

EuropeAid

# Partnership for Change

The EU's Development Cooperation with  
African, Caribbean and Pacific countries



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

## European Commission

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# Partnership for **Change**

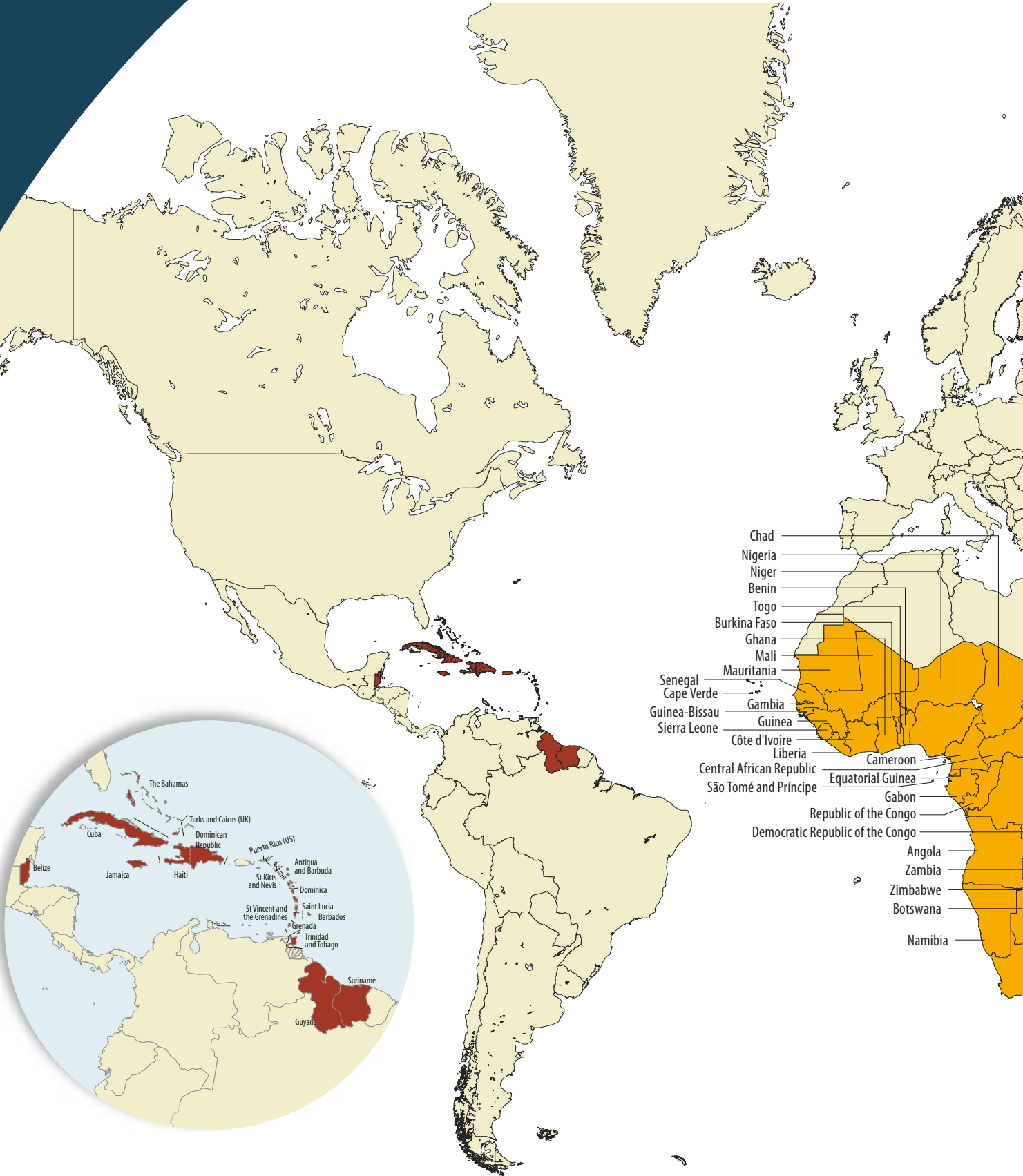
The EU's Development Cooperation with  
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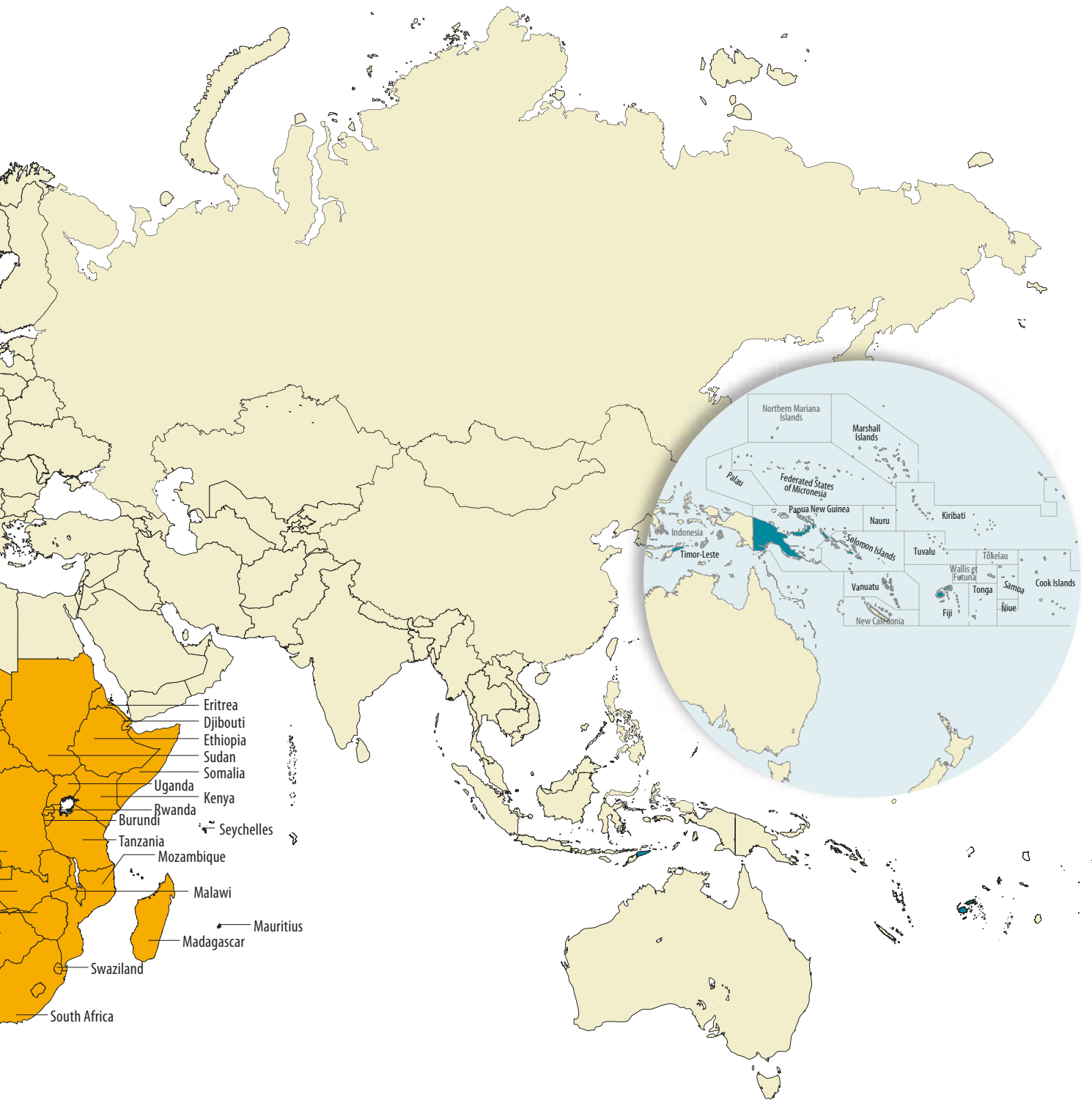


# Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Partners in development</b>	<b>11</b>
A history of partnership	11
Millennium Development Goals	11
Delivering on our commitments	12
Support to ACP countries	13
Responding to needs	14
Providing more aid better and faster	15
Aid for those most in need	15
<b>Delivering on the ground</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Trade and regional integration</b>	<b>17</b>
All ACP countries: Sustaining the growth of horticultural exports to Europe	17
Southern Africa: Promoting investment partnerships	18
<b>Environment</b>	<b>19</b>
Central Africa: Conserving and managing tropical rain forests	20
<b>Infrastructure, Communication and Transport</b>	<b>21</b>
Sub-Saharan Africa: Securing vital infrastructure investments	21
Chad: New roads can lead to new business	22
The Caribbean: How to keep competitive in the digital age	23
<b>Water and energy</b>	<b>24</b>
Senegal: Safe drinking water and improved sanitation for the rural community of Coubalan	24
Pacific region: Solar energy for remote islands	25
<b>Agriculture and rural development</b>	<b>26</b>
Belize: Rural poverty biggest barrier to development	26
Ethiopia: Improve food security through productive safety net programme	27
All ACP countries: Targeted support for commodity producers	28
<b>Governance, democracy and human rights</b>	<b>29</b>
Mali: Empowering local authorities	29
Malawi: Supporting citizens' participation in public life	30
South Africa: Access to justice and human rights	31
<b>Peace and security</b>	<b>32</b>
Africa: How the EU helps Africa keep the peace	32
<b>Human development</b>	<b>33</b>
Nigeria: Protecting young children against infectious diseases	33
Kiribati: Better health services for the outer islands	34
Haiti: Education for all	35
Rwanda: Popular radio soap opera helps to fight AIDS	36
Tanzania: Regional protection programme for refugees	37

## African, Caribbean and Pacific countries







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# Introduction

The European Union (EU) and its Member States are the world's largest aid donor. Together, they provide almost 60% of global development assistance. More than half of this money goes to African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

The ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, also known as the Cotonou Agreement, is the cornerstone of cooperation with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. Its objectives are poverty reduction through supporting sustainable economic, social and environmental development in the ACP regions and their integration into the world economy. At the same time, it promotes the consolidation of democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Putting equity at the centre of its action, the EU gives priority to defending the interests of the most disadvantaged countries and the poorest sections of their populations.

The European Development Fund (EDF) is the main source of aid funding for 79 ACP States as well as 20 overseas countries and territories (OCTs) which are linked to Denmark, France, the Netherlands and the UK and associated with the EU. The EDF is not part of the general EU budget. It is funded by contributions from Member States. Following the entry into force of the revised Cotonou Agreement on 1 July 2008, the funds of the 10<sup>th</sup> EDF became available for all ACP countries having ratified the agreement.

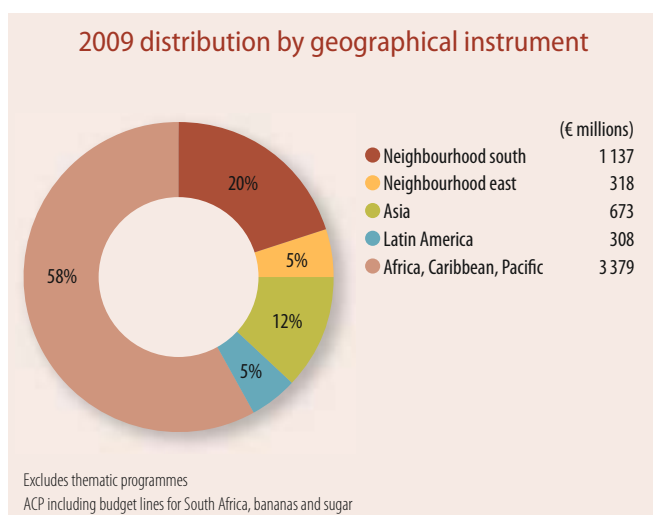
Over the years, the European Commission has worked towards providing more aid, better and faster. Under the 9<sup>th</sup> EDF, covering the period 2000-2007, €15.8 billion were allocated to development cooperation with ACP countries. Under the 10<sup>th</sup> EDF, this amount has risen to €22.7 billion for the period 2008-2013. Moreover, the Commission is putting a lot of effort into making its aid more effective by increasing its predictability, flexibility and by focusing on achieving results. Special attention is given to providing appropriate responses to countries in conflict, post-conflict and other fragile situations.



EU assistance to ACP countries is based on the European Consensus on Development, adopted in 2005. This provides a shared vision and sets out a common framework of principles, values and objectives to guide the EU's activities, at both Member State and Union level in support of poverty eradication in line with the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The EU puts strong emphasis on achieving the MDGs in ACP countries and beyond. It also takes the view that the fundamental objective of poverty reduction is closely linked to the complementary objectives of good governance and respect for human rights – values underpinning the EU itself.

At the core of EU development policy are the principles of ownership and participation. The European Commission facilitates and promotes dialogue between state and non-state actors on development priorities and strategies in partner countries. Its actions aim to reach the poorest and most vulnerable groups in society, to improve their participation in the policy decisions which affect them in order to help build a vibrant civil society that is so essential for democracy and development.





# Partners in development

## A history of partnership

The EU has been supporting the ACP countries for over five decades. The 1957 Treaty of Rome made provisions for the creation of the EDF, originally to grant technical and financial assistance to African countries with which Member States had historic ties.

The ACP Group of States was formally established in 1975 by the Georgetown Agreement, which was initially signed by 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific states. Today, the ACP Group consists of 79 countries, all of whom except Cuba are signatories of the Cotonou Agreement: 48 African states, covering all of Sub-Saharan Africa, 15 states in the Caribbean and 15 in the Pacific.

From 1975 to 2000, ACP-EU relations were governed by the regularly revised Lomé Conventions (Lomé I – Lomé IV bis). These were – after a process of modification – replaced by the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, which was signed in Cotonou, Benin, in June 2000 and entered into force in April 2003. The Cotonou Agreement will run until 2020. The Agreement comes up for revision every five years. The second revision took place in 2010.

The ACP-EU partnership makes a clear link between the political dimension, trade and development. It is based on five pillars:

- reinforcement of the political dimension of relations between ACP countries and the European Union;
- involvement of civil society, the private sector and other non-state actors;
- poverty reduction, confirmed as a key objective within the context of the objectives and targets agreed at international level (in particular the Millennium Development Goals);
- an innovative economic and trade cooperation framework;
- rationalisation of financial instruments and a system of flexible programming.

The EU has a special relationship with South Africa based on key political, social and ethical values, such as democracy, human rights, good governance and a strong commitment to fight poverty and social exclusion. The Trade Development and Cooperation Agreement designed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in various fields, is the legal basis for relations between South Africa and the EU.

The MDGs underpin ACP-EU cooperation, in particular with regard to the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger as well as the other development targets agreed upon at United Nations conferences.

## Millennium Development Goals

A key stage on the road to more and better aid was the agreement on the Millennium Development Goals in 2000, when the European Union, together with the international community, committed itself to achieving a number of development goals – in particular halving global poverty by 2015.

### Millennium Development Goals

At the 2000 United Nations Millennium Summit, the international community set eight Millennium Development Goals to be achieved by 2015:

- eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;
- achieve universal primary education;
- promote gender equality;
- reduce child mortality;
- improve maternal health;
- combat HIV/AIDS and other diseases;
- ensure environmental sustainability;
- develop a global partnership for development.

Despite some positive global trends, many countries are still far from reaching the agreed MDG targets by 2015, in particular, countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, new challenges have emerged that may undermine progress towards the achievement of the MDGs: the global financial and economic crisis as well as high and volatile food and commodity prices.

Eradicating poverty and achieving the MDGs remain key objectives for the EU. To this end, the EU supports actions in key areas such as education, environment, health, water and sanitation, food security, infrastructure and gender equality for the achievement of the MDGs.





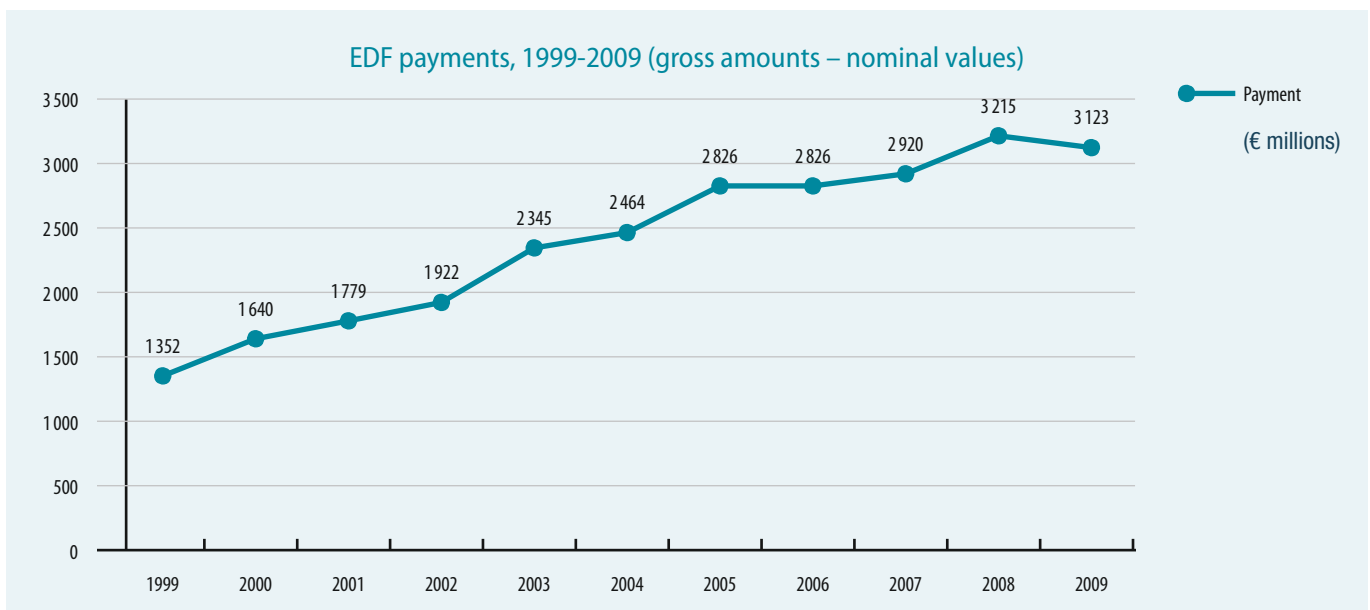
## Delivering on our commitments

In 2002, world leaders adopted the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development which set out to eradicate poverty, achieve sustained economic growth and promote sustainable development while advancing to a fully inclusive and equitable global economic system. To achieve these ambitious development goals, donor countries committed themselves to allocating 0.7% of their Gross National Income (GNI) to Official Development Assistance (ODA). The commitments of the Monterrey Consensus were reaffirmed in 2008 during the Doha Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development.

The above-mentioned commitments of the international donor community have resulted in more aid, which allows the European Commission to introduce innovative approaches such as its MDG-

Contracts focusing its budget support to beneficiary countries on MDG-related results, notably in health and education. The contracts are designed to provide more predictable, longer-term financial support to beneficiary countries.

In 2009, the European Commission's external aid budget amounted to about €11.8 billion, with the biggest beneficiaries being the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. Between 2005 and 2008 EDF commitments to the ACP countries rose by 41%, reaching a record level of €4.4 billion in 2008. Actual payment levels for ACP countries from both EDF and the EU budget, which averaged €3.7 billion a year in the period 2005-2008, rose by 14% in the same period. Overall payments slightly decreased in 2009, mainly due to non fulfilment of disbursement conditions for budget support in certain beneficiary countries.

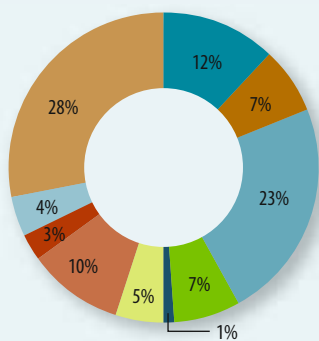


## Support to ACP countries

The European Commission has various sources for providing aid to ACP countries and OCTs. The lion's share comes from the EDF. This is an intergovernmental financial instrument funded by EU Member States, whose individual contributions are fixed according to a specific scale. The EDF has its own financial rules and is overseen by a specific committee of EU Member States.

For the period 2008 to 2013, the EDF manages an overall budget of €22.7 billion. Of this amount, €22 billion are allocated to ACP countries, €286 million to the OCTs and €430 million to the Commission as support expenditure for programming and implementation.

European Consensus: Areas relating to EU development cooperation financed by the EDF



### Areas relating to development cooperation

Areas relating to development cooperation	Commitments (€ millions)
Governance and support for economic and institutional reforms	426
Trade and regional integration	228
Infrastructure and transport	795
Water and energy	243
Social cohesion and employment	46
Human and social development	186
Rural development, territorial planning, agriculture and food security	355
The environment and sustainable management of natural resources	105
Conflict prevention and fragile states	126
Multi areas	992

ODA commitments 2009 in € million. March 2010 estimates. For illustrative purposes only

In addition to the EDF, the EU's general budget provides aid through a number of geographic and thematic instruments. The following instruments apply to ACP countries: the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) and the Instrument for Stability (IfS).

The DCI includes geographical cooperation with South Africa as well as thematic programmes, covering different areas of activities benefiting all developing countries, including ACP states. These programmes support actions in the following fields:

- investing in people (social sectors);
- non-state actors (civil society) and local authorities;
- environment and sustainable management of natural resources including energy;
- food security;
- migration and asylum.

The DCI also includes accompanying measures for 20 sugar exporting ACP countries to support their adjustment process following the reform of the EU sugar market. From 2010 onwards, the DCI will also provide support to ACP banana exporting countries.

In addition, EU Member States have their own bilateral agreements with developing countries and implement individual cooperation initiatives under their own responsibilities.





## Responding to needs

Concrete results in the field are the outcome of an extensive process of programming on various levels to tackle the issues at stake in an effective manner. The European Commission works closely with aid recipients to make sure that there is fully shared responsibility and accountability to raise the level of partnership, ownership and policy consistency.

### AID PROGRAMMING

Together with the partner countries and local EU delegations, the Commission draws up strategy documents by country and region – so-called country and regional strategy papers (CSPs and RSPs). They are complemented by national and regional indicative programmes (NIPs and RIPs), offering a more detailed description of the planned actions, their approximate budget and implementation timeline. Following this, annual action programmes (AAPs) are drafted, which outline the specific actions to be funded in each partner country and region during one year.

During the programming cycle, the European Commission remains in direct and continuous dialogue with the partner country. In doing so, the Commission encourages full and active participation of the partner country, jointly monitoring developments which could result in a change of priorities, like dealing with the structural impact of the global financial and economic crisis.

Cooperation activities are decentralised. This means that both programming and implementation of development assistance largely rely on the EU delegations in the field in cooperation with local governments. Jointly with the partner countries, the delegations identify the actions to be carried out, judge their

feasibility, supervise their implementation and make sure they are monitored and evaluated. Currently, more than 80% of operations are managed by EU delegations. In contrast to national programmes, some regional and horizontal programmes are managed directly from EuropeAid headquarters in Brussels.

### AID DELIVERY

Development assistance is provided via two main delivery channels: the project approach or budget support. The project approach supports specific initiatives with clearly identified goals with a fixed budget and time period. Budget support involves transferring funds directly to a partner country's national budget based upon agreed performance indicators. Depending on the arrangement, budget support can also be allocated to a specific sector, for example health or education. Either way, eligibility for this form of support is conditional on the respect of strict criteria, including sound financial management practices.

The European Commission is making greater use of budget support as a way of improving aid effectiveness through the use of country systems and increasing democratic accountability, ownership and the capacity of the receiving governments to manage development in their respective countries. In 2008, general budget support was approved in 22 countries, representing 45% of global commitments, against 11% of global commitments in 2007. Total commitments for budget support rose by 110% from €3.9 billion for 2001-2004 to €8.5 billion for 2005-2008. Under the 10<sup>th</sup> EDF (2008-2013), some 44% of national allocations programmed for ACP countries will be in the form of budget support.

## Providing more aid better and faster

In recent years, the Commission has invested substantial effort and resources to provide more aid, to deliver it where it is most needed, and to make it more timely and effective. Aligning donor aid with strategies and procedures in partner countries and incorporating development programmes locally are at the heart of the EU's external aid policy. These and other key development objectives are laid out in the 2005 European Consensus on Development, which eventually led to adoption of the EU Code of Conduct on Division of Labour in 2007. Both documents provide a common vision of development policy for Member States and the Commission in order to increase aid effectiveness by using better allocation systems to draw on the relative advantages of each European donor. The Consensus reaffirms the EU's commitments in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness in 2005 to increase EU efforts of harmonisation, alignment and better management of aid for securing results.

In September 2008, the Accra Forum on Aid Effectiveness adopted the so-called Accra Agenda for Action, containing significant political commitments by donors and developing countries and very ambitious measures to improve the implementation of the Paris Declaration.

In the framework of the EU Code of Conduct on Division of Labour, the European Commission is moving towards harmonising donor practices by improving its mechanisms for joint co-financing with other donors as well as for delegated cooperation. The latter is a partnership agreement between the Commission and another donor, where one party delegates authority to the other to act on its behalf in terms of administration of funds. This may be another EU Member State, a bilateral donor or an international organisation. This process has provided new opportunities for reducing overhead costs for donors as well as for partner countries.

## Aid for those most in need

It has become clear that the international community needs to improve its response to countries in fragile situations if we are to see real development for the world's poorest and achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Fragility refers to weak and failing structures where the state is unable or unwilling to meet its obligations to deliver essential services, provide security and maintain the rule of law. Fragile situations pose a particular challenge to sustainable development, equitable growth and peace as they can create regional instability, uncontrolled migration flows and even global security risks. This is why over the past few years the EU, in conjunction with the international community, has made a concerted effort to respond to the specific problems of conflict, post-conflict and other fragile situations where delivery of security and emergency services to the population must be assured in the short term, while capacity has to be built gradually to deliver social services, security and justice in a sustainable way.

The European Commission develops and implements a variety of interventions which respond to the humanitarian, security and longer-term development situation. In order to meet new challenges and to ensure that programmes are effective even in the poorest countries in fragile and crisis situations, the Commission tailors its strategies, programming and procedures to respond to local circumstances. It has also improved its effectiveness in fragile situations by responding to needs with a range of instruments from projects to budget support.

In addition, the Commission is using the added value resulting from its operations in so-called aid orphan countries where few other donors are active. The Commission takes every opportunity to encourage Member States to engage with these countries. Moreover, it is increasingly making use of co-financing procedures, enabling it to attract and disburse additional funds from Member States in favour of those countries that lack a donor presence.







# Delivering on the ground

## Trade and regional integration

The EU is the main trading partner for most ACP countries and for virtually all ACP countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2008, trade with the ACP countries totalled €92 billion. Even if its trade with ACP countries remains marginal, the EU is keen to enhance the contribution trade can make to economic and social development and to help ACP countries gain access to open global markets. One particular aim of the EU's trade-related assistance strategy is to support the ACP region to take full advantage of trading opportunities and maximise the benefits of trade reforms. This includes progressively removing trade obstacles for ACP producers, namely tariffs and non-tariff barriers, and enhancing cooperation in all sectors related to trade. Trade-related assistance has become a crucial component of the EU's external cooperation, also with regard to the current Doha Development Agenda of the WTO and the ongoing negotiations for Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with ACP countries.

**ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS**  
EPAs are intended to consolidate regional integration initiatives among ACP countries and to foster the gradual integration of the ACP countries into the global economy. Negotiations are based on the joint decision of both EU and ACP countries to overhaul their previous trade relations, which were primarily based on one-way trade preferences granted to ACP exports, and to conclude new trading arrangements in line with WTO rules. EPAs take account of the economic, social and environmental constraints of the ACP countries concerned and of the extent of their ability to adapt to the new trading environment.

**PROMOTING REGIONAL INTEGRATION**  
Whilst trade amongst EU Member States represents over 60% of their total trade, the equivalent figure for trade between African countries is barely 10%. There is room for improvement in the regional markets of ACP countries to promote exchanges and

to stimulate growth and job creation. Trade and regional integration are interlinked and progress on regional integration is a condition for the expansion of commercial flows. EU support for trade and regional integration in ACP countries focuses on the design of appropriate policies on trade and private sector development. This includes more business-friendly regulatory frameworks, simplified procedures to create and run businesses across regions, efficient economic infrastructures as well as measures to promote a stable legal framework and reduce costs for imports and exports. The regional dimension addresses the harmonisation of processes and procedures so that more integrated regional markets will in turn enhance the opportunities of ACP businesses to access world markets.

In many ACP countries, exports of fruit, vegetables and flowers are a driver of economic growth. The EU is their biggest export market. ACP producers and exporters need up-to-date information and skilled human resources to

## ALL ACP COUNTRIES • Sustaining the growth of horticultural exports to Europe

maintain market access and to capitalise on new opportunities. Trade in horticultural products has the potential to further increase its contribution to poverty reduction in ACP countries, particularly among groups like rural women who have few opportunities for income generation.

Via the PIP project, the EU ensures that the ACP horticulture export sector is able to retain access to the European market by complying with EU food safety regulations, environmental requirements, fair trade best practice and consumer demand for organic food. The project also helps them respect the growing number and stringency of private standards operated by individual European supermarket chains. The PIP was originally set up in 2001 as the pesticide initiative programme to curb the use of pesticides in order to meet standards required for exports into Europe, but its scope was subsequently widened to

cover compliance with a broad range of EU standards and regulations.

The PIP is now in its second phase. The first ran from 2001 to 2008. In its current version, the PIP also pays special attention to supporting and training small-scale farmers and their producer groups. One important result of the PIP has been to raise the safety standards of fruit and vegetables sold on local ACP markets.

Thanks to the PIP, ACP suppliers have been able to maintain their share of EU markets for horticultural products. The coverage rate of the programme has reached more than 80% of the flow of fresh fruit and vegetables from ACP to EU markets.

### Title of project

PIP – For Sustainable Development of African-Caribbean-Pacific Industry

### Duration

Phase I 2001-2009 – Phase II 2009-2014

### EU contribution

Phase I € 38.2 million – Phase II € 33 million

### Partner

COLEACP (network of ACP producers/exporters, EU importers & others)

<http://www.coleacp.org/PIP>



## SOUTHERN AFRICA • Promoting investment partnerships

The 14 countries of the Southern Africa Development Community are looking for investments to expand and modernise the productive sector. They need a substantial increase in investment, both from within the region and from outside to boost their economic growth and reduce poverty. The EU-SADC investment promotion programme (ESIPP) was designed to facilitate and simplify investment procedures.

The programme focused on five key sectors in the regional economies: building materials and construction; light engineering; tourism; mining; and agro-industry. It had two main tasks. One was to strengthen the capacities and role of intermediary organisations (the match-makers between potential investment partners) in SADC

countries. The other was to provide direct support to SADC companies by organising events and bringing them into contact with potential investors from other countries in the region or from Europe.

**Title of project**  
EU-SADC Investment Promotion Programme

**Duration**  
2002-2008

**EU contribution**  
€ 18.3 million

**Partner**  
Southern Africa Development Community (SADC)

ESIPP organised one major partnership meeting and a number of workshops in each of the five sectors. The events took place in different SADC countries. The final partnership meeting – for the agro-industry sector – was held in Tanzania in May 2008. It attracted more than 400 participants, plus 60 business intermediaries from SADC, east and west Africa and the EU to whom 128 SADC companies showcased their investment opportunities. Over 1400 direct business meetings were held and potential partners signed 169 letters of intent.

Before closing down in June 2008:

- Along with the Association of SADC Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCCI), ESIPP produced a toolkit for small, micro and medium enterprises (SMME) showing step-by-step how to start and operate a small business in the Southern African region.
- ESSIP contributed to the establishment of the Business Trade Forum EU-Southern Africa (BTFES) to encourage business involvement in the development of trade relations between the EU and SADC.





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## Environment

Environmental degradation is a serious threat to the developing world. The rural poor are especially dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods. At the same time, they are also the most vulnerable to the effects of environmental disasters caused by climate change, the destruction of ecosystems, pollution and the depletion of natural resources. Protecting the environment helps to boost long-term economic and social development and is therefore a key element for achieving lasting poverty reduction and sustainable development in ACP countries. The European Consensus on Development stresses the importance of sustainable

management and preservation of natural resources, both as a source of income and as a means to safeguard and develop jobs, rural livelihoods and environmental goods and services.

The ACP-EU Partnership Agreement mainstreams environmental sustainability into all aspects of development cooperation. It does so through corrective measures relating to specific environmental problems or cross-cutting measures integrated within other policy areas, like seeking to build and strengthen the scientific and technical capacity of all stakeholders (governments, institutions, civil society organisations, etc.).

Concrete EU initiatives in ACP countries include actions on sustainable development, climate change, biodiversity, desertification, forests and their governance, marine resources, waste and chemical products. They also promote options for renewable energy, particularly through institutional support and technical assistance, the creation of a legislative and administrative framework favourable for investment, and encouragement for regional cooperation.



## CENTRAL AFRICA • Conserving and managing tropical rain forests

Central Africa is home to the biggest area of tropical forest after the Amazon basin. If exploited rationally, it can be a real vector for development. The riches of its unparalleled biodiversity remain largely unexplored.

The ECOFAC programme combines two principles: conservation and development. It demonstrates the EU commitment to the protection and rational utilisation of Central Africa's forest ecosystems.

These are under threat from deforestation due to illegal logging. Their biodiversity is being challenged by the trade in bush meat, which endangers the existence of some wildlife species. The conservation of Africa's tropical forests is crucial for the economic and social development of an estimated 65 million people.

The current programme, ECOFAC IV, runs from 2006 to 2010. It fully involves local people in its activities. Seven countries take part: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Congo-Brazzaville and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

**Title of project**  
**Conservation and Rational Use of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa (ECOFAC)**

**Duration**  
 2006-2010

**Fundos da UE**  
 €38.2 million

**Partners**  
 National institutions from the seven participant countries

Tropical rainforests stretch over 1 620 000 square km of their territory. Thanks largely to ECOFAC, a total of 180 000 square km are now managed as conservation zones. The programme's regional approach has led to the creation of a network of central African protected zones.

ECOFAC provides alternatives for local people to hunting, including the development of ecotourism as a source of income and training

in carpentry, brick-making, new farming techniques and new ways to exploit forest resources.

ECOFAC contributes to the EU's action plan on forest law enforcement, governance and trade (FLEGT) whereby it works with timber-producing countries to tackle deforestation and curb illegal logging. It also supports a project, along with Unesco and the French government, to raise awareness among forest populations, particularly youngsters, of the need to protect big apes which are threatened by extinction.





## Infrastructure, Communication and Transport

### INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

Infrastructure and transport are key drivers of development. They provide access to jobs, health, education and other social welfare functions that are vital for the safety and well-being of people in both rural and urban areas. Transport costs have to be minimised for social and economic growth to materialise and for trade and regional

integration to flourish. However, the state of transport still impedes development in many ACP countries, particularly the less developed ones. Improving the contribution of transport to development requires it to be safe, affordable, efficient and sustainable, with minimum impact on the environment. EU support for transport infrastructure features prominently in development

cooperation with ACP countries. Between 1995 and 2006, the Commission provided almost €6.5 billion for transport projects, with the ACP region receiving about 80% of the allocated funds. Most of this money was committed to improving road transport in order to reduce the cost of travel and increase the quality of services.

### SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA • Securing vital infrastructure investments

Efficient infrastructures, especially for transport, energy, communications and water, are crucial to sustainable development, economic growth and poverty reduction in Africa. The investment needed to improve infrastructure in Sub-Saharan Africa has been estimated at €60 billion a year from 2010 to 2015.

The EU set up the Infrastructure Trust Fund for Africa in 2007 to increase EU and international investments in regional infrastructures and inter-connectivity in Africa, working together

with other initiatives, actors and instruments, and on the basis of African ownership.

By the end of 2009, the fund had allocated more than €96 million in grant funding for 19 key infrastructure projects, with a further €26 million being earmarked for two other projects. This is expected to leverage up to €1.5 billion in loans from European or international financial institutions and the private sector.

Each euro in approved fund grants is expected to generate about €14 in total investments.

The funding can take several forms: interest rate subsidies, technical assistance, direct grants and insurance premia. The Trust Fund is a key instrument of the EU-Africa Partnership for infrastructure, jointly run through a steering committee of EU and African members.

The fund combines grant resources from the European Commission

**Title of project**  
EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund

**Duration**  
2007 – ongoing

**Fundos da UE**  
€308.7 million (2007-2009)

**Partners**  
12 EU Member States; European Investment Bank;  
EU development agencies, banks or financing  
institutions; African Development Bank  
[www.eu-africa-infrastructure-tf.net](http://www.eu-africa-infrastructure-tf.net)

and 12 EU Member States with the lending capacities of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the participating EU development funding banks or agencies. The African Development Bank participates in the Trust Fund discussions on project preparation and assessment. Following additional contributions in 2009 from the European Commission and the UK, as well as a first commitment by Finland, the total contributions to the Trust Fund now amount to €372.7 million.

Projects in four infrastructure sectors, namely energy, transport, water and telecommunications, are eligible for support from the Trust Fund. Examples of supported projects include:

- hydro-electric schemes (e.g. Felou in West Africa);
- electricity interconnection schemes (e.g. Benin-Togo; Namibia-Zambia);

- roads, railways, airports and ports (e.g. Beira, Walvis Bay; Pointe Noire, Port Louis; Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Kenya; Great Eastern Road, Zambia);
- East African Submarine Cable system (EASSy), a fibre optic cable linking southern and eastern African countries into the international communications network;
- preliminary studies for hydro-electric schemes in Sambagalou and Gouina (West Africa) and Ruzizi and Gibe (central and eastern Africa).

### CHAD • New roads can lead to new business

Chad is nearly twice the size of France but in 2005 it had only 667 kilometres of international-class asphalt roads. The total reached 1 090 kilometres by the end of 2009 and continues to rise, partly thanks to support from the European Union. The EU has financed the cross-border asphalt road linking Moundou in the populous and productive south of Chad with N'Gaoundere in Cameroon. Today it continues to support the extension of the permanent road network towards the south-eastern interior of landlocked Chad. The project enhances Chad's permanent road network and reduces its isolation, particularly by lowering travel time to Douala, the nearest port city in Cameroon. It will stimulate sustainable

economic development and in turn help to reduce poverty levels. The EU previously financed part of the highway between N'Djamena and Moundou (Ere-Kelo-Moundou 148km), which was completed in 2005.

**Title of project**  
Support for Transport Sector Policy:  
Road Maintenance and Economic Routes

**Duration**  
2005-2013

**Fundos da UE**  
€ 84 million

**Partner**  
Chad Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport

The 390km road linking N'Gaoundere, the terminal point of the railway from Douala, and Moundou, Chad's second largest town, was opened in 2007. This project was the EU's largest single road investment in Africa. Its opening coincided with the start of construction of the surfaced road between Moundou and Koumra (190km) which was inaugurated in December 2009. The EU contributed 79% of construction costs, with the Chad government paying the rest.

The completion of the road between Moundou and Koumra has stimulated economic activity, resulting for example in the creation of six new travel companies offering regular services linking these southern towns with N'Djamena. Industrial activity is set to develop and, as the road network progresses further into isolated agricultural regions, the potential for agricultural exports increases.

To complement construction activities, the EU has financed several environmental projects, funding three NGOs active along the route working in the fields of road safety, the fight against deforestation and reducing the spread of sexually-transmissible diseases and HIV/AIDS.

The ongoing EU project also provides institutional support to the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport and to the transport private sector particularly in the domain of road maintenance. The Chad government's capacity to manage the road network and to tackle vehicle overloading is critical to ensuring the long-term sustainability of road investments.



## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

Information and communication technologies (ICT) are also expected to play a key role in the development of ACP countries by contributing to increasing business competitiveness. Rapid, positive development of ICT in ACP countries, however, will require private sector involvement and investment. The European Commission does support a number of projects in the ICT sector in the

form of public-private partnerships although funding is comparatively small. The EU's main focus in this sector is on supporting regulatory reform and administrative capacity-building to ensure private companies can have equal and fair access to competitive markets. The EU encourages governments in ACP countries to support the ICT sector by building institutional capacity and providing incentives, such as tax rebates. The EU also wants ACP countries to support

more effective technology and knowledge-transfer at a global level through, for example, more flexible intellectual property rights regimes and international partnerships.

## THE CARIBBEAN • How to keep competitive in the digital age

The small states in the Caribbean face considerable challenges to their competitiveness linked to globalisation, the knowledge-based economy and the information and communications revolution. They rely heavily on agriculture, tourism and financial services which require limited human and financial capacity. Future competitiveness will depend on moving into service sectors, regionally and internationally, with people educated to

high levels of literacy and technical proficiency, particularly in ICT and internet-based services.

In concrete terms, this meant:

- improving the efficiency and relevance of TEIs and government ministries through technical assistance in planning, financial management and human resources;
- establishing a sustainable knowledge and learning network;
- building the capacity to deliver regional education programmes and services for distance learning.

The key was training and technical assistance to more than 100 TEIs which were at varying levels of development and spread across a wide region. The CKLN and its members needed to be made ready to implement the network, in terms of skilled human resources, strategic and operational planning and financial management.

Following on from Phase I, the EU is funding what is called CKLN II. This consists of a business plan and feasibility study for the network. It also provides funding for the network equipment and for the lease of its digital transmission circuits. When completed, the CKLN will interface with Latin American, European and global educational networks.

**Title of project**  
Support for Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network

**Duration**  
Phase I 2007-2009 – Phase II 2009-2012

**EU contribution**  
Phase I € 2 million – Phase II € 10 million

**Partners**  
Caribbean Development Bank; Inter-American Development Bank; Organisation of American States; CARICOM governments; UNDP; Canadian Aid Agency

<http://www.ckln.org>

With EU support, the Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network (CKLN) has been set up to meet these challenges. In a first phase from 2007 to 2009, the EU supported the CKLN by helping to put in place the institutional framework and instruments to allow the network to serve its members and to enable tertiary education institutes (TEIs) in the Caribbean to participate in the network.





## Water and energy

### WATER

Water is essential for sustaining life and human development. However, over 300 million people in Africa still lack access to clean water and basic sanitation, making these the leading causes of illness and death.

In some ACP countries, the already limited water resources are under strain from large seasonal fluctuations and periodic cycles of drought and flood. Climate change is also having an increasingly negative impact. The European Commission is responding

to these challenges via targeted actions within the framework of its national and regional cooperation programmes with ACP countries as well as specific policy instruments, such as the ACP-EU Water Facility and the EU Water Initiative.

### SENEGAL • Safe drinking water and improved sanitation for the rural community of Coubalan

The rural community of Coubalan in the southern Casamance region used to have one of the lowest levels of safe water and adequate sanitation structures in Senegal. Only 20% of the population had access to safe drinking water. This project, co-funded from the ACP-EU Water Facility, is providing sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation for 13 villages in Coubalan with more than 17 000 inhabitants. The project covers an area of 200 square kilometres. Coubalan is the first rural community in Senegal provided with both water supply and sanitation covering the whole territory. Water resources are managed locally by the rural community via a decentralised administrative structure.

The Water Facility had a budget of €497 million for the period 2004-2009 with a follow-on €200 million for 2009-2013.

The project has resulted in:

- three hydraulic systems connected to five wells, providing appropriate amounts of quality drinking water;
- a total of 923 latrines have been established in 13 villages covering the whole territory of the Coubalan rural community;
- 1 200 houses connected to water supply
- two campaigns on sanitation have been carried out in targeted villages and their schools;
- water resources are managed by

the community with the participation of local people.

This project is a civil society initiative led by an Italian NGO in partnership with the rural community of Coubalan.

A number of other partners are associated with the project. These include the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the French town of Cherbourg-Octeville, the Regional Council of Basse-Normandie, the Water Agency of Seine-Normandie and the Senegalese Hydraulic Services.

**Title of project**  
Drinking water and sanitation in the rural community of Coubalan

**Duration**  
2006-2009

**EU contribution**  
€931 388 (67% of total)

**Partners**  
ACRA (Associazione di Cooperazione Rurale in Africa e America Latina), Italy; local community organisations led by the Rural Council of Coubalan, Senegal

<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/water-facility>



## ENERGY

Limited access to reliable energy services is a feature of poverty and ACP countries are no exception. In some countries, access to sustainable and modern energy services is as low as 10% in rural areas. Besides, the heavy reliance on traditional biomass fuels, such as charcoal and wood, also leads to environmental degradation due

to deforestation and the misuse of natural resources. No country has ever managed to reduce poverty substantially without meeting the increasing demand for efficient sources of energy. This is why it is essential to improve access to and promote the use of sustainable and renewable energy technologies in ACP countries to foster a reliable and affordable supply of

energy services for both rural and urban communities. The EU is promoting this through different measures and initiatives, most importantly the ACP-EU Energy Facility as well as the EU Energy Initiative for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development.

## PACIFIC REGION • Solar energy for remote islands

Isolated and relatively small in size, most Pacific island countries rely on imported fossil fuel for electricity generation. While this kind of electricity production can often be inefficient, there is potential

for developing alternative sources of energy. ACP countries in the Pacific generally have plenty of sunshine. But turning this into useable energy is not so simple. This was the task undertaken in five remote island states by the REP-5 project funded by the 9<sup>th</sup> EDF. The five are the Federated States of Micronesia Nauru, Niue, Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

REP-5 has implemented a series of renewable and energy efficiency projects in the five countries to help them reduce their dependency on imported fossil fuels and to expand the availability of electricity in their outer island communities.

Obstacles to be overcome included getting the solar panels and heavy batteries ashore and installed on remote islands as well as training teams at each location in the basic maintenance and servicing of the installations. As the equipment was being installed on small atolls close to the Pacific Ocean, it needed to be robust so as to resist corrosion in a high saline environment.

**Title of project**  
Support for the energy sector in five ACP Pacific island countries

**Duration**  
2006-2009

**EU contribution**  
€ 12.39 million

**Partners**  
International consortium led by IT Power, UK, with Transenergie and Ademe, France

<http://www.reps.eu>

Besides renewable electricity for the grid, the project provides power for individual households and public buildings, including schools and dispensaries. It also provided for the installation of pre-payment meters, efficient gas stoves and solar water heaters. The project was accompanied by an energy saving campaign directed at local communities.

They were shown how to use the new systems and to manage them as efficiently as possible. These contacts also raised the level

of local community involvement in, and sense of ownership of, the project.

After the successful implementation of REP-5, the same five countries will continue the project under the 10<sup>th</sup> EDF. They have been joined by Kiribati and Tonga. REP-5 was carried out under the responsibility of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat in Fiji.





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## Agriculture and rural development

Agriculture and rural development play a key role in reducing poverty and boosting growth in ACP countries. Agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries form the economic base for most of the population in ACP countries. They are also a major source of employment, provide raw materials for industry and exports, thus making a large contribution to the gross domestic product of those countries. Due to its often low level of diversification and small number of

export products, agriculture in developing countries is particularly sensitive to changes in trade flows. However, because it provides food and income for the poor, agriculture is important for food security, the affordability of social services as well as the conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity. The EU works at various levels to support agricultural and rural development in ACP countries. For example, at continental level the EU is proposing a framework of cooperation with

the African Union, focusing on capacity building and institutional strengthening of African regional organisations. This will complement national cooperation programmes and stimulate agricultural development on a wider basis. The EU also helps ACP countries dependent on exporting commodities such as coffee, sugar, cotton and cocoa to raise the earnings of producers and to reduce income fluctuations at both macroeconomic and productive levels.

### BELIZE • Rural poverty biggest barrier to development

Rural poverty in Belize is not simply the result of economic deprivation. It is linked to wider structural factors such as poor infrastructure, transportation, access to health services or drinking water, and low levels of human skills. These factors prevent rural areas from participating in meaningful economic activity.

**Title of project**  
Belize Rural Development Programme

**Duration**  
2006-2011

**EU contribution**  
€7.2 million

**Partners**  
Ministry of Economic Development, local authorities & NGOs

<http://www.brdp.org>

This is why funding for Belize's rural development programme (BRDP) is the focus of EU support for the country.

The goal of BRDP is to empower the rural poor and to invest with them to create wealth and to eliminate poverty.

In this way, the programme follows a bottom-up participatory and decentralised approach to help local communities and districts define their strategies and

identify projects and enterprises to support. Productivity and competitiveness needs to be raised in traditional agriculture. Communities must also diversify into non-farm activities which generate income.

The long-term expected results of BRDP are:

- more efficient, productive and competitive agricultural sector established, and non-farm rural economic activities facilitated

and encouraged; the target is to support the creation of 75-125 productive rural enterprises and 300 to 600 micro-projects;

- basic services of the rural population improved; the target is that 115 000 rural

people should have access to the 100-200 new infrastructures supported by BRDP;

- policies and institutional environment strengthened within which agricultural producers, traders, processors, local organisations and communities operate.

The target is that 10% of rural families in the country should benefit from BRDP, and at least 30% of the beneficiaries should be women and youth. That translates into support to some 60 villages out of 192 villages in the country.

## ETHIOPIA • Improve food security through productive safety net programme

projects, for example old and vulnerable people, pregnant women or the disabled, receive cash payments.

Successive climatic shocks – droughts and floods – in recent years have brought many people in Ethiopia close to destitution. Many sold all their assets to survive and were permanently dependent on food aid shipments. To reverse the need for massive emergency food relief, the Ethiopian government, in collaboration with development partners, has created an alternative structure to address chronic food insecurity: the productive safety net programme (PSNP). Ethiopia's PSNP is an international flagship programme designed to better respond to the needs of food insecure households. It uses productive investments to generate income, support rural economic growth and remedy environmental damage. Funding public works creates paid jobs and provides cash to needy populations so that families can buy food, recreate their assets and start earning their living again.

**Title of project**  
Support for the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP)

**Duration**  
Phase I 2005-2009

**EU contribution**  
€ 180.23 million

**Partners**  
Ethiopian government; World Bank; WFP; USAID; CIDA; Ireland, Sweden, Netherlands and UK

The safety net programme costs €220 million a year and is funded by nine donors, including the EU and four Member States. It meets the needs of about 10% of the Ethiopian population or 7.5 million people. EU funds are pooled in a trust fund managed by the World Bank.

Cash transfers are used to fund thousands of public works projects each year as part of community development plans. Markets have been promoted by injecting cash into the local economy and institutional capacity to manage the PSNP has been strengthened. The programme is fully owned by the government and the actual implementation of the PSNP is handled at local levels.

To help cope with the drought and rising food prices in 2008-2009, the EU contributed another €20.23 million to the programme on top of its spending of €98 million foreseen for 2005-2007. In addition, the EU has allocated €20 million from its Food Facility to protect programme beneficiaries from the impact of soaring food prices. The EU has earmarked a further €100 million for the programme in 2008-2013.



At community level, the populations concerned are also benefiting from the public works projects which provide school buildings, healthcare facilities, drinking water points and soil conservation activities. Those who cannot participate in the public works

## ALL ACP COUNTRIES • Targeted support for commodity producers

The All ACP Agricultural Commodities Programme (AAACP) fully recognises the link between trade and poverty reduction. Its goal is to reduce poverty while improving and stabilising the revenues and living conditions of agricultural commodity producers in ACP countries. One third of its €45 million budget is earmarked for cotton.

The programme, which began in September 2007, runs until December 2011. Among its achievements so far, the AAACP lists the following:

- the development of 16 sectoral strategies;
- several workshops promoting farmer-buyer linkages between ACP countries;
- wider dissemination of good agricultural practices, especially in west Africa with the training of about 7 000 farmers;
- a major regional meeting on cereals in Dakar;

- significant advances in implementing commodity risk-management projects.

In the cotton sector, a series of study tours, field trips and training sessions in marketing have brought concrete results. The first direct cotton export deals have been concluded between African producers and spinners in China, Thailand and Bangladesh. A joint reference work on lessons from the reform of the cotton sector in Africa was also published.

Some changes in focus have been agreed with stakeholder participation for the final two years of the programme:

In the Pacific, the programme will from now on focus on food security with actions targeting the fruit and vegetables sector.

In the Central African region, plantain and cassava have been identified as priority commodities. In West Africa, cotton is the key sector, often in combination with cereals. Countries from Eastern and Southern Africa have opted for support to the food crops, horticulture and cereals sectors. Moreover, a focal point was established in each of the five ACP regions to promote greater ownership and involvement of these regions in the programme.

Inter-agency collaboration between the EU's partner organisations will also be strengthened to obtain better synergies and cut costs via activities like joint workshops. The EU's partners in the AAACP are those international organisations already active in dealing with global commodity-linked trade and production issues.

**Title of project**  
All ACP Agricultural Commodities Programme

**Duration**  
September 2007 – December 2011

**EU contribution**  
€45 million

**Partners**  
World Bank; FAO; International Trade Centre (ITC);  
Common Fund for Commodities (CFC); and UNCTAD  
<http://www.euacpcommodities.eu>





## Governance, democracy and human rights

Long-term development cannot be achieved without a government able to serve the public interest effectively. Without governance, accountability and respect for the rule of law, prosperity will only be attained by a few at the expense of other members of society, especially those who are most in need. Progress on governance reform is crucial to sustainable development, poverty reduction, stability and security. The EU has therefore put governance at the heart of its cooperation

with ACP partner countries. The EU's approach to governance takes into account its political, economic, social, cultural and environmental dimensions. It encourages participation at both national and local level by providing support to non-state actors and local authorities alike. Assistance programmes to promote democracy focus on fair, free and transparent electoral processes; strengthening the institutional and organisational capacities of parliaments; promoting independent media; and

encouraging genuinely pluralistic political systems. Support for the rule of law encompasses justice reform programmes, involving aspects of civil, commercial and criminal justice, as well as the reform of the security sector. At the same time, the EU seeks to promote the principles of democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are prerequisites for development and security in any society and therefore integral to fighting poverty.

One of the keys to sustainable development in Mali is administrative reform and decentralisation of more power to the local level. In 2006, the EU launched a four-year support programme for public

**Title of project**  
Support Programme for Public  
Administration Reform and Decentralisation

**Duration**  
2006-2010

**EU contribution**  
€72 million

**Partner**  
Government of Mali

administration reform and decentralisation (PARAD) to strengthen the capacity of the government and local authorities to develop, steer and coordinate development policies and actions and to improve the population's access to basic services.

PARAD concerns the entire Mali administration, including several ministries,

their decentralised services and the local authorities. These consist of 703 municipalities, 49 circles, eight regions and the district of Bamako, the capital. The programme provides the Mali government with sector budget support. When the programme started in 2006, it was the first time that an ACP country had been granted budget support in the governance sector.

### MALI • Empowering local authorities

The budget support enables investment resources to be distributed across the entire country and to all areas of intervention. This budgetary aid increases the resources earmarked for the modernisation and decentralisation of the administration, as well as transfers to local authorities through the 'local government investment fund'. This provides funding for local infrastructure, such as classrooms, health centres, equipment and wells.

Performance indicators are used to assess the programme by measuring progress in the population's access to basic services such as drinking water, pre-natal consultations and schooling levels for girls. The indicators also evaluate the quality of local governance, the resources deployed by local authorities per inhabitant, the supervision of municipal projects, budget decentralisation, and the level of use of information and communication technologies (ICT).

The underlying idea of the programme is also to create links between decentralisation and public administration reform by improving the access of local populations to basic services delivered by local authorities.

PARAD is being expanded to become PARADDER (2010-2014) by the inclusion in its remit of regional economic development.



## MALAWI • Supporting citizens' participation in public life

Multi-party democracy was introduced in Malawi in 1994. The country's progress towards good governance and the participation of its citizens in public life is crucial for strengthening the democratic process. An illiteracy rate of 68% is a major challenge. Moreover, the rural population has very limited access to information.

Civic education is therefore needed to increase citizens' knowledge of their rights and obligations, as well as of the basic concepts of human rights, democratic accountability, the rule of law and participation in local governance. This is the task of the NICE programme – the National Initiative for Civic Education in Malawi – now in its third phase.

**Title of project**  
National Initiative for Civic Education in Malawi (NICE)

**Duration (phase III)**  
May 2006-December 2010

**EU contribution**  
€ 8.9 million

**Partners**  
Government of Malawi, local NGOs and CBOs

<http://www.nicemw.org>

Specifically, NICE aims to facilitate citizens' participation in democratic decision-making at community, district and national level. It also supports capacity-building of civil society organisations and seeks to increase the public accountability of duty bearers.

Among its results, NICE has:

- established offices in all 28 districts of Malawi, enabling it to deliver its message to the most remote rural communities;
- created 163 rural libraries and resources centres to promote literacy and facilitate access to information;
- set up a number of radio clubs to raise awareness of current events among the rural population;

- supported the establishment of a vibrant outreach structure with 8000 trained community-based civic educators;
- enhanced commitments to political tolerance, especially in districts where multi-party committees were formed;
- successfully mobilised people to take part in the presidential and parliamentary elections in 1999, 2004 and 2009.

The programme trained more than 400 election monitors. In advance of the May 2009 elections, all district offices organised and coordinated civic and voter education activities at the various stages of the electoral process. This also involved local partners such as district assemblies and community-based organisations (CBOs).

## SOUTH AFRICA • Access to justice and human rights

Since South Africa's transition from apartheid to democracy, the government has committed itself to redressing inequalities and improving the lives of citizens through the promotion and consolidation of a human rights culture. The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development has a mandate to promote human rights and access to justice for all.

The objective of this programme, which started in 2009, is to help strengthen democracy in South Africa by improving access to justice and promoting constitutional rights.

**Title of project**  
Access to Justice and Promotion of Constitutional Rights

**Duration**  
2009-2012

**EU contribution**  
€25 million

**Partners**  
Department of Justice and Constitutional Development; Foundation for Human Rights; civil society organisations

It will support the department in helping to secure access to justice for vulnerable and marginalised groups, particularly those living in the townships and rural areas. It also seeks to strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations so that they can carry out advocacy and lobbying activities and join in a policy dialogue with government and other institutions.

Three main results are expected from the programme. The first is improved access to justice including restorative justice mechanisms for vulnerable and marginalised groups.

The second is greater awareness and knowledge of constitutional rights in South Africa for vulnerable and marginalised groups. The third is to enhance

participation in democratic processes through public policy dialogues and more effective civil society organisations.

The specific tasks of the programme are to:

- establish community advice offices in townships and rural areas and strengthen their capacity;
- establish equality courts nationally;
- develop a national programme to promote awareness of rights under the Equality Act;
- divert the hearing of less serious offences from the justice system to alternative dispute-resolution processes;
- support programmes that address violence against women, children, the disabled and the elderly.





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## Peace and security

Violent conflicts dramatically slow down economic, political and social development. Security and development are therefore interdependent and mutually reinforcing. No sustainable development is possible in a country threatened by internal insecurity,

crisis and conflicts. At the same time, there cannot be sustainable peace without development. Addressing potential causes of conflicts such as poverty, diseases, inequality and lack of governance, is essential for promoting peace and development.

Through the African Peace Facility, the EU has supported African efforts in conflict management and prevention through capacity-building, technical assistance and the financing of peace and security missions.

### AFRICA • How the EU helps Africa keep the peace

The persistence of conflicts in Africa not only poses a threat to regional and international security. It also undermines the economic and social development of the continent.

Through the creation of the African Peace Facility, the EU provides financial support to the efforts of the African Union and other regional organisations to find 'African solutions to African problems'.

Operations financed by the facility are led and staffed by Africans. This reinforces Africa's responsibility for maintaining peace on the continent and its capabilities in terms of conflict prevention, management and resolution. The peace

facility was created in 2004 in response to a request from government leaders of the African Union. It focuses on three key aspects:

- an enhanced EU-Africa dialogue on challenges to peace and security;
- the creation of a more efficient African peace and security architecture;
- a source of predictable funding for African-led peace support operations.

As a result, there are limitations on what the facility can pay for. It can fund peacekeepers' local expenses, allowances, rations, medical care, and transport, together with fuel, civilian equipment and communications gear. It cannot be used to pay for weapons, ammunition, specific military equipment or spare parts. Payment of soldiers' basic salaries and their military training are also excluded.

The budget of the facility was €440 million in 2004-2008 and €300 million for 2009-2011. The main peace support operations it has funded have been in Somalia, the Central African Republic, Sudan and the Comoros Islands. Important capacity building programmes have also been funded.

**Title of project**  
African Peace Facility

**Duration**  
Phase I 2004-2008 – Phase II 2009-2011

**EU contribution**  
Phase I € 440 million – Phase II € 300 million

**Partners**  
The African Union and eight regional African organisations

<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/peace-facility>

The African Peace Facility is funded from the EU's European Development Fund. It is the first time that major peace and security activities have been funded through a development aid programme.





## Human development

Development is about people. All people need to feel secure, have food, shelter and access to essential social services. They should be protected from violence, discrimination and injustice, should lead healthy lives, and acquire the knowledge and skills they need to thrive as individuals and citizens. For development to be viable and sustainable, it must be people-oriented, increasing the opportunities of the poor and the vulnerable and empowering them to

grow out of poverty. Human development is a key element of the European Consensus on Development, covering a large array of issues, including health, education, gender equality, children and youth, employment and cultural diversity. For the EU, human development is both the heart of the development process and the ultimate objective of development policy. Therefore, cooperation with ACP countries seeks to bring about tangible improvements in

individual areas of human development. These include greater and more equal access to basic services and education, a higher degree of gender equality and empowerment of women, advancement of employment, decent work and social cohesion, improvement of children's rights and better prevention of child labour, trafficking, violence and other forms of exploitation, plus the protection and promotion of cultural diversity.

### NIGERIA • Protecting young children against infectious diseases

The European Union committed €97.4 million for the period 2002-2009 to support the immunisation of children under five in Nigeria against preventable diseases. The programme, known as PRIME, began in six focal states and was later extended to another 17. Initially, the programme ran into considerable difficulties in Kebbi State in the north-west of the country, one of the six focal states. Many members of the local Muslim population mistrusted the programme because of rumours it could affect women's fertility.

However, thanks to positive cooperation with Islamic, political and village leaders, and support from parents of immunised children, the mistrust was gradually overcome and the programme went ahead. The polio eradication component started in 2002 and the support to routine immunisation was mobilised in May 2003. At this time, the level of routine immunisation in Kebbi State was far below the national average at 1.7%. By the end of the programme in 2009, it had reached 77%, one of the highest in the country.

#### Title of project

EU-Partnership to reinforce immunisation efficiency (PRIME)

#### Duration

2002-2009

#### EU contribution

€ 97.4 million

#### Partners

EPOS Health Management, Germany; National Primary Healthcare Development Agency, Nigeria; WHO; Unicef; DfID Immunisation Programme in Kano, Nigeria

PRIME had two main tasks. One was to support polio eradication and the other to strengthen systems for the delivery of routine immunisation services. Preventable diseases encountered in Nigeria include polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, tuberculosis, measles, hepatitis and meningitis.

The programme funded vital infrastructure improvements including primary healthcare centres, staff training and the installation and

repair of vital cold-chain equipment for storing vaccines. It also improved the management of immunisation services within primary healthcare structures.

Its achievements include:

- higher government and community commitment to routine immunisation activities;

- a huge rise in routine immunisation coverage to more than 80% across the country;
- more than 73 000 health workers trained;
- a 97% increase in health facilities conducting and reporting routine immunisation;
- first national integrated communications and social mobilisation strategy.

### KIRIBATI • Better health services for the outer islands

Kiribati is classified by the UN as a least developed country. Geographic isolation, small size, scattered islands, a narrow economic base and vulnerability to rising sea levels are obstacles to improving local living standards.

The overall objective of the project is to help improve living conditions on Kiribati's outer islands in a sustainable way through increased access to primary healthcare. It targets all 18 Gilbert islands, with a total population of about 42 000 people.

One part of the project is the construction of 18 health centres and 56 dispensaries, together with equipment, water and solar energy supply, computers, radio communication equipment and sanitation.

The other consists of raising the quality of health services and the efficiency of management and delivery, together with major training programmes for healthcare professionals on the outer islands.

The project has influenced the review and development of policies by the Kiribati ministry of health and medical services, notably the expansion of its health service information systems. It has also linked the initiatives of government and other donors in areas like the provision of medical equipment, communication equipment and computers. These links yielded efficiencies for all parties involved.

Other specific project results include:

- increased utilisation of health services, especially by women and children;
- better management of stocks of drugs and medication;
- increased clinical knowledge, skills and competence on the part of nursing staff, reducing reliance of medical doctors for advice, and improving diagnosis of illness;
- improved disease surveillance through new health information systems;
- the availability of reliable information has led to better performance management and policy-making;
- case management, especially of emergencies, has improved due to better equipment and the provision of lighting at night and clean running water.

**Title of project**  
Improvement of Health Services in the Outer Islands of the Republic of Kiribati

**Duration**  
June 2006-December 2010

**EU contribution**  
€ 8.8 million

**Partners**  
The Fiji School of Medicine; the Government of Kiribati; the Kiribati Association of NGOs



**HAITI • Education for all**

300 local primary schools and creating 17 model teacher-training facilities for in-service training.

epicentre. However, €1.6 million of PARQE II's budget of €14 million is being transferred to rehabilitate schools and classrooms in the four departments covered by the project, which are handling an influx of children from the devastated capital.

One of the aims of PARQE II is the building of a teacher-training facility at Cap Haitien, the country's second city. It also seeks to build 90 classrooms, to renovate more than 70 schools and create a national network of public and private schools. It aims to create a management committee and parents' association for each school. PARQE II also aims to reinforce the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Education, in particular in the four departments covered by the project.

Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere with huge developmental problems, even without the massive earthquake of January 2010 and its long-term consequences. Education is a serious challenge with a big shortage of qualified teachers in a country where school-age youngsters make up the greater part of the population. To help meet the challenge of education for all, the EU has launched the PARQE programme to strengthen local educational capacities and responsibilities in four of Haiti's 10 departments. The programme seeks to improve the quality of teacher training, teaching methods and teaching materials.

PARQE I, which ran from 2003 to 2007, put the emphasis on infrastructures, building

PARQE II targets improvements in teacher quality. It provides training for 3 000 teachers and 400 school heads and educational advisers. PARQE II started with the distribution of more than 617 000 textbooks for the 2008-2009 school year and 265 000 textbooks for the year 2009-2010. Moreover, 100 000 school kits containing books, pencils, erasers, pens, boxes of crayons, geometry tools and backpacks were distributed during the school year 2009-2010. The programme also addresses the issue of over-aged students and how to cater to their specific needs.

It will be able to continue despite the earthquake, since it covers four departments to the north and south of Port-au-Prince, which are therefore some distance from the

**Title of project**  
Support Programme to Reinforce  
Education in Haiti II (PARQE II)

**Duration**  
November 2007-December 2011

**EU contribution**  
€14 million

**Partner**  
Ministry of National Education and Professional  
Training, Haiti

<http://a2s.typepad.com/parqe>



## RWANDA • Popular radio soap opera helps to fight AIDS

A long-running radio soap opera has become the main source of information for rural women in Rwanda on HIV/AIDS and other threats to reproductive health. The programme, called Urunana ('Hand-in-Hand'), has built up a large and loyal following. It has broadcast more than 1 000 episodes since it first went on air in 1999.

Urunana follows a group of characters who live in a fictional village in the Great Lakes Region. Its stories combine entertainment with educational aspects focusing on sexual and reproductive health, including HIV/AIDS. The content of the programme is audience-led, with researchers visiting Rwandan villages every month to discuss health concerns with

local people and possible storylines for the programme.

The actors and production team regularly visit rural areas to record the episodes. These recording sessions attract several thousand onlookers, providing even more scope for interactive discussion.

These discussion sessions and assessments by independent consultants show that after the broadcasts, the majority of listeners go on to discuss issues raised like family planning and safe sex – sensitive issues, rarely discussed in Rwandan families. A number confirm that they heed Urunana's messages. According to a survey by the consultants, up to 74% of the Rwandan population listen to Urunana at least once a week. With literacy

in rural areas barely above 50%, radio is the dominant media.

Urunana was originally managed and produced by Health Unlimited, a British NGO, which has gradually transferred its operations to a local partner, Urunana Development Communication (UDC), specifically set up for this purpose. The project has been part-funded by the EU since 2006. It is due to become self-sustaining in 2010.

The twice-weekly episodes of the programme are broadcast by Radio Rwanda and the BBC's Great Lakes Service.

**Title of project**  
Well Women Media Project III

**Duration**  
April 2006-September 2010

**EU contribution**  
€ 750 000 (63% of total costs)

**Partners**  
Health Unlimited, UK and UDC, Rwanda

<http://www.healthunlimited.org/Programmes/Africa/Rwanda>



## TANZANIA • Regional protection programme for refugees

Tanzania hosts the largest refugee population in Africa, consisting mainly of people from neighbouring Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It was selected as the location for one of two pilot initiatives under the EU's regional protection programme (RPP). The other involved Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus.

The objectives of the Tanzanian regional protection programme were to enhance the protection capacity of the national authorities, improve conditions in camps and reception centres, and create the conditions for a

**Title of project**  
Regional Protection Programme (RPP)

**Duration**  
2006-2009

**EU contribution**  
€ 7 million

**Partners**  
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

lasting and durable solution. This was based on three options: return of refugees to their country of origin, integration in Tanzania, or resettlement in a third country.

The results of the RPP so far are positive. Local authorities, NGOs and civil society are better mobilised to help refugees. Refugees are better treated both inside and outside the camps than before. Disabled and other vulnerable refugees were prioritised for resettlement. Work on preparing individual refugee options (repatriation, integration or resettlement) has been accelerated. In particular the voluntary repatriation or naturalisation of Burundians is under way and will continue.

In all, four projects were funded under the regional protection programme in Tanzania during its initial phase from 2006 to 2009:

- strengthening protection capacities and securing solutions for refugees in Tanzania (Aeneas programme 2005);
- strengthening protection capacities in Tanzania – complementing and building on the RPP pilot project (Aeneas 2006);
- support for UNHCR activities in the Great Lakes and in eastern Europe in the context of the RPPs (Thematic Programme on Migration & Asylum 2008);
- support applications for naturalisation of refugees in the old settlements (EDF 2008-2013).





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