



11th EASO Consultative Forum Annual Plenary Meeting

Discussion Paper for workshop on Training

1. Background and aim of the workshop

The importance of a harmonised training and learning pathway to develop the knowledge and skills of professionals involved in asylum and reception processes across the European Union, stands out as one of the core activities of EASO's mandate (as per art. 6 of its founding Regulation), enshrined also in other key legislative instruments of the CEAS.

The EUAA regulation upholds and expands the remit of the Agency on training and learning in the new art. 7.

Since its establishment, EASO has implemented this task through a unified Training Curriculum on the asylum acquis, implemented on voluntary basis by the EU Member States, through the train-the-trainers methodology. This has allowed the Agency to reach a total number of 57,421 participants enrolled in its training sessions, from 2012 to September 2021.

The Training Curriculum is developed in close cooperation with Member States experts, and reviewed by the 'Training Reference Group' composed of UNHCR, members of civil society and EU agencies such as FRA and Frontex, and the European Commission.

In order to better respond to the needs of Member States and to align training activities with their learning needs, EASO is currently reviewing and upgrading its training offer, in line with the principles established by the European Sectorial Qualification Framework for Asylum and Reception Officials (ESQF). This process involved a mapping exercise of the tasks performed by the asylum and reception personnel in the EU, and the development of a learning path matching the qualifications and level of expertise needed, with varying degree of complexity.

In light of the CF Workshop 2020 on training and professional development restating the willingness of CF members to cooperate on the development of EASO training and learning, and in line with the EASO's aim to foster an open dialogue with civil society organisations through the EASO Consultative Forum, EASO has launched a project of consultation of the Consultative Forum on four selected Training Modules. EASO has organised a thematic meeting on training in June to launch the consultation project, which is now close to the implementation stage.

EASO bears in mind the new role of the Consultative Forum within the EUAA, where, according to Art. 48 (5a), "The Consultative Forum shall be consulted on the establishment and implementation of...the European asylum curriculum".

2. Structure and format of the workshop

In light of the background and aim, through the thematic workshop on Training, EASO would like to:

- Present EASO's Training Curriculum and the changes undergoing in light of the development of the ESQF, with particular regard to design and development of new learning;
- Present the main takeaways from the consultation project of the CF members on selected training modules which is currently in place
- Present the current state of play on the development of the modules that are currently part of the consultation project: Applicants with Diverse SOGIESC, Victims of Gender-based Violence, Trafficking in Human Beings, Psychological Support in Reception
- Explore areas of cooperation in the consultation on the establishment and implementation of the European Asylum Curriculum;
- Explore practices, methods and innovative techniques used by civil society organisations when delivering training;

Participants to this workshop are expected to:

- share views and ideas on existing training program and activities implemented in the national or international context, within their remit;
- propose suggestions for potential cooperation on the consultation and review of thematic training areas, according to their knowledge and expertise;
- share good practices, and discuss challenging issues;

The workshop will be of participatory nature, to guarantee attendees' ownership and engagement. After an introductory presentation on the concepts and principles related to EASO's future Training curriculum, in relation to the EQSF, participants will be invited to reflect and discuss on their potential contribution.

3. Key questions to be discussed

To maximise participation and effective sharing of ideas, the plenary will discuss the following questions (in each sub-group):

- How does civil society/your organisation support MS in the area of training in the implementation of the CEAS?
- What are the areas of expertise in which you would like to contribute to EASO training?
- Which gaps in the broader field of training do you see and how you would address them?