

Towards a new partnership between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries after 2020

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Common global interests in a multi-polar world

1. To which degree has the partnership been effective in tackling global challenges?

It has been effective in most other fields except in global economic inclusion

2. What would be needed to strengthen results in this respect and on which global challenges could the partnership add most value in the future, in the context of the new SDGs framework and in relevant international fora?

Most value in development could be added by focusing more on economic inclusion through developed global economic value chains

Human rights, democracy and rule of law, as well as good governance

3. Have the mechanisms provided for in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement (CPA) (i.e. political dialogue, financial support, appropriate measures, suspension of the agreement) achieved meaningful improvements on human rights, democracy, rule of law and good governance, including the fight against corruption? Should the future partnership do more in this regard, and in what way?

It has achieved improvements but the realistic schedules must be understood in achieving changes

4. Has the involvement of local authorities and non-state actors (i.e. civil society organisations, the media), national parliaments, courts and national human rights institutions in the partnership been adequate and useful to promote human rights, democracy and rule of law as well as good governance? Could they contribute more and in what way?

Especially local authorities could contribute more a being sustainable permanent institutions with good contact on grass root level

Peace and security, fight against terrorism and organised crime

5. Are the provisions on peace and security in the CPA appropriate and useful and has the balance between regional and ACP involvement been effective?

6. Should the future partnership provide for more effective joint action on conflict prevention, including early warning and mediation, peace-building and state-building activities, as well as on tackling transnational security challenges? Should this be done in the EU-ACP context?

conflict prevention, including early warning and mediation could preferably be strengthened

Sustainable and inclusive economic growth, investment and trade

7. How effective has the partnership been in promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development?

It has had impact on economic growth in general but it has not been promoting inclusive economic growth as effectively as it could while the developing countries are still not equal partners in economic relations but more like raw material providers in the global value chains.

8. Taking into account the new SGDs framework, should the future partnership do more in this respect, and what?

It should!!!!!! The key issue might be focusing on research and implementation of efforts on restructuring inclusive equitable value chains promoting better social economic development in Africa. Promoting transparency of economic relations is one of the key aspects, including country specific reporting requirements.

9. How effective has the partnership been in supporting macroeconomic and financial stability? In which areas would there be added value in ACP-EU cooperation on macroeconomic and financial stability?

10. How effective has the partnership been in improving domestic revenue mobilisation, in promoting fair and efficient tax systems and in combatting illicit financial flows? Would there be added value and more efficiency in stronger ACP-EU cooperation on these matters?

Illicit financial flows as well as restructured equitable transparent value chains are the key for economic sustainability of developing countries and policies related in this regards should be prioritised

11. Has the partnership been able to contribute substantially to mobilising the private sector and attracting foreign direct investment?

Much more could be done through flexible user friendly instruments designed in cooperation with private sector, especially SMEs who still are not contributing in this partnership as they could when understanding their prioritised role in creating jobs and thus eradicating poverty

12. How could the potential of the EU and ACP private sector be better harnessed? What should be the main focus of EU and ACP private sector cooperation in a post-Cotonou framework, and what might be the role of ODA in this?

Main focus should be on SME-sector partnership and user-friendly instruments also in covering potential risks of even smaller SMEs getting involved in cooperation with African partners

13. In this setting, what opportunities do you see for the new, digital economy?

Research and innovation systems mutually developed with African private sector and eg universities can be major contributor if effectively supported

14. To what extent has the partnership been able to contribute to increase agricultural development and trade?

Agricultural trade should be analysed from the point of view of its impact on African countries agricultural self-sustainability and food safety

15. What has been the contribution of the partnership trade preferences to the integration of ACP countries in the world economy and to its development goals?

Integration should be more evaluated from the point of view of the African-European value chains impact on development in Africa, not as much as presently from the point of view of only traditional economic interests of industrialized countries

16. Is there still a need for specific provisions on trade cooperation in the post-Cotonou framework, also taking into account the ACP countries which have not signed an EPA? If so, what could/should they cover?

Analytical evaluation of the trade agreements impact on African countries economies would be preferred, including all potential risks of the EPA-like trade agreements risks to prevent development of regional value chains within African countries

Human and social development

17. Has the partnership delivered on its human development objective in an effective and efficient way, in particular on poverty eradication, and also concerning gender equality and empowerment of women? How could it be improved?

More focus on job creations, entrepreneurship and economic relations impact on poverty eradication should be preferred

18. Taking into account the new SDGs framework, what are the main challenges related to human development that the future partnership should focus on?

Ensuring economic resources for self-sustainable human development in African societies

Migration and mobility

19. Has the partnership been a useful vehicle for discussing migration issues and has it positively contributed? Has Article 13 CPA been fully applied?

20. Should a future partnership do more in this regard, and on which particular aspects should it focus (legal migration and mobility, addressing root causes of migration, return and readmission, tackling human trafficking and smuggling, international protection)?

More focus on job creation and entrepreneurship development related policies in planning the social inclusion of the immigrants

A stronger political relationship

21. How effective has the political dialogue been and at which level is it the most effective: national, regional and through the joint EU-ACP institutions? Should the scope of political dialogue be widened or narrowed?

Political dialogue should see the African partners as still more equal. When setting the agendas, the voice of Africa should be heard when they saying : "we want trade -not only aid"

22. Would a stronger involvement of EU Member States, associating their bilateral policies and instruments to the political dialogue at national level, enhance the dialogue's effectiveness and efficiency?

Yes its would!

23. Has the fact that the agreement is legally binding been instrumental to its implementation as compared to other regional partnerships based on political declarations?

Coherence of geographical scope

24. Could a future framework be usefully opened up to other countries than the current members of the ACP Group of States? Which countries would that be?

25. What kind of framework should govern EU and ACP relations? How could an ACP-EU successor framework relate to the more recent EU regional partnerships with Africa, Caribbean and Pacific States? Could a future ACP-EU framework include distinct partnerships with regional partners?

The basis of the framework should be understanding the inclusive economic developments role in general social economic development of Africa

26. Is there scope for building in more structured relationships with Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa?

Cooperation tailored more towards groups of countries with similar development level

27. Is the current system of allocation of development resources, based on need and capacities as well as performance, sufficient for channelling funds towards those countries where the highest impact can be obtained? Should allocation of resources continue to prioritise countries most in need, including fragile states?

Middle income countries role in pulling the whole African continents development should be utilised and specifically private sector development instruments should focus on this country group and not only focusing on ODA in LDC countries.

28. What kind of cooperation could help to cover the specific needs of more developed ACP countries with a view to attaining more equitable and sustainable growth?

User-friendly flexible private sector cooperation instruments and effective mutual trade promotion where ownership of private sector (business) organisations would be prioritized.

Strengthen the relationship with key actors

29. Has the current model of stakeholder engagement been conducive to attaining the objectives of the partnership in an efficient way? Which actors could play a more significant role in the implementation of the partnership? How could this be addressed?

30. What could be done to promote effective and efficient involvement of both international and domestic private sector, civil society, social partners and local authorities in the partnership?

Emphasise role of the business organisations own role in promoting business partnerships between Europe and Africa

31. Should the partnership be open to new actors as referred above?

Yes, prioritise role of business organisations and local authorities, having the best and most sustainable connection with the grass root level of communities

32. In this regard, should the possibility of opening up the partnership to 'associated members' or 'observers' be considered?

33. How could a new framework promote triangular and South-South cooperation, including the increased involvement of ACP States as development actors in support of other ACP countries?

Streamline the institutional set-up and functioning of the partnership

34. Has the joint institutional set-up (with the ACP-EU Council of Ministers, the ACP-EU Committee of Ambassadors, and the Joint Parliamentary Assembly) been effective in debating and promoting common views and interests and in providing political guidance and momentum to the EU-ACP partnership and the implementation of the CPA?

35. What is the added value of the joint ACP-EU institutions as compared to more recent regional and regional economic community frameworks for dialogue and cooperation?

36. What institutional arrangements would most effectively help address common challenges and promote joint interests?

37. Should a higher degree of self-financing of this functioning (ACP-EU Joint institutions and ACP secretariat) by the ACP States be required?

Better adapted and more flexible development cooperation tools and methods

38. Is there added value in having a dedicated financing instrument in support of the ACP-EU partnership? If so, what are the reasons and how would it differ from other external financing instruments funded by the general budget of the Union? Is this instrument flexible enough, especially to address crisis situations? Can this instrument be deployed differently?

Instruments should be much more flexible and user friendly and its publicity should be better known by the private sector

39. What is the added value of the EDF's co-management system involving national authorities in the programming and management of aid programmes, as compared to other EU cooperation instruments in non-ACP countries?

40. Does the current set-up of the programming process and implementation of activities lead to real ownership by the beneficiaries? What could be improved? How can the EU and Member States maximise the impact of joint programming?

41. Does the variety of existing tools adequately support the EU and ACP common principles and interests and are there gaps that should be addressed? How do you assess the effectiveness and efficiency of various implementation modalities?

42. Should a higher degree of self-financing from the ACP States be required for activities to ensure ownership? Would this apply to all countries? On which principles should this be based?

43. How can the expertise of the EU and its Member States be better mobilised, particularly in the middle-income countries?

With stronger involvement of private enterprises and business organisations being the key actors of any economic development, job creation and thus poverty eradication

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