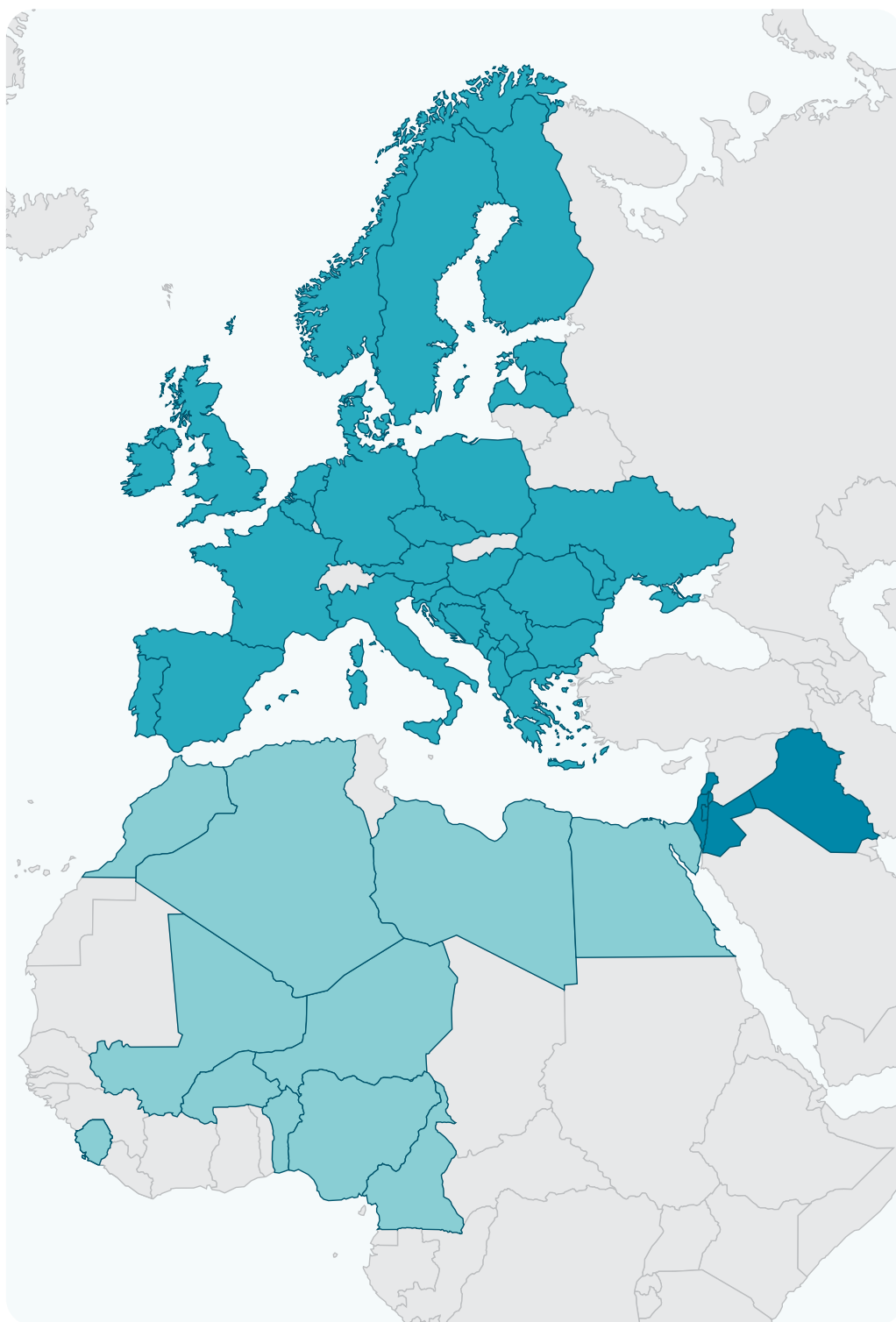


Values

- Integrity is at the core of our values, guiding us to act ethically and take responsibility for our actions.
- We embrace innovation and adaptability, always prepared to navigate the ever-changing global landscape.
- Collaboration is key, enabling us to forge lasting partnerships.
- Passion and determination energize our work, while transparency and effective communication ensure trust and clarity in our mission.
- Valuing equity and diversity, we advocate for inclusivity and a variety of perspectives, enriching our approach and delivering tangible outcomes.

Regional coverage

Fondazione SAFE has worked on an international level in more than 30 EU, Asia and North Africa countries in 2023. Our projects involve public and private entities ranging, from state institutions to law enforcement, from academia to research institutions and industry.



Europe

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, UK, Ukraine, Ungheria, Poland

Africa

Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Cameroon, Benin, Sierra Leone

Asia

Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Israel, Iraq

Fondazione SAFE's Role in Enhancing Safety and Innovation

As of 2023, Fondazione SAFE has achieved significant milestones in its mission to elevate security and safety, particularly within the European Union and its neighboring partner countries, with a focused engagement in the Mediterranean region. Since our establishment, driven by a steadfast commitment to advancing innovation through strategic public-private partnerships, we have successfully designed and implemented over 50 projects supported by a substantial budget of 90 million euros. Additionally, we have significantly enhanced the capabilities of stakeholders through extensive capacity-building initiatives, delivering more than 4,000 hours of training.

Our efforts, though concentrated in 39 countries, primarily aim to support EU policies, visions and partnerships. This strategic focus highlights Fondazione SAFE's role as a pivotal player in shaping a safer and more secure environment across Europe and its Mediterranean partners. The achievements of Fondazione SAFE not only underscore our ability to mobilize resources and expertise but also our commitment to making a meaningful difference in the communities we serve.





Photos reference from top left:

- POSEIDON Project
- POSEIDON Project
- EMERITUS Project
- EMERITUS Project
- ODINO Project
- HEAT Training

Strategic Project Development and Management

SAFE excels in assisting public institutions to devise and execute innovative projects by:

- Identifying and securing funding sources.
- Providing end-to-end project management support.
- Facilitating comprehensive evaluations and impact assessments.

This multifaceted support ensures the successful launch and execution of projects that span the security, defence, and civil protection sectors, supporting our partners throughout the entire project management cycle with strategic guidance.

Collaborative Partnerships and Network Building

Our partnerships span a spectrum of sectors and include key players such as:

- EU bodies and international donors.
- Government agencies across all levels.
- Emergency responders and Law Enforcement Agencies.
- Armed forces capabilities contributing to civil defence.
- Academic and research institutions.
- Private sector leaders and innovative start-ups in security Research and Development.

Collaboration with this broad array of actors take place at a variety of levels, including through the establishment of dedicated strategic agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs).

MoUs: The Backbone of SAFE's Collaborations

At SAFE, our MoUs are vital instruments through which we can formalize our collaboration with various entities. These agreements outline our shared objectives and the scope of our joint efforts, ensuring a strategic partnership to advance mutual goals in safety, security, and emergency preparedness. SAFE currently proudly counts 18 signed MoUs, spanning a wide range of collaborations with:



Public Institutions:

these include universities and research centers focusing on innovative technologies and emergency management, national military and civilian bodies for training and development, and governmental bodies for the enhancement of smart cities and citizen security.



Private Sector Partners:

partnerships with private institutions aim at pioneering advancements in Virtual Reality for security and defence, emergency management, and cutting-edge technology in CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) risk prevention and preparedness.

Each MoU is tailored to leverage the strengths of both SAFE and its partners, focusing on areas such as innovation, research, technology testing, emergency response, and education. These agreements are active frameworks that guide our collaborative projects, research initiatives, and capacity-building efforts.

Framework Agreement with Italy's Defence General Staff

The Framework Agreement with Italy's Defence General Staff, established in October 2022, marks a significant milestone in strategic collaborations for SAFE. This three-year pact formalizes the existing partnership between SAFE the Italian Defence General Staff (SMD) and all Italian Armed Forces. The agreement focuses on the design and execution of various projects, alongside training programs and extensive research and development efforts. A key aspect of this collaboration is the ability of SAFE to harness expertise from all branches of the Italian Armed Forces, including land forces, navy, air force as well as Carabinieri, to advance projects of national strategic relevance. This facilitates more effective promotion of Italian excellence internationally and drives the creation of innovative projects aimed at enhancing the security and freedom of Italian and European citizens.

Partner Engagement and Impact

SAFE's commitment to enhancing global security is evident through our diverse partnerships:



From EU institutions to local governments, and from academic circles to industry leaders, we harness collective expertise to innovate and implement solutions in security and defence.



We allocate resources effectively to both public and private partners, empowering them to address safety and security challenges with greater capability.



Our collaborative projects not only strengthen security infrastructures but also have a significant socio-economic impact on local communities.

Community Impact

Beyond our core mission, SAFE's initiatives also drive socio-economic growth, with our investments in local development producing a measurable annual impact on the local economy. This approach ensures that while we work towards creating a safer tomorrow, we also contribute to the economic health and resilience of the communities we engage with. In the four-year period 2020-2023, Fondazione SAFE spent more than one million and a half euros in the local economy. This amount corresponds to expenses on salaries, hotels, and restaurants, as well as other services and goods. When we estimate the direct and indirect economic impact, the overall contribution of SAFE to the local economy in the considered period increases to almost 4 million euros.

Additionally, SAFE has transformed neglected areas such as the former military base Calvarina, generating a flow of an estimated amount of 3000 people in the area and bringing an important economic impact. The Foundation has also revived other unused buildings in the area, giving them new purpose. For example, it renovated the Ex-Mulino of Soave, which now serves as Fondazione SAFE operational headquarters following an agreement with the municipal administration. In addition, Fondazione SAFE is involved in the project to renovate the former Calvarina NATO base and has purchased one of Soave old primary schools, which will become the new headquarters from January 2025, involving local companies and community in renovating the building.

Calvarina Innov-Action Lab

A PREMIER INNOVATION AND TRAINING HUB

Since February 2021, Fondazione SAFE has transformed the Monte Calvarina site in Roncà, Verona, from an abandoned military site into a Centre of Excellence. This hub is now pivotal for training public service professionals, including law enforcement, civil protection units, and firefighters, and for piloting cutting-edge EU-level security technologies. The year 2023 marked an era of heightened activity, with technical visits and collaborative projects like Horizon Europe's EMERITUS and PERIVALLON drawing over 80 stakeholders from academia, law enforcement, and startups. Notably, military and civilian personnel from diverse EU and international agencies conducted tests on new technological innovations at the service of first responders and law enforcement, and reinforced partnerships at EU-wide level.

Throughout 2023, the site hosted 6 Hostile Environment Awareness Training sessions, empowering over 50 journalists and EU mission members with crucial safety skills for conflict zones. It also caught the attention of high-level officials from across Europe, showcasing new technologies and pioneering a Virtual Reality CBRN Training Module for first responders. A significant community engagement event in July, attended by 2,000 locals, highlighted SAFE's commitment and vision, strengthening ties with Roncà Municipality.

*Former military
base Calvarina,
main building*



What sets the Calvarina apart?

Its strategic position and unique setup make the Calvarina base a one-of-a-kind facility in Europe. Located on Mount Calvarina, Verona, at 700 meters elevation, its 25,000 square meter compound includes versatile facilities ideal for immersive training and large-scale simulations.



Former military base Calvarina, Aerial View

Its programs span from Hostile Environment Awareness for civilians in conflict zones to comprehensive training for First Responders. The base's blend of natural terrain and semi-abandoned structures facilitates realistic simulation scenarios, enhancing preparedness for natural disasters, civil protection, and specialized law enforcement operations.

Moreover, Calvarina serves as a crucial testing ground for security innovations, offering a semi-controlled environment perfect for evaluating new technologies in robotics, AI, and XR. A standout initiative is the transformation of a main building into an XR training venue, now offering an immersive CBRN training experience to global stakeholders.

Revitalizing the Monte Calvarina Site: A glimpse into the future

Since 2021, Fondazione SAFE's initiatives have unveiled new potential at Monte Calvarina, leading to a cooperative redesign with authorities for an ambitious, long-term redevelopment. This transformation aims for architectural advancements and the development of flexible spaces for practical and theoretical training, adapting to present and future demands. The planned facilities, including a very large and unique XR training area, will make Calvarina a cutting-edge hub for training and research. Led by Fondazione SAFE and the architectural firm AMAA, the project takes advantage of the site's strategic location and natural landscape, aspiring to create a "Laboratory of the Future" that blends seamlessly with its surroundings, focusing on openness and continuity.



*New Training
Centre Entrance,
Rendering by AMAA Studio*

The project's ecological strategy emphasizes reshaping the hill to its original form, effectively reducing carbon emissions through extensive tree planting. This approach minimises environmental impact and repurposes materials, underscoring the project's comprehensive commitment to sustainability. Transforming a former military base, Fondazione SAFE showcases how architecture can revitalize neglected spaces into dynamic centers for innovation and community engagement, advocating for a sustainable future.

Fondazione SAFE's Vision for Sustainable Innovation at the 18th Venice Biennale of Architecture



*Biennale Exposition,
"It's Kind of a Circular
Story" project
Pictures (realized project)
Mikael Olsson*

At the 18th Venice Biennale of Architecture, Fondazione SAFE and AMAA, led by Marcello Galiotto and Alessandra Rampazzo, unveiled "It's Kind of a Circular Story". The exhibit highlighted the theme of sustainable transformation by repurposing structures for zero-impact solutions, with a piece of concrete from Calvarina symbolizing the commitment to minimizing waste and harmonizing with nature and community. The exhibition shows how transforming an abandoned place into an innovative facility can help create a new space that can reconnect the local community with a historic place, thus opening the door to education and cutting-edge technology.

HEAT Courses

ENHANCING SECURITY PREPAREDNESS: FONDAZIONE SAFE HEAT PROGRAM

The year 2023 was the 3rd year in a row during which Fondazione SAFE, as a certified member of the ESDC - European Security and Defence College network delivered HEAT - Hostile Environment Awareness Training courses to staff of Non-Governmental Organisations, private companies, missions of the European Union as well as journalists and television and radio operators.

Fondazione SAFE's HEAT courses, delivered in partnership with elite units from the Italian Armed Forces, are strategically crafted trainings designed to equip civilian personnel with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate high-risk and unstable environments effectively. Between 2021 and 2023, through the delivery of 13 HEAT courses in Italian and English, SAFE trained and prepared over 140 participants for deployment in hostile environments.

Perhaps even more than the previous years, 2023 was a crucial year for the SAFE HEAT courses, as it marked the beginning of the delivery of long-term support dedicated to the in-depth training of 160 RAI journalists and operators. In just 12 months, 43 RAI participants were trained, committing to provide them with the necessary skills to operate in high-risk environments. Courses delivered to RAI personnel are specifically tailored to meet the operational needs of journalists and technical staff, thereby enhancing their abilities to protect themselves while reporting from conflict zones and areas of instability around the globe.

*HEAT Courses,
Medical Training*



Key Areas and Focuses

Fondazione SAFE's activities and strategic focuses underscore its role in advancing security, defense, and cooperation, both within Europe and internationally.

Macro Areas



PEACE AND STABILITY

Addressing contemporary challenges and advancements in civil defence mechanisms.



SECURITY

Working on projects that help improve security measures and protocols in various domains.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Implementing projects that increase emergency readiness through new technologies.



JUSTICE

Contributing to projects that strengthen the fight against organised crime and the effectiveness of police forces.

Focus Areas



CBRN (CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR)

Specializing in projects against unconventional threats.



VR (VIRTUAL REALITY)

Leveraging VR technologies for training and simulation purposes.

Approaches



TRAINING

Providing comprehensive training programs to respond to various threats.



TESTING

Conducting rigorous testing to ensure the effectiveness of defence technologies.



NETWORKING

Fostering connections and collaborations to enhance projects efficiency.



MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Advancing innovative schemes in security projects, emphasizing technical and social impacts.



rescEU



Funded by the European Union

rescEU -CBRN-DSIM-IT European mobile Detection, Sampling, Identification and Monitoring (DSIM) capabilities for CBRN incidents and large public events

26.701.047,74 €

10.2023 – 09.2026

Italy

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The rescEU-CBRN-DSIM-IT project is set to strengthen the EU's capacity to address CBRN threats in the context of large events. This initiative, part of the broader rescEU programme aimed at enhancing disaster preparedness across the EU, within the framework of the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism, aims to provide a fleet of 11 specialized vehicles, including state-of-the-art DSM vehicles for rapid response, mobile laboratories for on-site analysis, and support vehicles equipped for logistics and operations. The modular capacity developed by the project is expected to be deployed in the context of large-scale events in prevention of and response to CBRN incidents and accidents. Additionally, it incorporates Extended Reality (XR) technology for operator training, ensuring a skilled response team ready for deployment to safeguard public health and safety.

SAFE'S ROLE

Fondazione SAFE leads the development and management of an innovative component dedicated to training, leveraging Virtual Reality (VR) and Extended Reality (XR) technology and using the former Calvarina base Testing & Training Area. This package foresees the creation of 1 dedicated 'XR Training Vehicle' and 1 'XR training Command and Control Vehicle'; and digital twins of the Mobile Laboratories, and the refurbishment and renovation of the Calvarina Area as innovative Center of Excellence for XR training of operators and technical experts who will be deployed with the modular capacity.

2023 RESULTS

- December 2023: inaugural rescEU-CBRN-DSIM-IT kick-off meeting in Brussels.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





NAS-BIOCHEM (P91): Capacity building for the management of hazardous chemical and biological waste in the North Africa and Sahel region



3.493.850 €



05.2023 – 05.2026



Algeria, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Benin, Sierra Leone

PROJECT OVERVIEW

NAS-BIOCHEM (P91) aims to enhance national and regional capacities in identifying, detecting, and managing activities that produce biological and chemical waste. The execution of the NAS-BIOCHEM (P91) initiative will be overseen by a Consortium comprising Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), in collaboration with Fondazione SAFE and Istituto di Scienze e Tecnologia Chimiche 'Giulio Natta' (SCITEC). Oversight of the project will be carried out by 3 international experts, with additional support from national and international experts on short-term assignments.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE will support horizontally all NAS-BIOCHEM (P91) activities, particularly focusing on the delivery of training activities, TTX and real-life scenarios. In particular, coordination of technical activities involving the deployment of experts and on-site support while facilitating the implementation of feasibility studies.

2023 RESULTS

- Fact-finding missions completed and support programme designed.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





MoSaiC: Real-time Monitoring and Sampling of CB menaces for improved dynamic mapping of threats, vulnerabilities and response capacities

 4.401.671 €

 01.2023 – 12.2025

 Italy, Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Netherlands

PROJECT OVERVIEW

MoSaiC aims at providing innovative sensing capabilities and real-time dynamic mapping of Chemical and Biological threats to enhance preparedness and response capabilities by civilian and military assets. This is obtained through the development of innovative sensors installed on UGVs and UAVs capable of operating semi-autonomously. The solution also aims to develop a near-real time 3D mapping and processing system (visualised through VR / XR systems) of the areas affected by contamination, to support the decision-making process and foster the exchange of data through a Command and Control (C2) and data visualisation system that allows for multi-user interaction.

SAFE'S ROLE

As the Project Coordinator, SAFE oversees management, quality control, and communication activities, including with the EU and supporting MoDs of Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Italy and The Netherlands. SAFE also leads a technical task exploring the use of civilian communication networks in emergency contexts, supports the project's exploitation, and provide partners with its testing & training facility.

2023 RESULTS

- 3 Relevant Use Cases and 3 scenarios selected.
- Research and preliminary implementation on C-B sensor development performed.
- Constant research and enhancement on autonomous navigation and mapping algorithms.
- Initial adaptation of the VR Command and Control system performed.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





PERIVALLON 

PERIVALLON: Protecting the EuROpean territory from organised environmental crime through inteLLigent threat detectiOn tools



 5.379.572 €

 12.2022 – 11.2025

 Spain, Greece, Italy, UK, Austria, Germany, Romania, Belgium, Sweden, Moldova, Israel, Estonia

PROJECT OVERVIEW

PERIVALLON is set to revolutionise the detection and investigation of environmental crimes by developing an advanced platform. This initiative aims at integrating heterogeneous multimodal sensor data, including satellite imagery, UAV-mounted camera feeds, X-ray scans, online resources, and administrative documents. Leveraging AI advancements, the PERIVALLON platform and its environmental crime monitoring center will also semantically interpret, correlate, summarise, and visualise multimodal evidence to aid decision-makers.

SAFE'S ROLE

Fondazione SAFE is pivotal in executing training, testing, and demonstration activities tailored for EU Law Enforcement Agencies and Border Guards. Utilising 4 pilot use cases, SAFE's training and testing facilities will provide an ideal environment for capacity-building activities and testing in semi-controlled settings. Additionally, SAFE plays a crucial role in defining a testing protocol and in carrying out the impact pathway assessment of the PERIVALLON technologies.

2023 RESULTS

- Developed a detailed protocol for the implementation and monitoring of the testing activities.
- Planning and organisation of more than 10 pilot demonstrations across 5 countries.
- Prepared the testing facility for PERIVALLON pilot demonstrations.

IMPLEMENTED BY



CO-FUNDED BY





BAMIN: Balkan Asset Management Inter-Agency Network

 517.100 €

 03.2020 – 09.2025



Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Jersey, Kosovo, Republic of North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Balkan Asset Management Inter-Agency Network (BAMIN) is an informal network of practitioners, working operationally within Asset Management Offices or Agencies (AMOs), within the institution or department mandated to deal with the management and disposal of criminal assets. The BAMIN Network, financially supported by the OSCE, aims to enhance members' efforts, on a multi-agency basis, in effectively managing seized and confiscated criminals' assets within their jurisdiction and in international cases. Its founding Members include Western Balkans jurisdictions, but the Network is open to observers and associate members from all over the world.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE manage the BAMIN Secretariat providing the network with administrative support and coordination by facilitating the cooperation and information sharing among asset management offices. SAFE, by overseeing the BAMIN Secretariat, contributes to the strategic development of the Network and the representation in international fora. SAFE is in charge of the management of the logistics, communication and dissemination activities to ensure the effective delivery of BAMIN activities.

2023 RESULTS

- Organisation of 5 international events, with a total involvement of more than 100 participants from 25 countries and 6 international organisations.
- Delivery of a training session on "Achieving success in the cross-border management of criminal assets".
- Expansion of the network with the involvement of two new BAMIN members.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





emeritus

EMERITUS: EnvironMEntal cRImes' intelligence and investigation protocol based on mUltiple data Sources



5.525.062 €



09.2022 – 08.2025



Austria, Belgium, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain, UK, Romania, Moldova

PROJECT OVERVIEW

EMERITUS is an innovation initiative designed to pioneer the next generation of technological tools in fighting environmental crimes. It focuses on creating a platform to support Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and Border Guards (BGs) to enhance the use of new technologies and offer a state-of-the-art protocol for effective environmental crimes investigation at both the national and cross-border levels. Furthermore, EMERITUS will improve the expertise of LEAs/BGs in this domain by designing and delivering a tailored-made training programme.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE is dedicated to implementing innovative training and testing for new technologies, aiming to amplify the capabilities of European LEAs and BGs in detecting and prosecuting environmental crimes. SAFE's contributions allow to simulate real-world scenarios in a unique environment, integrating emerging technologies, which includes integrating drones, satellite imagery, novel sensors, AI, machine learning, and big data analysis.

2023 RESULTS

- The first Project Showcase Event, organised in Verona as part of SAFE 'Envicrime week 2023', attracting over 90 delegates from 18 countries has been led.
- 2 Technological testing sessions at the Calvarina Testing Facility organized and implemented.
- 2 project videos launched.

IMPLEMENTED BY



CO-FUNDED BY





HOTHREAT: tailored CBRNe protection measures for hotels and conference centres



3.277.228,10 €



06.2023 – 05.2025



Poland, Spain, Slovakia, Greece, Romania, Cyprus, Italy, Portugal

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The HOTHREAT initiative strategically addresses the vulnerability of hotels and conference centers to CBRNe (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and explosive) terrorist threats. This project unites a consortium of 19 partners from 8 EU Member States, including a mix of private and public stakeholders, experts, security firms, and law enforcement, to fortify the security framework of the EU's hospitality sector. Its primary aim is to enhance societal safety by conducting detailed vulnerability assessments, identifying best practices, and formulating customized CBRNe protection strategies.

SAFE'S ROLE

Fondazione SAFE coordinates the "Comprehensive CBRNe Protection System," which is pivotal to HOTHREAT. This role involves crafting a holistic defence system for hotels and conference centers, highlighted by the creation of guidelines covering prevention, protection, and response tactics to CBRNe threats. These guidelines also encompass food safety, epidemiological investigation protocols, VIP protection strategies, and cleaning service responses to CBRNe incidents.

2023 RESULTS

- Delivery of 8 inspection visits at hotel/conference centers to identify most security threats involving CBRNe agents and corresponding security gaps and needs.
- Drafting of 8 inspection visits reports including target recommendations for enhancing hotel security in case of CBRNe threats including training programs, physical security enhancements, or crisis management strategies.
- Performed desks and survey research leading to the identification of relevant best practices, gaps, needs and recommendations for strengthening CBRNe security and preparedness in hotels.

IMPLEMENTED BY



CO-FUNDED BY





SHRINES: Raising Awareness for the protection of places of worship by promoting interfaith dialogue on the use of advanced technologies



1.448.084 €

02.2023 – 01.2025

Italy, France, Germany, Romania, Poland

PROJECT OVERVIEW

SHRINES improve the security of places of worship by establishing a multidisciplinary inter-faith network engaging most religious communities to foster dialogue, exchange knowledge, and promote innovative technologies for the protection against the widest range of risks. SHRINES will foster discussions on the use of potential technologies for the protection of places of worship including potential criticalities related to legal, moral and ethical implications. LEAs and public authorities will be involved, to further assess risk factors, perception of threats, exchange on capabilities and discuss opportunities of cooperation.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE coordinates the project, handling communication activities, drafting visibility materials, and promoting the SHRINES project at EU level through the creation of a European Network for safety and security managers in places of worship, and the establishment of a SHRINES Community of other project-related initiatives. Furthermore, SAFE leads and supports the organization of an EU-level Hackathon event to engage communities on security challenges in places of worship.

2023 RESULTS

- A European network for safety in places of worship established, with 61 participants.
- A SHRINES Community with 10 related projects created.
- 3 workshops on threats, vulnerabilities, and technological solutions held.

IMPLEMENTED BY



CO-FUNDED BY





POSEIDON: POrTS united Against corruption



760.740 €

03.2023 – 03.2025

Italy, The Netherlands, Belgium, Greece, Spain

PROJECT OVERVIEW

POSEIDON seeks to enhance EU level actions against corruption in the seaports sector, with a particular focus on corruption in major EU ports. POSEIDON aims to bring together governmental stakeholders, port authorities, Law Enforcement, and research bodies to address research gaps in port corruption, formulate recommendations for an EU Port Supply Chain Integrity Standard. The establishment of an EU Public-Private Port Stakeholder Network will promote the communication to share effective strategies for addressing and mitigating corruption vulnerabilities.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE oversees the project's coordination and management, leading the drafting of communication materials and visibility initiatives. SAFE contributes to the project Study on ports' supply chain in Europe, drafting a report on the Port of Venice system as Italian case study. Key to SAFE's efforts is fostering a community within the newly established EU Public-Private Port Stakeholder Network through 6 thematic dialogues, enhancing strategies to combat port corruption.

2023 RESULTS

- The EU Public-Private Port Stakeholder Network established with 40 participants who joined the Network.
- 6 Study visits to major European ports organised.
- 3 Thematic dialogues on public-private cooperation; digitalisation and integrity policies; and human smuggling.

IMPLEMENTED BY SUPPORTED BY CO-FUNDED BY





NATO HFM-NMSG-354: Study, Design, Building and Deployment of a CBRN XR Training Platform



Self-funded by participating nations



02.2022 – 02.2025



Italy, USA, Latvia, Belgium, Spain, Czech Republic, Finland, Austria, UK, Joint CBRN Defence Centre of Excellence.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

This NATO Research Task Group focuses on the development of a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Extended Reality (XR) Training Platform. The specific objectives of this RTG include studying state-of-the-art in XR applications for CBRN training and basic scenarios, as well as studying the immersiveness of the training experience and the prospective integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications. In 2023, the RTG's work has focused on designing and deploying an XR simulation training for Chemical Observers, in the context of a Nuclear detonation.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE chairs this NATO Research Task Group, ensuring the progress of activities from design to deployment. In line with its parallel activities in the context of project VERTIgO, SAFE oversees the selection of four CBRN training scenarios suitable for virtualization, and is directly responsible for the definition of a Concept of Operation for the integrated XR CBRN Mask. As Chair, SAFE is also overseeing the organization of various showcase activities related to the XR demo developed by the RTG, with a specific focus on engaging key stakeholders.

2023 RESULTS

- Development of an XR demo for Chemical Observers within the context of a Nuclear scenario.
- 3 Plenary meetings and 3 targeted showcases of the XR demo to key stakeholders, continuing into 2024.

CHAired BY



PART OF





ICAR: International Centre for Asset Recovery

 39.750 €

 07.2020 – 12.2024

 Worldwide

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The International Centre for Asset Recovery (ICAR) was established in 2006 as the Basel Institute of Governance's center of excellence for the recovery of confiscated assets. ICAR prioritizes practical mentoring in investigative techniques, asset confiscation, and legal strategies, along with fostering international collaboration. Its primary objective is to enhance capacity-building and facilitate the advancement of cases toward successful asset recovery. The project engages in aiding legislative and institutional reforms, crafting customised training programs, and partnering with global entities to drive innovation and policy discussions concerning asset recovery.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE supports ICAR in the configuration of an effective Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, including methodological advice on, among others, a Logical Framework and a Passport of Indicators, useful for data collection and compilation of targets achieved during the course of the activities. In the context of the signed framework agreement, ICAR may request additional ad-hoc support for the execution of specific Monitoring and Evaluation activities.

2023 RESULTS

- Independent and external mentoring on the Monitoring and Evaluation process and systems provided.
- Proposal and finalization of impact indicators.
- Feedback provision and methodological advice on current ICAR's tools and methods.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





EULEAD PHASE III: European Union Libya Expertise, Advisory and Deployment

 5.525.062,50 €

 06.2022 – 06.2024

 Libya

PROJECT OVERVIEW

EULEAD 3 continues the mission of its previous phases, aiming to aid Libya's institutional development towards becoming a stable, operational country. Following on the success of Phases I and II, Phase III focuses on deploying expertise in stabilisation and human security, ensuring Libyan institutions function in a conflict-sensitive and human rights-compliant manner. The project aligns with efforts by the European Union, international partners, and Libyan stakeholders, enhancing stability and laying the foundation for long-term reforms.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE manages the provision of technical assistance, capacity-building actions, technologies and equipment, and innovative processes to support first responders and security actors. Activities include the support to the Libyan Financial Intelligence Unit to enhance their capacities to counter money laundering and terrorist financing as well as strengthening the National Safety Authority in their firefighting capacities.

2023 RESULTS

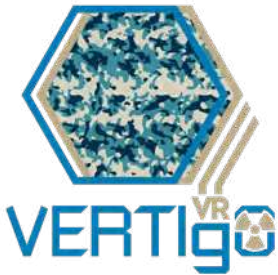
- Provision of equipment and technical assistance to the Libyan Financial Intelligence Unit.
- Conducted assessments to determine the National Safety Authority's firefighting needs and Libyan entities CBRN capacities and requirements.
- Provided medical equipment for a total of 380.000 € and supplies to the Libyan Red Crescent in Benghazi in response to the Derna emergency.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





VERTiGo: Virtual Enhanced Reality for inTeroperable training of CBRN military and civilian Operators



2.736.631 €

12.2021 - 05.2024

Italy, Belgium, Austria

PROJECT OVERVIEW

VERTiGo promotes the integration of Virtual Reality (VR) and 3D technologies in CBRN defense training, with the goal of creating a European Exercises Simulation Platform (EESP) for the creation of different tailored training scenarios. The immersiveness of the training experience is also ensured by the development of a hardware component that integrates a CBRN mask with a Virtual Reality headset to enhance realism and the overall user experience.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE coordinates VERTiGo, managing all project partners. SAFE is directly involved in a series of research activities on state-of-the-art CBRN training as well as in the definition of key project outputs, such as the Concepts of Operations of the EESP and the integrated VR CBRN Mask. SAFE leads the elaboration of VR training tutorials on the use of the EESP, and its innovative scenario building component, which will allow end-users to design CBRN VR training scenarios independently.

2023 RESULTS

- Finalised the EESP design.
- Completed 4 VR test case scenarios.
- Developed the first prototype of the integrated VR CBRN Mask.

IMPLEMENTED BY



Istituto Affari Internazionali



LINKS PASSION FOR INNOVATION



ALThERIA



SAFETY

SUPPORTED BY



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Funded by the European Union

PRENDI IN MANO
IL TUO FUTURO!



ODINO: Officine D'INNOVazione



 550.000 €

 01.2020 – 09.2024

 Italy

PROJECT OVERVIEW

“Officine D’INNOvazione - ODINO” supports young individuals (aged between 16 and 30 years) in Verona in entering the workforce through practical-theoretical training in viticulture in Soave and robotics/industrial fields in Verona, coordinated with local schools and professionals. The activities of the ODINO project involved over 20 local companies, organising up to 30 events and offering over 1000 hours of specialized training aimed at about 800 young people in the area. In the long term, ODINO’s mission is to become a permanent reality in the Veneto region and extend its activities to other areas of Italy.

SAFE’S ROLE

SAFE manages all activities at the “Innovation Workshop” in Soave, engaging around 600 youths in innovative viticultural and oenological processes, including pruning schools and product communication courses. Thanks to the inspirational talks, visits to wineries, and training courses organised by SAFE, the youth had the opportunity to discuss issues and problems related to the world of wine, as well as to make themselves known for possible collaboration.

2023 RESULTS

- Organised 15 training courses, engaging 230 youths.
- Held 3 inspirational talks.
- Participated in 1 industry events, enhancing young professionals’ exposure to the sector and with the participation of 11 youths.

IMPLEMENTED BY



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FUNDED BY





OPSON Operation: Fighting crime related to the illegal supply chain of counterfeit and substandard food products

 58.736 €

 10.2023 - 12.2023

 Italy, Netherlands, Georgia, Scotland

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Protecting consumers' right to health is a fundamental right principle and therefore crucial attention should be devoted to the fight against the criminal phenomena of counterfeiting and sophistication of food especially along illicit trafficking routes in EaP (Eastern Partnership) countries. The Operational Action, funded by EUROPOL's Low-Value Grant, led by the Italian Carabinieri for Healthcare (N.A.S.), and executed within EUROPOL's OPSON operation, aims to dismantle organised criminal groups engaged in food trafficking at an international level. The operational action aims at fostering collaboration between EU and EaP countries in the fight against food-related crimes.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE effectively supported the Italian Carabinieri Headquarters for Healthcare in achieving the project's objectives and effectively implement the international operational meeting. Specifically, SAFE provided logistical and administrative support for the organisation of the two-day operational meeting. In addition, SAFE supported the lead Institution with project management expertise for accomplishing the project outcomes and disseminating the key achievements.

2023 RESULTS

- Implementation of a two-day operational meeting in Tbilisi (Georgia) on the fight against food illegal supply chain-related crimes engaging more than 70 representatives including representatives from EU LEAs, from EaP countries and relevant international stakeholders.
- Boosting of cooperation between European LEAs and EaP countries and coordination actions to combat illicit food-related crimes.
- Strengthening of information exchange and best practices related to food counterfeiting/sophistication cases between EU MS LEAs, EaP countries and relevant stakeholders.

IMPLEMENTED BY



Government of the Netherlands



SUPPORTED BY



FUNDED BY





CBRN Forensic Training for LAF: Forensic principles for investigations

 22.500 €

 09.2023 – 11.2023

 Lebanon

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Fondazione SAFE has been entrusted by URS Federal Services International with the organisation of a forensic course focusing on “Illegal CBRN and drugs Labs and forensics principles” targeting 19 representatives of the Engineering Regiment of the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF). A two week training session took place in October 2023 at Kfarchima (Beirut), with the aim of providing trainees with a better understanding of CBRN Technical Intelligence/Crime Scene Investigation approaches in a contaminated environment and clandestine laboratories for CBRN agents and drugs production. The participants analysed the specific aspects related to crime scene investigation approaches, forensic procedures and use of specific equipment for CSI in contaminated environment.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE organised the advanced CBRN forensics training coordinating efforts from the Italian and Lebanese counterparts. The advanced training was organized jointly by Fondazione SAFE and the Italian Defence General Staff, under the existing framework agreement between the two entities, for the deployment of trainers from the ITA 7th CBRN Defence Regiment, with funding from the U.S. Defence Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA).

2023 RESULTS

- 10 days/40 hours of interactive lectures and practical exercises.
- 19 beneficiaries from LAF (Lebanese Armed Forces).
- 5 instructors from the ITA 7th CBRN defence regiment involved.
- 4 follow-up training sessions scheduled for 2024.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





MEDI-THEFT: Data sharing and Investigative Platform against Organised Thefts of Medicines



 1.579.251 €

 11.2021 – 10.2023

 Italy, Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro

PROJECT OVERVIEW

MEDI-THEFT addresses the escalating threat of pharmaceutical theft in the EU. This crime endangers public health as stolen and possibly adulterated medicines are often reintroduced into the official market. The project's transnational nature tackles medicine theft across borders, aiming to bolster the operational activities of Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and other stakeholders by developing an intelligence-based platform for more effective transactional investigations through enhanced data collection, analysis and information exchange. The project consortium is led by the Italian Medicines Agency (AIFA) and is composed of public and private entities involved in the pharmaceutical field.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE offered strategic and managerial support to AIFA, the institutional coordinator of MEDI-THEFT, ensuring effective sound and effective implementation of the foreseen actions and corresponding project outcomes. Additionally, SAFE led the dedicated work package focusing on communication and dissemination activities to enhance the project's impact at the international level, particularly tailoring the promotion of the MEDI-THEFT platform, highlighting its benefits and advancements.

PROJECT RESULTS

- Development of the MEDI-THEFT intelligence-based platform.
- Over 300 representatives from LEAs, drug regulatory agencies and private stakeholders trained in using the MEDI-THEFT platform.
- Participation in over 20 networking and promotional events.
- Drafting and distribution of 3 keynote publications contributing to increasing knowledge in tackling pharmaceutical crimes.

IMPLEMENTED BY



CO-FUNDED BY





Technical Assistance to the National Coordinator against Corruption-Sector Reform Contract for the Fight Against Corruption



720.000 €



02.2020 – 02.2023



Albania

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The “Technical Assistance to the National Coordinator against Corruption” project, funded by the EU and managed by A.R.S Progetti S.P.A., strengthens Albania’s anti-corruption efforts. The initiative enhances the Ministry of Justice’s ability to develop and implement anti-corruption strategies, focusing on improving the institutional framework and capabilities of the Anti-corruption Directorate. Key activities include drafting action plans and fostering collaboration across sectors.

SAFE’S ROLE

SAFE supports the project by enhancing the operational capacities of the National Coordinator against Corruption and the Ministry of Justice. Key tasks involve developing operational protocols, improving corruption case oversight, refining risk assessments, and integrating anti-corruption measures across government. Training sessions are also held to boost official capacities.

PROJECT RESULTS

- SAFE supported the project by deploying experts to enhance the operational capacities of the National Coordinator against Corruption and the Ministry of Justice. Key tasks included M&E capacities enhancement, training, coaching and capacity building.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





EUROMED JUSTICE – Provision of training services for criminal justice practitioners within the framework of EuroMed Justice V



808.898 €



11.2021 – 03.2023



European Member States, South Partner Countries

PROJECT OVERVIEW

EuroMed Justice, a capacity-building initiative, had been designed to enhance cross-regional judicial cooperation on criminal issues. Its primary goal was to bolster strategic collaboration among judicial authorities in South Partner Countries (SPCs), between SPCs and EU Member States, and with EU judicial bodies. The program, led by the SAFE and EPLO Consortium, involved 21 targeted training sessions for around 350 justice professionals in key areas of international criminal cooperation, supported by EMJ PMT and CrimEx, aiming to involve 450 judges and prosecutors.

SAFE'S ROLE

Leading the project implementation, SAFE had crafted the training methodologies and action plans, and managed the organization of over 12 training sessions. These sessions, focused on International Cooperation in criminal matters, Procedural Criminal Law, and specialties like Cybercrime and Environmental Crimes, had engaged more than 270 professionals from 16 countries, reinforcing SAFE's leadership in fostering judicial expertise and cooperation across the Euro-Mediterranean region.

PROJECT RESULTS

- 21 training sessions in various thematic areas for about 350 justice professionals conducted.
- 450 judges and prosecutors in comprehensive training programs engaged.
- Extensive topics including International Cooperation, Procedural Criminal Law, Cybercrime, and Environmental Crimes covered.
- Over 270 professionals from 16 countries unified, promoting cross-regional judicial cooperation and skill exchange.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





P73: CBRN Protection of Critical Infrastructures in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon



2.999.200 €



07.2019 – 10.2023



Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Centre of Excellence Project 73 strives to reduce vulnerabilities of critical assets, systems and network. P73 project in Lebanon provides the setting of protocols for implementation of physical protection, acquisition, installation and testing of appropriate Chemical Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) detection systems. Furthermore, the project provides the training of personnel responsible for the protection of specific critical physical and virtual assets and infrastructures (CI) in Lebanon, as to achieve critical command chain protection through capacity building programme.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE had been the leader of the EU CoE P73 Lebanese component, focused on the protection of the Grand Sérail from CBRN events. SAFE delivered and coordinated over 30 weeks of CBRN trainings in favour of the Governmental Guard, with the support for the organization of the large-scale exercise "ARZ 2021". SAFE's role was to mobilise experts coming from different institutions, inter alia from the Italian MoD, Guardia Civil via EUROGENDOFOR and the French BRI. To ensure a sustainable approach, the project was concluded with a small-scale exercise in preparation of ARZ2023.

PROJECT RESULTS

- Over 30 weeks of training sections.
- Efficient response to the 4th of August explosion and COVID19 Pandemics with provision of training and equipment and as advisor in the relevant fora.
- 6-weeks of training program for the Presidential Guard Brigade, with the deployment of 5 military CBRN instructors from the Italian Army.
- Generation of over 30 SOPs, as well as emergency response plans and a set of guidelines to facilitate the response of CBRN events also for civilians.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





FAST: Review of Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking Programme Results

 35.000 \$

 12.2022 – 05.2023

 Worldwide

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In December 2022, SAFE joined forces with the United Nations University — Centre for Policy Research to evaluate the Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST) initiative's outcomes between 2021-2022. FAST aims to engage the financial sector in combating all forms of Modern Slavery, including human trafficking and forced labour, by promoting risk incorporation into financial regulations and practices. Within this framework, FAST works, inter alia, with public and private entities such as banks, investors, survivor support organizations, financial regulators and policymakers.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE conducted a thorough review of the FAST initiative, assessing its alignment with objectives, the effectiveness of its activities, its impact on reducing modern slavery risks, and the sustainability of the programme. SAFE's work was conducted over the course of five months and entailed a thorough assessment of written documents, the distribution of a survey and the organisation of a series of interviews with relevant stakeholders. The analysed results were consolidated in a comprehensive evaluation report, which provided insights and recommendations for future implementation phases.

2023 RESULTS

- Reviewed over 40 documents and interviewed more than 20 stakeholders to assess the relevance, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of the FAST initiative.
- Delivered a report presenting key insights on the results achieved and its impact on modern slavery risk reduction in the financial sector.
- Presented 7 actionable recommendations for enhancing the initiative's effectiveness and sustainability in future cycles.

IMPLEMENTED BY



FUNDED BY





OPFA-CULT: Operational Facility supporting the fight against illicit trafficking in CULTURAL goods



441.946,38 €



04.2021 – 12.2023



Italy, Belgium, Romania

PROJECT OVERVIEW

OPFA-CULT combats illicit trafficking of cultural heritage, fostering international cooperation among EU law enforcement agencies. Through an Operational Facility, it provides financial support to LEAs for ongoing investigations and facilitates partnership networks for harmonized investigative methodologies. Building on successful investigations by the Carabinieri Command for the Protection of Cultural Heritage and the Romanian Gendarmerie, OPFA-CULT promotes peer-to-peer cooperation through funding training, mentoring, and operational exchanges. Since January 2022, it's an EMPACT Operational Action.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE was directly responsible for the management of the Operational Facility and the disbursement of the allocated EUR 200.000 to support investigations carried out by EU Member States' LEAs in the field of illicit trafficking of cultural goods. The Operational Facility included supporting capacity-building activities, operational actions, and facilitating peer-to-peer meetings, based on the specific requests coming.

PROJECT RESULTS

- Enhanced collaboration among EU LEAs, creating an operational network across over 15 EU member states.
- Delivered 3 workshops and 2 training sessions, equipping over 50 LEAs with skills in cultural heritage protection.
- Implemented 12 initiatives including investigations and operational meetings.
- Developed an Operational Handbook and conducted 2 technical studies for LEA investigations in cultural heritage protection.

IMPLEMENTED BY



SUPPORTED BY



CO-FUNDED BY





ARZ-CBRN counter-terrorism field exercise

 50.000 €

 09.2023 – 04.2024

 Lebanon

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Under the framework of the EU CBRN Centre of Excellence Initiative, with the Patronage of the President of the Council of Ministers of Lebanon, ARZ 2023 was planned and organised: a 4-day inter-agency CBRN field exercise that focused on key aspects of detection and initial response to CBRN security threats. The main objective of ARZ 2023 is to test the capacities to counter CBRN risks, test emergency response procedures, and identify best practices. The exercise comprised different scenarios to test and implement interagency response across the actors involved, thus a fundamental for the review of SOP for interagency response.

SAFE'S ROLE

SAFE, in collaboration with ISTC, and the OSA expert of the EU CBRN CoE in the Middle East, and CoE NFP of Lebanon, supported the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute in the organization of the exercise. SAFE role in ARZ remained crucial given the effort and experience in the country for the past 5 years. SAFE was in charge of coordinating local efforts from a logistical perspective and supporting the technical capacities, including mobilization of experts and coordination with the Lebanese agencies.

2023 RESULTS

- Commitment of over 200 participants, coming from the Lebanese Atomic Energy Commission, the Beirut Fire Fighters, the Civil Defence, the Lebanese Red Cross, the ISF, the LAF.
- Test of the capacities for an effective revision of the existing SOP, thanks to the participation of over 60 international observers and evaluators, from different organisations such as Interpol, IAEA, OPCW, Italian MoD and BRI.

IMPLEMENTED BY

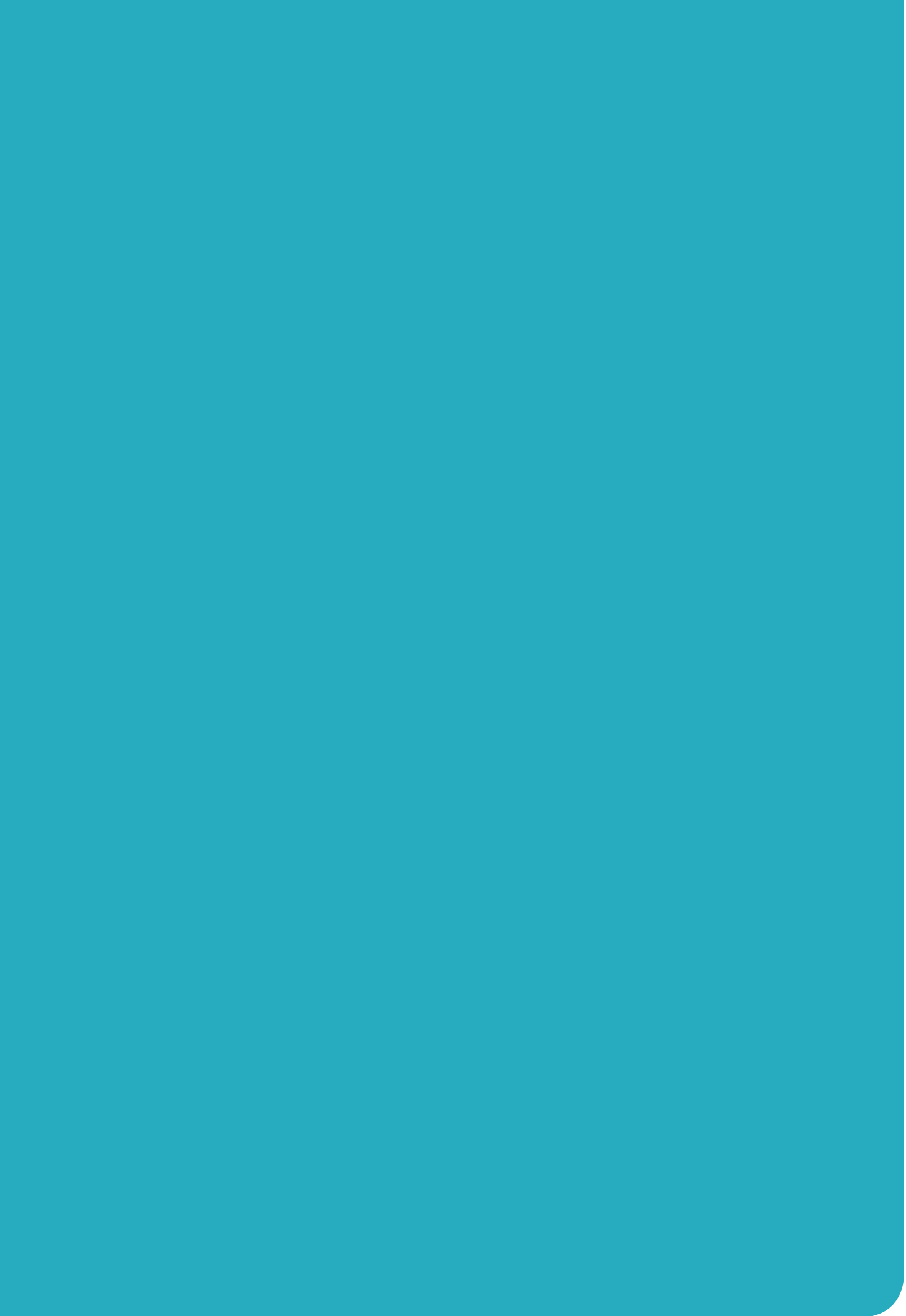


SUPPORTED BY



CO-FUNDED BY





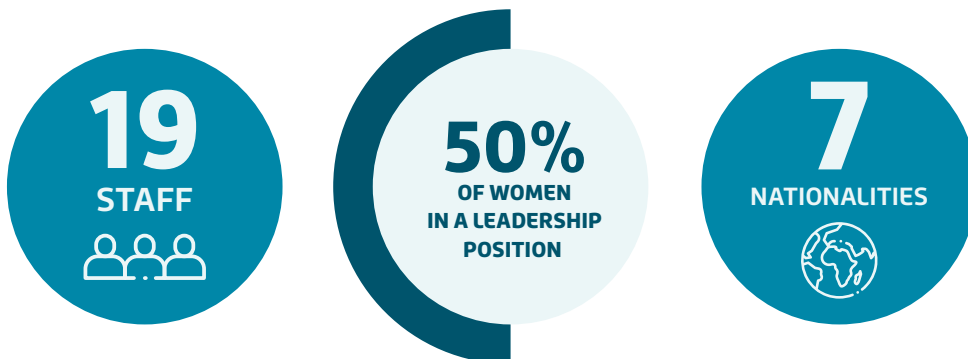
Professional synergy:

EXPERTISE AND DIVERSITY DRIVING SUCCESS

Fondazione SAFE's success is propelled by our dedicated team: a dynamic, forward-thinking, and ambitious collective of professionals hailing from diverse regions around the world. Our core team members are endowed with highly specialized expertise in the design, management and evaluation of complex projects in the field of security, defence, and the rule of law. This specialised knowledge is further enriched by that of a broad array of collaborators, each contributing with a unique skill set, thereby enhancing the quality of our results and our capacity for innovation.

Central to our ethos is a steadfast commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion, principles that are deeply woven into the fabric of our organisational culture. The team at Fondazione SAFE exemplifies these values, displaying an impressive array of diversity in gender and experience that propels our mission forward. With 50% of the Management Board composed of women and more than the majority of the team composed of women, we exemplify gender equity within the professional sphere.

The diverse perspectives within our team not only foster innovation but also ensure that we remain agile and adaptable, qualities essential for addressing both current and future challenges.



Core TEAM:



**Andrea
D'ANGELO**

President

EU project director, managing 1B€ in security and rights projects with a specialized background in economics and criminology.



**Silvia
D'ADDA**

Financial Director

With two Masters in Economics and Project Management, fluent in four languages, overseeing financial and contractual aspects of SAFE initiatives.



**Michele
NONES**

Vice President

Vice President, expert and columnist in the aerospace, security, and defence sectors. He has worked for 25 years as a consultant for the Ministry of Defence and the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. Vice President of the IAI and Coordinator of the CBRN-P3



**Federico
BENOLLI**

Senior Associate

Supervisor of SAFE's projects portfolio. Experienced in Security and Intelligence, with more than €70M projects implemented, with a focus on CBRN and innovation.



**Federica
GENNA**

Senior Associate

Leading SAFE's business development. Academic and professional background in international relations and security, with a track-record working in International Organizations.



**Alessandro
D'AUTILLIO**

Associate

CBRN training and technologies expert, focusing on the MENA and WB region and the management of high-level networks.



**Valentina
AMBROSI**

Associate

Financial Manager, economics and business graduate with a master in financing of the no-profit sector, oversees SAFE's financial strategy and monitoring.



**Alessandro
CASTAGNETTI**

Associate

PHD, trained Economist with ample experience in carrying out research and data analysis in the context of European and International projects, specifically focusing on environmental crimes.



**Barbara
CAZZOLA**

Senior accountant

Administrative and finance specialist, handling accountant operations and bookkeeping tasks.



**Stefano
MAZZARO**

Junior associate

With academic background in strategic studies and international humanitarian law. Experienced in Security & Defence and technology projects.



**Maria
ILLETTERATI**

Junior associate

Human rights protection and emergency governance graduate. She contributes to projects focusing on the justice sector and the fight against organized crime.



**Victoria
TOKATZIAN**

Junior associate

With a background on International Cooperation and an experience in ROM activities, active in the Italian Armenian Community, with several contributions on the Caucasus region issues.



**Erika
CORSO**

Associate

With experience in the Communication and Marketing field, she is responsible for the management and strategic planning of Fondazione SAFE Communication activities.



**Maryame
MOUIDA**

Junior associate

Communication strategies graduate, with linguistic studies background, manages SAFE's digital and offline communication activities.



**Davide
GALLO**

Junior associate

Economics graduate, in SAFE he expanded his knowledge in European economics, global development issues and international human rights law.

Projects TEAM:

Emmanuel BOUQUOT

Senior Associate

P73 project, supporting SAFE's EU CBRN training initiatives.

Jill THOMAS

Senior Associate

BAMIN, EULEAD and EMJ project, Asset Recovery Advisor: provides strategic support in asset management, asset recovery and AML fields.

Rachel DOUAIHY

Associate

EULEAD and ARZ projects, project management and coordination.

Lucia YAACOUB

Associate

EULEAD, P73, ARZ and EMJ projects, translation and interpretation services.

Rafeeq ALBREAKY

Associate

EULEAD project, Project Manager.

Emad ELAMMAMI

Associate

Logistics Service Manager.

Agreements and Partnerships







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