

## **UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Public Consultation on revising the European Consensus on Development**

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

### **(1) Introduction**

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The year 2015 was a strategic milestone for global governance, poverty eradication and sustainable development. It marked the target date of the UN Millennium Development Goals and a point to reflect on the progress made to date and the challenges ahead in addressing their unfinished business. 2015 also saw a series of landmark international summits and conferences over the course of the year (the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#), the [Addis Ababa Action Agenda](#), the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and the COP 21 [Paris Agreement](#) under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) which have collectively re-cast the way the international community, including the EU, will work to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication for many years.

Importantly, and in contrast to the Millennium Development Goals, the 2030 Agenda, including its seventeen Sustainable Development Goals, is a universal Agenda which applies to all countries. It reflects many core European values and interests and provides an international framework for tackling global challenges such as climate change. The EU response to the 2030 Agenda is moving ahead in a range of ways:

- Firstly, as part of EU efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, the [Commission Work Programme for 2016](#) announces an initiative on the next steps for a sustainable European future which will explain how the EU contributes to reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and map out the internal and external aspects of EU policies contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Secondly, the High Representative will present the [EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy](#) that is expected to steer the different EU external policies contributing to the global vision of a more stable, prosperous and secure world. It should set out the strategic direction for the full range of EU external action, and as such will help guide EU implementation of the 2030 Agenda in external action.
- Thirdly, the EU will review its development cooperation policy. Existing leading policy documents (including the [2005 European Consensus on Development](#) and the [2011 Agenda for Change](#)) are currently framed around the Millennium Development Goals and need to adapt to incorporate the 2030 Agenda. Given its direct relevance to the EU's overall relations with developing countries, this review will be carried out in full consistency with the ongoing work on the future of the partnership between the EU and the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, under a post-[Cotonou](#) framework.

Views from this consultation will be used to inform the way forward on the initiatives above and in particular the revision of the European Consensus on Development and other external aspects of 2030 Agenda implementation. The consultation seeks your views on **how development policy, in the context of EU external action as foreseen by the Lisbon Treaty**, should respond to the range of landmark 2015 summits and conferences, and also to the rapid changes happening in the world.

Replies can include views which could apply only to the EU institutions and also to both the EU and its Member States – it would be helpful to clarify this in your response. This open public consultation will run for 12 weeks from 30 May 2016 to 21 August 2016. A brief summary and analysis of all consultation contributions will be published by November 2016 and all individual contributions will also be made available on the consultation website (unless respondents ask for their contributions not to be published).

## (2) Information on respondents

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- \* 2.1 Received contributions may be published on the Commission's website, with the identity of the contributor. Please state your preference with regard to the publication of your contribution.

Please note that regardless of the option chosen, your contribution may be subject to a request for access to documents under [Regulation 1049/2001](#) on public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. In such cases, the request will be assessed against the conditions set out in the Regulation and in accordance with applicable [data protection rules](#).

- I do not agree that my contribution will be published at all
- My contribution may be published but should be kept anonymous; I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication
- My contribution may be published under the name indicated; I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication

- \* 2.2 Are you registered in the EU's Transparency Register?

Please note: Organisations, networks, platforms or self-employed individuals engaged in activities aimed at influencing the EU decision making process are expected to register in the transparency Register. During the analysis of replies to a consultation, contributions from respondents who choose not to register will be treated as individual contributions (unless the contributors are recognised as representative stakeholders through Treaty provisions, European Social Dialogue, Art. 154-155 TFEU).

- Yes
- No

- \* 2.2.1 If yes, what is your registration number?

050269010212-72

- \* 2.3 Name (entity or individual in their personal capacity)

CDP Worldwide (Europe) gGmbH

2.5 What type of stakeholder are you?

- Government institution / Public administration
- University / Academic organisation
- Civil society (including Non-Governmental Organisation, specialised policy organisation, think tank)
- International organisation
- Private sector or private company
- Citizen/private individual
- Other

2.6 Please specify

Non-Governmental Organisation with charity status

\* 2.7 What is your place of residence (if you are answering as a private individual) or where are the headquarters of your organisation situated (if you are answering on behalf of an organisation)?

- In one of the 28 EU Member States
- Other

2.8 Please specify

Germany

### (3) Context: why a change is needed

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The EU and its Member States are determined to implement the 2030 Agenda through internal and external actions as well as contribute to the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, given the strong interlinkages. In this context, our policies, should take into account changing global conditions and trends, to ensure that they remain fit-for-purpose across the time-horizon to 2030.

The global landscape has changed significantly compared to the time of adoption of the Millennium Development Goals. While much has been achieved, with more than one billion people having been lifted out of extreme poverty since 1990, great challenges remain and new ones are emerging. At global level, more than 800 million people still live on less than USD 1.25 a day. The world is witnessing multiple conflicts and security tensions, complex humanitarian and global health crises, deteriorations of human rights, environmental degradation, resource scarcity, urbanisation and migration. Migration flows across the world will continue to have important impacts, and present both a risk and an opportunity. The EU needs to address global security challenges, including tackling the root causes of conflict and instability and countering violent extremism. Climate change can continue to amplify problems and can severely undermine progress. Important changes include demographic trends, a new distribution of wealth and power between and within countries, the continuing globalisation of economies and value chains, an evolving geography of poverty and a proliferation of actors working on development. Projections also suggest important challenges are ahead (for example, continuing unprecedented urbanisation, and other demographic challenges including ageing societies for some and the potential for a demographic dividend for others). Continued attention will be given to a democratic, stable and prosperous neighbourhood. A revision to EU development policy should take into account these trends (including anticipating those that will remain central in future) whilst retaining a core focus on eradicating poverty and finishing the job started by the Millennium Development Goals.

Finally, the EU Consensus needs also to adapt to the Lisbon Treaty, which provides for all external action policies to work within the frameworks and pursue the principles of objectives of Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union. In particular, coherence between the different parts of EU external action and between external and internal policies is crucial.

The EU will need to address these new global challenges, many of which require coordinated policy action at the national, regional and global levels. The 2030 Agenda provides a framework which can guide us in doing so.

3.1 There is a range of key global trends (e.g. changing geography and depth of poverty; challenges related to climate change, political, economic, social, demographic, security, environmental or technological) which will influence the future of development and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Which of these do you think is the most important?

In order to successfully implement the 2030 Agenda, it's important to assess the key global trends in a way that shows the correlations and impacts between them. Although there are various interdependencies between the identified key trends, climate change/global warming and all its consequences has a direct and measurable impact on geography, economic risks and opportunities, environment and technology. Those in return directly influence global depth of poverty, social and political trends which have an impact on the security situation in the EU member states. From a EU policy perspective, it is therefore reasonable to look at the climate change challenge as THE central key trend of the coming decades.

To tackle dangerous climate change, the EU needs to adopt an EU-wide economic system that operates within sustainable boundaries: Zero-emission, zero-deforestation, safeguard and manage water sources; and foster such an economic system at global level.

### 3.2 How should EU policies, and development policy in particular, better harness the opportunities and minimise the negative aspects of the trend you identified in the previous question?

To determine how EU policies could better harness the opportunities and minimise the negative aspects of climate change, we need to look at the potential impacts that political measures and the underlying policies are supposed to have in developing countries. Measures regarding climate change mitigation and achieving the international agreed warming limit level as well as measures affecting adaptation needs of developing countries should not be seen as a separate policy priority but as part of economic, financial, social and security measures such as:

Measures regulating the behaviour of private actors such as multinational enterprises also active in developing countries; or measures impacting on the (re)distribution of value added along international integrated production chains; or measures affecting movement of capital such as investment or remittances and the conditions of investment in developing countries, both in positive and negative ways;

The COP 21 Paris Agreement has set the ambitious benchmark from which the EU, its member states and other states can build on. Ratification of the Agreement into EU law is only one step, the road of implementation is critical to the Agreement's success. In light of the UK's vote to leave the EU, this will likely require a new NDC for the UK and EU. Nonetheless, CDP urges countries to begin implementation of their commitments now, for which disclosure of information will play a key role in both monitoring and measuring effectiveness. Through CDP's work with the UN's NAZCA portal, CDP provides a unique ability to track the success of commitments made and initiatives joined by major non-state actors. CDP currently has over 6,000 companies and 500 cities disclosing through its system and contributes 50% of the data on the UN NAZCA Portal (98% of company data).

Communication and coordinated action between policymakers and business leaders, between the public and private sector, between state and non-state actors sector, will also be crucial. The Business End of Climate Change, a new annual report that has been pioneered by CDP and four other NGO partners, seeks to take this forward by providing a medium for measuring the commitments to GHG emission reducing initiatives made by non-state actors in a similar fashion to the INDCs. As a result, disclosure plays a critical part in revealing which initiatives have been committed to by which companies. Thus enabling the report to answer questions important to harnessing opportunities and minimising negative impacts of climate change, such as, how big will the business contribution to carbon reduction be? The report finds that the contribution of businesses in the current policy climate could be up to 60% of INDC carbon reduction target, which could be more than doubled in the 'right policy environment'.

## (4) Priorities for our future action: what we need to do

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Implementation of the 2030 Agenda will require sustained EU efforts to promote a more just world, including a strong focus on the need to address gender equality and women's empowerment. Peace, inclusiveness, equality and good governance including democracy, accountability, rule of law, human rights and non-discrimination will need particular emphasis. The 2030 Agenda also requires recognition of the close interconnectedness between poverty, social issues, economic transformation, climate change and environmental issues.

To achieve poverty eradication, EU development policy will need to take into account key demographic and environmental trends, including challenges related to climate change, and concentrate effort on least developed countries and fragile states. The EU will also need to strengthen our approach to fragility and conflict, fostering resilience and security (as an increasing proportion of the world's poor are expected to live in fragile and conflict affected states) and to protect global public goods and to maintain our resource base as the prerequisite for sustainable growth. Peace and security, including security sector reform, will have to be addressed also through our development policy, as will the risks and opportunities related to migration flows. Tackling social and economic inequalities (both within and between countries) is a crucial element of the 2030 Agenda as is addressing environmental degradation and climate change. Job creation will be an important challenge in which the private sector has to play an active role. Finishing the job of the Millennium Development Goals requires identifying and reaching those people throughout the world who are still not benefitting from progress to ensure that no one is left behind.

To achieve lasting results, EU development policy will need to foster transformation and promote inclusive and sustainable growth. Drivers of inclusive sustainable growth, such as human development, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and healthy and resilient oceans should be an important part of our efforts to implement the new Agenda as will efforts aimed at tackling hunger and under-nutrition. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda will require a multi-dimensional, integrated approach to human development. Implementation will also require us to address vectors of change, such as sustainable urban development and relevant use of information and communication technology. Our development policy will have to engage and identify new ways of partnering with the business in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth, industrialisation and innovation. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda will also require cooperation with partner countries and regions on science, technology and innovation. In all aspects of our external action, the EU will need to ensure that our approaches, including development cooperation, are conducive to achieving the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals and that the EU intensifies efforts to promote pursue coherence between our policies and our internal and external action.

#### 4.1 How can the EU better address the links between achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on climate change and addressing other global sustainable development challenges?

Environmental information disclosed by non-state actors helps to point to linkages and enhance communication between the public and private sector, and between different EU departments working on different development issues and policies. This is most true in sectors such as agriculture which have direct and indirect impacts on climate change, water use, deforestation, waste, health and malnutrition; as well as in cross-sectoral issues such as business attitude towards climate change adaptation measures that directly affect economic stability and job security.

With the SDGs and the Paris Agreement in place, the states have agreed on specific targets. The challenge now is how to get there. As mentioned above, science, history and common sense teach us that the climate change we are facing is the key challenge of the Anthropocene. Therefore, climate change issues and measures need to be taken into account as an umbrella policy. When defining other policies around trade and finance, global food security or links and synergies between security and development in the context of a global peace building agenda, addressing climate change needs to be considered as part of each policy and the key trend influencing all others. Non-Financial Reporting (Directive 2014/95/EU) provides the EU with a unique opportunity to leverage corporate reporting to achieve the objectives of 2030 Agenda. Standardised corporate reporting is emerging and alignment around common key performance indicators is happening. Companies that measure their environmental risk are better able to manage it strategically. And those that are transparent and disclose this information are providing decision makers with access to a critical source of global data that delivers the evidence and insight required to drive action for a more sustainable world.

CDP advocates disclosure of private and public sector data on climate change, water and forest-risk. Our current reporting mechanism can be used to measure progress against the SDGs with more than 400 data points which are directly relevant to SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, and SDG 15, among others.

Many leading companies are already implementing climate mitigation and adaptation methods, but there are still many companies lagging behind.

Policymakers play a crucial role in motivating them to disclose, measure and manage their risks and opportunities in order to facilitate the transition to a low-carbon economy while securing growth and jobs.

Systematically reporting this kind of information would also support the goal announced at the 2015 G7 meeting of committing to “significant measures on global health, food security, climate and marine protection, sustainable supply chains and women’s economic empowerment.”

#### 4.2 How should the EU strengthen the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in its internal and external policies, and in particular in its development policy?

N/A

#### 4.3 What are the main changes you would like to see in the EU's development policy framework?

- Regulation that requires mandatory disclosure of non-state actor environmental information (and indeed other development relevant information) way beyond the current implementation in national law of the so-called Non-Financial Reporting Directive (e.g. in Germany only around 300 companies will be required to report. Many of these already report through CDP, so no additional impact has been achieved); Reporting requirements need to be standardized across the EU, information needs to be comparable and accessible to investors in order to redirect investment into climate-responsible business.
- Endorsement from the EU council for a call to action from non-state actors, requiring all sectors to sign up to SDG and Paris Agreement INDC aligned commitments and to implement them;
- Provision of additional resources to enable CDP to further mobilize non-state actors and transmit their commitments to NAZCA, as well as to track all commitments through the portal;
- Finance mechanisms for international performance-based payments to forest countries for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) in order to increase the rewards for successfully managing drivers of deforestation;
- Properly enforced import restrictions to prevent the use or sale of illegal and unsustainably sourced products within the EU, so as not to provide perverse incentives which would allow companies to profit from illegal deforestation in producer countries and undermine performance-based payments under REDD+; and
- Incentivize for better practice on the ground in producer countries. These could include public procurement policies for the commodities driving deforestation (e.g. palm oil, soy, cattle products, pulp and paper), or commodity tariffs that are aligned with sustainable practice so as not to favour unsustainable production.

4.4 In which areas highlighted above would you expect to see greater consistency between development policy and other areas of the EU external action in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

- Finance mechanism for international performance-based payments to forests countries
- Import restrictions to prevent the use or sale of illegal and unsustainably sourced products within the EU
- EU-wide public procurement policies ensuring low-carbon, zero-deforestation and water security action of the suppliers.

4.5 In which areas does the EU have greatest value-added as a development partner (e.g. which aspects of its development policy, dialogue or implementation arrangements or in which category of countries)?

The EU could have greatest value in climate leadership regarding both low-carbon economy and sustainable finance. If the EU achieves to set up a EU-wide emissions accounting system across the different areas or mechanisms such as ETS, LULUCF etc. in a way that enables to measure absolute emissions against the global emission reduction goal without pre-2020 allowances or similar factors, the European model could be adopted at global level.

4.6 How can the EU refine its development policy to better address inequalities – including gender inequality – in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

N/A

4.7 How can the EU development policy make a stronger contribution to the security of people? How can EU development policy contribute to addressing the root causes of conflict and fragility and contribute to security and resilience in all the countries where we work?

N/A

4.8 How can a revised Consensus on Development better harness the opportunities presented by migration, minimise the negative aspects of irregular migration on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and better address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement?

N/A

(5) Means of implementation: how do we get there?

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The principle of universality underpinning the 2030 Agenda will require a differentiated approach to engagement with countries at all levels of development. Official Development Assistance will continue to play an important role in the overall financing mix for those countries most in need (particularly the Least Developed Countries). The EU and its Member States should continue to progress towards achieving their commitments. However, in all countries our development cooperation will need to take account of other sources of finance, including by leveraging other (non-Official Development Assistance) sources of finance for poverty eradication and sustainable development. The delivery of the 2030 Agenda means that our work helping countries raise their own resources (domestic resource mobilisation), the provision of aid for trade, blending\* and partnering with the private sector should be priority areas of focus. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda, an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, provides a framework for our efforts, including for our work supporting the right enabling policy environment for sustainable development in our partner countries. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change should be closely coordinated given the strong interlinkages. Engagement with middle income countries, notably the emerging economies, will be important to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, considering the role they can play in promoting global public goods, what they can achieve within their respective countries on poverty eradication and sustainable development, and the example they can set within their regions as well as their role in regional processes. Here differentiated partnerships can play an important role (examples include different forms of political, economic, and financial investment as well as cooperation in science, technology and innovation). Specific attention and focus should also be given to Least Developed Countries, as acknowledged by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

The EU's implementation of the 2030 Agenda provides an opportunity for enhancing consistency between the different areas of the EU's external action and between these and other EU policies (as outlined in the Lisbon Treaty and in [EU's Comprehensive Approach to external conflict and crises](#)). The EU will continue to pursue [Policy Coherence for Development](#) as a key contribution to the collective effort towards broader policy coherence for sustainable development. In our external action, the EU needs to consider how we can use all policies, tools, instruments at our disposal coherently in line with the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda.

\* Combining EU grants with loans or with equity from other public and private financiers with a view to leveraging additional resources.

5.1 How can EU policies, and EU development policy in particular, help to mobilise and maximise the impact of the increasing variety of sustainable development finance, including in particular from the private sector?

In the pre-policy stages, the EU can increase engagement, integration and cooperation with non-state actors. Helping to find shared goals and opportunities, and using environmental data to inform those discussions and decisions.

Information is therefore key. Regulation that requires mandatory disclosure of environmental information (and indeed other development relevant information) will be an important advancement in the ability to incentivise and track progress.

Further, the EU council could endorse a call to action from non-state actors, pushing all relevant business sectors (companies and investors) to sign up to SDG and Paris Agreement INDC aligned commitments and to implement them. It is important that the EU helps to demonstrate the opportunities that arise in sustainable development. An endorsement of non-state actor action, such as the initiatives in CDP and We Mean Business' The Business End of Climate Changerreport, is therefore very valuable in this process.

5.2 Given the evolving availability of other sources of finance and bearing in mind the EU's commitments on Official Development Assistance (e.g. [Council Conclusions from 26 May 2015 on "A New Global Partnership for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development after 2015"](#), and inter alia, paragraphs 32 and 33), how and where should the EU use its Official Development Assistance strategically and to maximise its impact?

N/A

5.3 How can the EU better support partner countries in mobilising their own resources for poverty eradication and sustainable development?

Coordinating non-state actor policy and involvement in light of the presence and importance of multi-national corporations and other global non-state actor organisations. To do this, utilising the benefits of transparency, disclosure and accountability will be important to inform the EU and partner countries, ensuring they are operating on the same level of understanding and with the same information. CDP's data on companies from the Global 500, FTSE 100 and many other indices can act as a key source of international sustainable development information. The EU can also come together with partner countries and non-state actors to promote sustainable practice in countries where producers are breaking the law, and lobbying countries to tighten up compliance.

5.4 Given the importance of middle income countries to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, what form could differentiated partnerships take?

N/A

5.5 Given experience so far in taking into account the objectives of development cooperation in the implementation of EU policies which are likely to affect developing countries (e.g. [Policy Coherence for Development: 2015 EU Report](#)), how should the EU step up its efforts to achieve Policy Coherence for Development, as a key contribution to the collective effort towards policy coherence for sustainable development? How can we help ensure that policies in developing countries, and internationally contribute coherently to sustainable development priorities?

With regards to the Policy Coherence Approach for Development (PDC) the impact assessment of each PCD challenge needs to be linked to the climate change measures known to have impacts on developing countries. To link the different goals such as the global warming well below 2 degrees' goal data points around Key Performance Indicators need to be identified and information from all relevant stakeholder groups such as the private sector need to be gathered through a EU-wide standardized comparable reporting methodology that allows measurement of progress against science-based targets. Analysis of CDP data already helps to understand the correlations between environmental and economic performance of the private sector as well as to identify business risks and opportunities regarding climate change mitigation and adaptation action.

Disclosure frameworks such as CDSB, CDP and the UN NAZCA Portal are global and offer an opportunity for an internationally coherent approach to sustainable development commitments and actions. They can bring common initiatives, common goals and common methodologies by comparing existing methodologies and existing sustainability practices, ensuring the effective ones succeed over time. The EU supporting the use of reporting frameworks through endorsement and policy enforcement will support policy coherence in the EU and internationally.

## (6) The actors: making it work together

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An important feature of the new Agenda is that all governments, developed and developing, will need to work with a wide range of stakeholders (including the private sector, civil society and research institutions) to improve the transparency and inclusivity of decision-making, planning, service delivery, and monitoring and to ensure synergy and complementarity.

The EU must continue to work collaboratively with others and contribute to a coordinated approach. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda puts national plans for implementation (including associated financing and policy frameworks) at the centre. To maximise our impact, EU development policy should be based on a strategic and comprehensive strategy for each country, which also responds to the country-specific context.

Our partner countries' implementation of the 2030 Agenda will inform our overall engagement and our development cooperation dialogue with them and will help shape our support for their national efforts. The EU should also help partner countries put in place the necessary enabling policy frameworks to eradicate poverty, tackle sustainable development challenges and enhance their policy coherence.

There is a need for a renewed emphasis on the quality of development cooperation, including existing commitments on aid and development effectiveness made in Paris, Accra and Busan\* and through work with the [Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation](#).

An updated EU development policy should also provide a shared vision that guides the action of the EU and Member States in development cooperation, putting forward proposals on how to further enhance coordination, complementarity and coherence between EU and Member States. Strengthening [Joint Programming](#) will be an important part of this. Improving the division of labour between the EU and its Member States in order to reduce aid fragmentation will also contribute to increased development effectiveness.

\* See [Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action](#) and the [Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation](#)

**6.1 How should the EU strengthen its partnerships with civil society, foundations, the business community, parliaments and local authorities and academia to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda (including the integral Addis Ababa Action Agenda) and the Paris Agreement on climate change?**

Communication and cooperation at and in between major international events will be important but for communication and cooperation to be effective, proper information must be available. Academia can be a good source of information, so increasing academic involvement in the policy process is beneficial, but when it comes to foundations, the business community and local authorities, the data that CDP has on 6000+ companies and 500+ cities is unrivalled. This kind of information on the commitments and progress being made by institutions can help support collaboration, giving it clearer direction and adding certainty about the current state of the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement, suggesting how state and non-state actors can improve action together.

**6.2 How can the EU promote private sector investment for sustainable development?**

This is CDP's primary and founding objective, therefore utilising and supporting CDP's practices is a direct way that the EU can promote private sector investment and the influence of that investment on sustainable development.

Through industry knowledge and a wealth of experience, CDP collaborates with investors so they can use their collective power to put pressure on companies to disclose their environmental information and sustainability plans. CDP now has the backing of 827 international institutional investors, influencing over 6000 companies, including the Global 500.

**6.3 How can the EU strengthen relations on sustainable development with other countries, international financing institutions, multilateral development banks, emerging donors and the UN system?**

Disclosure of information and transparency enable accountability. When actors can be held to account, trust can grow which in turn helps to foster stronger international relationships.

#### 6.4 How can the EU best support partner countries to develop comprehensive and inclusive national plans for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

The EU could take leadership in supporting partner countries in developing sustainable economies where businesses attract international investment due to their climate mitigation and adaptation actions. As mentioned above climate is key to all other sustainability challenges. The EU headquarters many globally operating companies. Through a EU-wide information disclosure system the achievement of the goals of the Agenda 2030 could be measured, tracked and fostered throughout the supply chain of these companies. This way, a large number of companies in developing countries could be held accountable and supported in developing their sustainability measures.

#### 6.5 What are the best ways to strengthen and improve coherence, complementarity and coordination between the EU and the Member States in their support to help partner countries achieve poverty eradication and sustainable development?

Non-state actors play a significant role in the achievement of sustainable development and often act in more than one member state. A consistent form of requiring the disclosure of information among non-state actors would enable the EU, its Member States and other partner countries to act upon coherent, shared global information and a better picture of the progress being made and what needs to be done to bring about more effective action.

#### 6.6 How can EU development cooperation be as effective as possible, and how can we work with all partners to achieve this?

Cooperation can be fostered in many ways, constant communication with partners, understanding different positions, alignment of interests and shared goals. None of these can be achieved without the right information for productive communication being available. Supporting and even requiring proper disclosure of environmental information is therefore key.

## 6.7 What further progress could be made in EU Joint Programming, and how could this experience be linked with other EU joined-up actions in supporting countries' delivery of the 2030 Agenda?

It could be beneficial to merge “Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change”, “Connecting Climate Knowledge for Europe” and “Water Challenges for a changing World”. Forest-risk commodity production such as timber, palm oil, cattle and soy needs to be integrated in the research linked to agriculture. Further, analysis of private sector action could be integrated in scientific research at a larger extent in order to ensure alignment of science and real economy.

## (7) Keeping track of progress

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The EU will need to contribute to the global follow-up and review process for the 2030 Agenda. Keeping track of progress in a systematic and transparent way is essential for delivering the 2030 Agenda. The EU is actively contributing to the setting up of a Sustainable Development Goal monitoring system at global, regional and national level. Demonstrating results and impact from our efforts and the promotion of transparency will be important priorities for EU development policy, as part of a wider move to strengthen accountability, follow-up and review at all levels.

### 7.1 How can the EU strengthen its own use of evidence and analysis, including in the development field, to feed into its regular review on the Sustainable Development Goals to the UN?

Just as CDP’s data on non-state actor emissions, commitments and progress feeds in 50% of the data on the UN NAZCA portal, it could contribute significantly to the EU’s evidence and analysis, broadening and deepening the organisations’ understanding of progress on the SDGs in Europe.

### 7.2 How can the EU help to ensure the accountability of all actors involved in implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the private sector? How can the EU encourage a strong and robust approach to the Follow Up and Review of the 2030 Agenda from all actors?

CDP and the NAZCA portal provide a vital opportunity to track the implementation and initiatives of non-state actors, particularly the private sector and cities. By tracking the progress made by a vast array of non-state actors, CDP provides a central solution for the EU to ensure accountability of the private sector, cities, states and regions. A strong and robust approach to Follow Up and Review of the 2030 Agenda from

all actors, will require mandatory reporting regarding the following areas among others:

#### SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation:

- The global demand for freshwater will increase by 55% between 2000 and 2050 (OECD, 2014). Given worsening water security and the necessity to leverage between competing water users while reducing greenhouse gas emissions, mitigation and adaptation must be coherently addressed in EU climate and development policy.
- Integration of the water and climate agendas will improve cost effectiveness and therefore support financial commitments to create resilient societies and secure ecosystems. It is of utmost importance that EU policies and institutions facilitate and promote coherence and cooperation between the two.
- The EU regulatory environment should promote and enhance a step change in corporate attitudes to water management and transparency. This is crucial if cost effective solutions are to be found and the European economy is to remain resilient in the face of water challenges.

#### SDG 7 Affordable and clean energy:

- Creating clear and transparent systems for certifying renewable power, so companies can be confident in what they're buying;
- Having the right frameworks in place for a well-functioning renewable energy market;
- Requiring utilities to offer companies renewable energy options;
- Promoting the business benefits of renewable power;
- Making it easier for companies to produce renewable power on-site.

#### SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities:

With cities accounting for more than 80% of global GDP and over half of the world's population, their importance to solving the challenges on sustainable development and climate change presents is clear. As cities take leadership on improving sustainability practices, there are spillover effects for citizens and business. Resilient cities are more attractive to private investment and business development, driving economic growth.

- Cities and communities need to disclose data on climate change as well as setting long-term targets to demonstrate that sustainability and growth can work hand-in-hand.
- Though local examples are building a foundation of sustainable development and climate action that can lead to bolder, longer-term policy and action at the national level.

#### SDG 12 Responsible consumption, production:

Through its climate change, water, forests and supply chain disclosure requests, CDP invites companies to share information about their direct operations and global supply chains. We believe this encourages businesses to take action and report on progress related to sustainable consumption and production.

- Disclosure from non-state and state actors about consumption and production is crucial as reporting will help them to understand how their value chain works and ultimately create more efficient and sustainable

production and supply chains.

SDG 13 Climate Action:

- Monitoring and measurement of companies' GHG emission reduction targets against latest scientific scenarios which reflect the global emission reduction goal to meet the requirements of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change through the Science Based Targets initiative.
- Request non-state and state actor's data of greenhouse gas emissions so that they can manage them and reduce them.
- Support innovation of sustainable products and services.
- Support improving companies' resilience of their business to climate change impacts.

SDG 15 Sustainable Forest Management:

- Demand-side countries should finance international performance-based payments to forest countries for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) in order to increase the rewards for success - fully managing drivers of deforestation.
- Properly enforced import restrictions should be introduced to prevent the use or sale of illegal and unsustainably sourced products within demand-side countries, so as not to provide perverse incentives which would allow companies to profit from illegal deforestation in producer countries and undermine performance-based payments under REDD+; and
- Demand-side governments should send signals to the market to incentivize better practice on the ground. These could include public procurement policies for the commodities driving deforestation, or commodity tariffs that are aligned with sustainable practice so as not to favour unsustainable production.

### 7.3 How should EU development cooperation respond to the regular reviews on progress of the partner countries towards the 2030 Agenda goals?

N/A

## Contact

EuropeAid-CONSENSUS-CONSULTATION@ec.europa.eu