

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

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* Your name and/or name of your organisation

Katumba Oscar / Nakawa institute of Business studies

* Country of residence or location of headquarters

Uganda

* E-mail

ssalikatumba@gmail.com

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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?

"Minimal" . In international relations, cooperation only exists where there is mutual interest, the question is, Are there core interests these regions and the European Union share? You also have to put into perspective the dynamics of the extent at which regional blocs like the EU can effectively relate with State actors, because these do not have a common status. Is it even possible that regional organisations can better represent people's interests than state-state engagement? European Union is faced with a major problem of illegal and yes, ofcourse legal immigration and not suprizing still is that Africa, Pacific and Caribbean regions are one of the biggest contributors of the same, has there been practical engagements and implementation of remedies to resolve the immigrate crises in the EU? No, Nothing, most EU member states deal with their problems themselves. This is not to say that EU missions/delegations are irrelevant, they are doing what they can, trying to forge cooperation with our states, but as an expert in International Relations, in my view, I think EU delegations and states especially in the developing countries are on "different pages of cooperation". The same can be said about Unemployment, Global Terrorism and many others. It is to a very small extent that cooperation between the EU and these regions has resolved these chaalleges. Going forward to 2020, a lot more has to be done, programmes reviewed, dialogue restructured other than cocktail resolutions, tea parties and shuttle diplomacy.

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?

As I have already pointed out, more emphasis should focus on common challenges first then move forward. Key problems of the EU are rumpert migrations into the EU, unemployment, security from terrorism all which culminated directly into the slumps of economies in the EU, currency depreciation, inflationary tendencies, bankruptcy and of course most people are going to forget the threat of Piracy being a result of a weak partnership between the EU and these countries. Africa has similar problems as mentioned above however these take a different trajectory from the EU's. Challenges must be resolved in perspective of the regions they are manifested, blanket solutions are an impediment of realisation.

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?

They have attempted to strengthen good governance, Human rights and rule of law but there are many double standards. You find out that the CPA speaks out against these forms of injustice but at the same time sit back and watch citizens being oppressed, some times they support the oppressor one way or the other, this is the highest level of double standards. Of course, a lot more has to be done, partnership should focus on the causes other than the outcome, go to the ground and create systems than will last.

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?

Yes, they have tried but to do better they need to stamp out corruption and state interference, that way they can do better

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?

Appropriate on script but ineffective in implementation, they are very ideal

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?

Yes it should

Sustainable and inclusive economic growth, investment and trade

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

The partnership should set economic agendas and try to make them answer social challenges. It's technical but it should provide tangible results

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

I think it should be attached to financial aid and funding, that way it will mean business.

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?

Not very effective because it has been structured to be party reliant not self driven

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?

This is very hard to gauge because the poor are becoming poorer, in my view

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

To a small extent, yes

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?

The potential can better be harnessed if the citizenry are involved and supported to reach their full potential, given support and empowerment

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

I see many, emerging of youth enterprises, middle and small scale initiative, increase in capital flow and many more

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

To some extent it has tried but apt need to be put into context

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?

The contribution is ver hard to gauge, I don't have the means to gauge it's contribution to the integration.

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?

Yes, culture, piracy and many more

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?

Not yet, you can talk about gender equality and female empowerment without talking about education and improving domestic incomes for the women, you would be wasting time

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

Security, Nutrition and injustice

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?

In theory, yes

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)?

Of course yes, it should

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 be widened but should not be on a regional level, regional in developing countries are taken as jokes.

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 it 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?

Yes, it has yet we wait to see sine no legal case as far as I know, has threatened a member state's involvement

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?

Probably, I wait to gauge it's usefulness after reforms are made

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?

Yes, regional partners can be a good vehicle to solving some of these issues

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

Yes but that will depend on the interests that the relationship will be based

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?

Yes, priority should be given to the most needy

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?

Support and technical support not only advisory but also practical in order to enable people in ACP realise their full potential

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?

No exactly, civil society and NGO should be supported to play the salient role

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?

The partnership must in itself be promoted and given publicity, say, popularized.

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

Ofcourse yes, to widen debate and grow mandate

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

Yes, it should

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?

South to south cooperation will create a bench mark for a smooth support of the EU -ACP partnership.

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?

Yes it has been especially in debate and giving views

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?

It has complimentary value

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

A participatory platfoam of all stakeholders say an engagement of council memebbers and community leaders would help address challenges because these would be coming from the grass roots

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

Yes to create independence while will make it more effective.

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?

Yes, self financing reduces dependence thereby fostering thinking outside the box. External funding requires that things must be done a certain way, on an external schedule.

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?

It just helps to streamlining of the programme agenda so that it can enable everyone more together

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?

Ownership will not be a problem if everyone is moving in the same direction and the results are tangible. They should increase contribution towards the partnership, that way they will move jointly hence combine strengths and. for better planning

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?

Yes they do. Am yet to access tools of implementation

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?

Yes indeed. It should be based on the principle of equity other than equality. They have more contribute more finances

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

Through P.P.P and support of development venture, small and medium scale investment among others

