

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

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

(1) Introduction

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

- * 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?

028248158

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

AVSI Foundation

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

* 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

(3) Context: why a change is needed

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?

- Migration
- Changing geography and depth of poverty

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?

Migration is the most pressing issue of our time and will influence development cooperation as well as internal and external policies for the next decades.

Migration in fact is very deeply linked to other global issues such as social exclusion and climate change. ADDRESSING MIGRATION REQUIRES A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE, BASED ON A CLEAR VISION AND STRONG VALUES, AIMED TO PROTECT AND TO RESPECT THE DIGNITY OF EACH AND EVERY PERSON.

The lack of policy coherence, both vertical and horizontal, between the EU and Members States, and within the EU among the various Institutions, hampers its effective management.

The attempt to differentiate among categories of migrants is also ineffective, because the profiles of the persons intertwine and overlap in an indistinguishable manner and this process of differentiation could become a dangerous exercise of exclusion.

Conversely, IT CAN BE HELPFUL TO IDENTIFY THE BEST PRACTICES IN THE FIELD, IMPLEMENTED AT DIFFERENT LATITUDES ALONG THE MIGRATION PATH (COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN, OF TRANSIT AND EUROPEAN HOSTING COUNTRIES), DEALING WITH THE ARRIVAL AND THE INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES, TAILORED TO RESPOND TO REAL NEEDS.

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

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?

By placing the person at the centre, with his/her uniqueness, enables to simultaneously tackle social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

THE ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO HEIGHTEN TALENTS AND INNER DESIRES OF PEOPLE, WITH THE INTENT TO MEET ACTUAL NEEDS AND TO MOBILIZE THEIR OWN RESOURCES TO ENABLE THEM TO BECOME PROTAGONISTS OF THEIR OWN LIFE. THIS SHOULD BE THE AIM OF ALL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS.

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?

EU SHOULD PUT CIVIL SOCIETY AT THE CORE OF ITS STRATEGY: HISTORICALLY, COUNTRIES WHO LIVED THE BIGGEST DEVELOPMENT WERE THE ONES WITH A MORE ALIVE CIVIL SOCIETY AND MORE SOCIAL CAPITAL.

The partnership with CSOs is crucial for their ability to respond to the real needs of the person. CSOs are able to reach the most excluded groups, organize their demands and improving people' resilience in managing social, economic and environmental problems.

CSOs allow covering "the last mile" by bridging the gap between the social structure and the single person, who is often not reached.

N.B. IN THIS SCOPE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER REAL CIVIL SOCIETY AND TO CHECK THE REAL COSTITUENCY OF THE CSOS IN PARTNER COUNTRIES.

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

We would like to see a strong focus on human development, which means an effort on the issue of education in its wider meaning (not only school, non only vocational training but development of human capital).

We also would like to see the prioritization of the core development objectives and the choice of the most effective mechanisms/tools/instruments - most effective towards beneficiaries, not most efficient in terms of running costs for the EU.

LESS BUREAUCRACY AND RULES, MORE ATTENTION TO EFFECTIVE RESULTS AND MORE PROXIMITY TO PEOPLE.

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?

Migration requires not only more vertical coherence between internal and external policies, but also horizontal among the different EU Institutions and inside the Commission and also cohesion and harmonization among EU countries and institutions

It is also essential to ensure coherence among trade, security and development policies. Therefore the different directorates should not work in an uncoordinated way, by pursuing their own objectives.

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)?

EU can be a model of encounter, solidarity and inclusion, if willing to share values, AVOIDING IMPOSING MODELS OF CIVILIZATION.

EU has an added value for its long presence as partner in fragile and crisis-affected countries, especially in Africa and the Middle- East.

In partner countries, EU should foster the capacity of the local civil society and grass root organizations to enable them to actively contribute to the advancement of the dialogue and pacific integration. AS THE EUROPEAN HISTORY TEACHES, THE GROWTH OF CIVIL SOCIETY IS A LONG-TERM PROCESS THAT SHOULD BE NURTURED FROM THE BOTTOM UPWARDS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THAT A COUNTRY IS MUCH MORE THAN THE CORRESPONDING STATE.

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?

It is essential to rely more on community-based organizations and on their capacity to reach the most excluded groups.

THE RECENT PARADIGM SHIFT HAS LIMITED THE ROLE OF CSOs AT MERE AGENTS OF DEMOCRATIZATION, WATCHDOGS AND ADVOCACY, UNDERVALUING THE ORIGINAL ONE OF SERVICE PROVIDER.

In fact, i.e. in some African countries, FBOs provide 70% of health services and 50% of education

The new paradigm captures only a partial aspect of the multi-faceted role that CSOs play, according to the contexts and needs.

The various roles played by CSOs are interconnected: they can be agent of democratization, only if they are active on the field and are able to represent the instances of the communities.

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?

In contexts of crisis and fragility, the donor community focuses on strengthening governmental Institutions, which involves reconstructing state functions and legitimacy. However, empowering people is far more important, because the local civil society is the true peacemaker.

Owing to the fragility of the public institutions, EU can better address contexts of fragility and crisis by identifying pilot projects and pioneering experiences, undertaken at community levels, suitable to be scaled up and or replicated elsewhere.

BESIDES, EU SHOULD PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE EXPERIENCES OF THE COUNTRIES WHO ARE AT PRESENT IN A DEVELOPMENT PHASE, FORSTERING EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES AND SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION NOT ONLY BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS BUT ALSO BETWEEN CSOs.

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?

The urge to migrate is inherent in the human being. In an interconnected world, it becomes a natural societal phenomenon.

Addressing the root causes of migration will not prevent the flow of people from one country to another. However, the scale of the phenomenon in recent times responds to epochal changes, which can be faced only via a long-term comprehensive vision, not through emergency measures in the short run.

ONLY BY CONSIDERING THE 'OTHER' AS A RESOURCE, WE WILL SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY MIGRATION.

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

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?

THE IMPACT OF MOBILIZING A VARIETY OF FINANCE CAN BE INCREASED BY PLACING THE ATTENTION ON THE SELECTION OF THE SUBJECT MORE THAN ON THE FORMAL WRITING OF THE PROJECT AND ON RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The involvement of the private sector (for-profit and non-profit) may improve effectiveness, not only in catalysing additional financial resources, but also in terms of competences and division of roles.

The for-profit sector provides financial resources, skills, know-how and technology, while CSOs can play the role of interface between local communities and businesses by helping in identifying productive initiatives already in place, organizing the demand of communities and ensuring to reach the base of the pyramid. They can also equip small and medium-sized enterprises with due diligence tools and conduct inquiries and studies on environmental impact and adaptation strategies.

The public sector should ensure an enabling environment and set the overall policy framework for an effective private sector action.

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?

ODA should be concentrated in the poorest countries and fragile and crisis-affected contexts.

A better impact requires the revision of the current resource allocation system, based on needs and capabilities. The principle of allocation of resources to countries that have the best capability to achieve concrete results is inconsistent with the allocation of resources to fragile states or governments involved in conflicts.

GOVERNMENTS IN THE PARTNER COUNTRIES WOULD IMPROVE THEIR EFFICIENCY IF BUDGET SUPPORT WERE CONDITIONAL TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY AT ALL LEVELS (PROGRAMMING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION).

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

In partner countries, the system of mobilization and allocation of domestic revenues can be effective only by making governments accountable to citizens.

Enhancing capacity of local civil society and improving state-citizens relations are essential pre-conditions for the public spending to meet the needs and priorities of the population.

BUT WHAT COUNTS AT THE END IT IS NOT JUST THE VOLUME OF THE RESOURCES RAISED, BUT HOW THE RESOURCES ARE COLLECTED AND USED.

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

Technical assistance, blending finance, trilateral and south-south cooperation are considered the most suitable modalities for the cooperation with middle-income countries.

The system to differentiate aid according to income presents the risk of cutting fund in favour of middle-income countries, which still present large pockets of poverty.

Using indicators able to capture the multiple dimensions of poverty can curb the pitfall. The new indicators should be defined through a bottom-up process, involving CSOs and local organizations, which are more aware of the conditions of local populations, even in the most remote areas.

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?

Despite the many declarations of intent, policy coherence is far from being reached. The migration policy is the one that shows in the most striking way the contradictions between internal and external policies, both at vertical and horizontal levels.

Some lessons can be drawn from the past:

- 1) Development goals are interconnected and they reinforce each other.
- 2) New policies addressing inter-linkages must replace the logic of sectoral approaches.
- 3) Institutional coordination at all level of policy making must be pursued.
- 4) All actors are called to give their contributions, according to their capabilities and in their own right.

(6) The actors: making it work together

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?

PARTNERSHIPS SHOULD ENHANCE THE DISTINCTIVE FEATURE OF EACH ACTOR AND KEEPING THEIR RIGHT OF INITIATIVE.

Special efforts should be devoted to the capacity building of local community based organizations. The co-applicant's mechanism and making the establishment of consortia conditional are not sufficient to ensure the access of the local organizations to funding, due to their lack of capacity to deal with unnecessary complex bureaucratic rules.

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

To facilitate the involvement of the private sector in development cooperation, the EU can foster an enabling business environment in partner countries.

This can be reached by supporting the growth of a competitive local private sector, endowing local small and medium enterprises with the capacities to harness the opportunities offered by the global market.

EU SHOULD ALSO SUPPORT EUROPEAN COMPANIES IN INVESTING IN THIRD COUNTRIES BY THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE OF EU CSOS IN DEALING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND PROVIDING POPULATION VOCATIONAL AND HUMAN EDUCATION.

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?

The main question is how to ensure the inclusion of the SDGs in the development cooperation, especially in the relations with partner countries.

The EU and the international community has already several instruments and diplomatic channels for strengthening relations. However the big fragmentation of processes, documents, meetings, etc. may hinder the involvement of civil society. The participation can be very time consuming, especially for small organizations, due to the lack of required resources and skills.

BESIDES, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REDUCE THE PASSAGES OF FUNDING FROM EU TO THE UN AGENCIES AND OII AND THE DISPERSION OF FUNDS FOR OVERHEAD COSTS THAT EACH PASSAGE IMPLIES. IT SHOULD BE AVOIDED THAT ONE BODY BECOMES THE SUBCONTRACTOR OF THE OTHER, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT MORE RESOURCES REACH THE FINAL BENEFICIARIES.

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 can provide technical assistance and policy support services for enabling partner countries to align national plans to the objectives of the 2030 agenda.

Promoting structural dialogues can facilitate the process to identify the most relevant objectives for the country. In setting the country priorities, the involvement of civil society and community-based organizations is crucial to identifying and addressing people's needs.

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?

We see a lack of coherence in many crucial areas such as migration. The involvement of civil society organizations and other important stakeholders in the programming exercise may result in a great improvement of policy coherence and coordination.

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

SIMPLIFYING FUNDING AND BUREAUCRATIC PROCEDURES CAN HELP IN SPEEDING UP IMPLEMENTATION.

The need was already addressed in the “Joint communication...on EU development policy: European Consensus” of 2006 (§122). The communication missed to tackle the reform of the selection procedures that continue to be not addressed.

SELECTION CRITERIA SHOULD FOCUS ON THE APPLICANT, taking into account not only formal requirements of eligibility, but primarily identity, expertise, experiences, performance and reliability in the field.

As regards the FUNDING MODALITIES, sub-contracting to the UN system agencies and the use of trust and global funds diminish the impact on final beneficiaries, rather responding to the need to reduce the administrative burden and management costs.

BUDGET SUPPORT might have more impact if the disbursements were conditional on the involvement of community-based organizations in the implementation. It creates distortion and deterioration of basic services in the absence of competition and collaborations with community based organizations that are more close to people.

EU SHOULD TEMPORARY SUPPORT CSOS WITH GOOD RESULTS THROUGH CORE FUNDING OR OPERATING GRANTS (EX. ONE YEAR) SO THAT THE ORGANISATIONS CAN PREPARE THEIR FURTHER ACTIONS WITHOUT THE COMPULSORY NEED OF ‘INVENTING’ ALL THE TIME SOMETHING NEW IN ORDER TO GET NEW FUNDING.

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?

Joint programming should be based on the best practices and results from actors of each Member States and should be linked to the EU country roadmaps for the engagement with civil society. There are joined-up tools, because they should be endorsed also by the Member States.

The quality of the roadmaps and of the implementation process varies from one country to another. It is necessary to enlarge the spectrum of the CSOs involved, to submitting implementation to regular dialogue and joint decisions among the main stakeholders and to strengthening the link with both national and thematic programming, in order to support the country's delivery of the 2030 agenda.

(7) Keeping track of progress

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?

A better use of evidence and analysis can be ensured by:

- 1) Avoiding to contracting out analysis and investigations to consulting agencies, without the involvement of the main stakeholders, namely beneficiaries and implementing organizations.
- 2) Avoiding bias in favor of the interests of policy makers and preconceived evidence that fits with the political priorities of donors and governments.
- 3) MAKING CONSULTATION A REAL PROCESS, NOT A MERE EXERCISE TO FILLING THE BOXES.
- 4) Improving communication, information sharing and dissemination (update and simplify websites, create alert system, disseminate newsletters).
- 5) DO NOT USE MORE RESOURCES FOR MEASURING THAN FOR IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS.

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?

Real partnerships make actors mutually accountable.

CSOS CAN BRING TOGETHER COMMUNITIES AND ENTERPRISES AND CONNECT SECTORS OF SOCIETY THAT ARE QUITE OFTEN IN CONFLICT.

The encounter between for profit and non for-profit sectors is facilitated by the adhesion of many companies to the UN global compact and the adoption of tools of auto-regulations.

CSOs can bring a great added value to the partnerships for their proximity to local communities, their knowledge of local contexts and awareness of real needs.

Using conditionality to encourage for-profit, non-for profit partnerships can facilitate the joint follow up and review of the 2030 agenda, with special focus on the progress on poverty eradication and in meeting real needs.

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

National governments should conduct regular reviews on progress towards the 2030 agenda, making use of the structural dialogue and an inclusive sharing among all actors.

Every country will differ on which goals matter. The active engagement of grass-root, local and international organizations can improve to identifying targets and make the necessary adjustments on the bases of a joint evaluation.

Since SDGs are inspirational, not legally binding obligations, the EU delegations can foster this collective process by inviting the governments to regularly report to all stakeholders and to make the review process as participative and inclusive as possible. Mechanisms for facilitating dialogue among countries, standards and criteria for review should be agreed on and established collectively.

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