

FPI Results Framework - Indicator Methodology Note

1. Indicator Name and Code
<p style="text-align: center;">Number of organised crime related investigations conducted as part of a coordinated trans-regional operation</p> <p>OPSYS Code: 65822</p>
2. Technical Details
<p><u>Unit of measure:</u> Number of investigations.</p> <p><u>Type of indicator:</u> Quantitative; Actual (ex-post); Non-cumulative (annual).</p> <p><u>Level of measurement:</u> This is an Outcome indicator. It would logically be associated with outcomes such as “Improved international cooperation/coordination among law enforcement authorities”, “Increased effectiveness of joint trans-regional crime prevention”, or “Enhanced alignment with international security and justice standards”.</p> <p><u>Disaggregation:</u> None.</p>
3. Description
<p>This indicator measures the number of formal investigations into organised crime that are conducted as part of coordinated trans-regional operations supported by EU/FPI interventions. Tracking this indicator provides insight into the effectiveness of international cooperation and coordination in combating organised crime, reflecting progress in strengthening security and justice systems across regions. Sectors involved are security, international partnerships, and reforms.</p>
4. Calculation of Values and Example
<p>The value of this indicator is calculated by counting number of organised crime-related investigations conducted as part of coordinated trans-regional operations during the reporting year.</p> <p><u>Technical definitions:</u></p> <p>Organised crime: Serious criminal activities carried out by structured groups operating over time with the aim of gaining profit or power. These groups often engage in activities such as drug trafficking, human trafficking, arms smuggling, environmental crimes or cybercrime, and operate across national borders (Europol).</p> <p><u>Counting Guidance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope: The operations covered by the indicator involve <u>collaboration</u> between multiple countries or regions to address <u>organised crime activities</u> that transcend national borders. Such operations may target various forms of organised crime, including drug trafficking, human trafficking, arms smuggling, environmental crimes, and cybercrime. • Inclusion criteria: Only investigations that are formally initiated, documented, and conducted as part of a coordinated trans-regional operation supported by the concerned EU/FPI intervention within the reporting year should be counted. • Exclusion criteria: Investigations that are purely national in scope, lack formal documentation, or are not part of the concerned EU/FPI intervention/operation should not be included. • Avoid double counting: Each investigation should be counted only once, even if it involves multiple countries or spans several months. Likewise, avoid counting again the same investigation in different reporting periods (e.g.: in year 1 and again in year 2). <p><u>Quality Control Checklist:</u></p>

1. Is there documented evidence that the investigations were officially launched and completed within the reporting year?
2. Is there a clear and verifiable link between the investigations and the concerned EU/FPI intervention?
3. Are the investigations formal in nature (not preliminary reviews or informal inquiries)?
4. Has each investigation been counted only once, even if it spans multiple countries or months?
5. Are the data sources reliable and available for verification, e.g., official reports, operation logs, third-party evaluations)?
6. Has the reporting team ensured consistency in the definition of “organised crime-related investigation” across time and contexts?

Example:

In year Y, under an EU/FPI intervention on Global Illicit Flows, a coordinated trans-regional operation was conducted involving law enforcement agencies from Countries A, B, and C to dismantle a drug trafficking network operating across their borders. As part of this operation, 12 formal investigations were initiated and documented, leading to multiple arrests and seizures. Each investigation was officially recorded and concluded within the calendar year. The value to be reported in year Y is: 12.

5. Data Sources

Reported values should derive primarily from the internal monitoring systems of EU-funded interventions. Data must be collected and reported by the implementing partner and verified by the Operational Manager (OM). Examples of data sources: official records and reports from law enforcement agencies, operation logs, and external monitoring and evaluation missions/reports.

6. Other Uses / Potential Issues

This indicator helps assess the effectiveness of EU/FPI interventions in fostering international cooperation to combat organised crime. It informs strategic planning, capacity-building efforts, and policy development aimed at enhancing security and justice systems across regions.

Potential Issues: Limited access to data due to confidentiality, variations in legal definitions of organised crime across jurisdictions, and difficulties in coordinating and documenting trans-regional operations. Ensuring consistent definitions and robust data verification processes is essential to maintain data quality.