

## 1012 AEFJN Answers to Green Paper Consultation

### "EU development Policy in support of inclusive growth and sustainable development - Increasing the impact of EU development policy"

**2.1 Putting "High Impact" cooperation into practice Please refer to section 2.1 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

**1. How could the EU and its Member States develop a set of Guidance Instructions on programming and expenditure requiring a certain number of conditions to be met (added value, coordination, impact) for all programmes/projects/support? (optional)**

The first prerequisite for the EU and its member states is COHERENCE in its different policies. Often the progress realized through Development Aid is nullified or destroyed by EU policies on Trade, raw materials, Customs, Industry, Energy, etc. If SOLIDARITY is an EU value for Development, it should also be such for all the other policies. They too should be careful not to destroy this solidarity of the EU towards poor or impoverished countries. Growth and economy should be at the service of people and communities, not of capital. Priority should be given to people not to the enterprises and to the economy.

The second prerequisite is to make sure that the aim of EU and member states' Aid is the real benefit of the receiving country, not aiming at the collateral benefits for the EU industries, countries, etc...

Go beyond addressing the accomplishment of the MDGs by 2015.

Favour policies that have a social component and promote a just resource exploitation that benefit first to the population where the resources are found, paying prices that are just.

Budget support with "other kind of conditionalities" (not to benefit the donor country, but setting conditionalities and indicators of progress together with the receiving country. The indicators should be based on social progress and a regular monitoring should be done.

Support the recipient country to develop mechanism to reach greater equity in the distribution of resources through a sustainable social protection network. Support public policies directed to the elimination of inequalities and poverty.

Support policies that respond to the social needs of the population and to the care of the environment. Support of public services (health, education, water, sanitation, transport, housing, communication, etc.). Education, health, social protection mechanisms and policies, public services are projects for added human value. The outcome of these policies will be a plus for the country in a few years. The social protection stabilizes economic transfers from rich to poor. This often increases productivity.

Support policies that foster the transformation of the natural resources of the recipient country. This will add value, will create employment, increase the demand for technology, help to raise the economic level of the country and it will be the best means to eradicate poverty.

Follow the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action. Encourage all EU member states to align their Aid systems to deliver aid at the receiving country system.

Support South-South cooperation.

Support to the regional groupings for the good of the population of the region and not to facilitate the EU business introduction.

## **2. What are the current good practices at the EU and Member State level on which to build? (optional)**

Many hospitals and doctors have partnerships with developing countries hospitals. This allows professionals to share their “know how” and it is a “win-win” partnership. The receiving country gets the modern techniques and ways of doing, and the EU partners learn a lot about solidarity, resilience, how to do with very poor means, and specially they get enriched at personal and human level. This experience common in the Health sector (where professionals go to developing countries for one or two months/year with no more cost than their travel and salary expenses) could be multiply to universities, professional schools, etc...

The Aid to infrastructures has given good results. But the AID should go to strengthen rural infrastructures.

## **3. How could the diversity of aid flows (from public and private sources, from various policies' external action budgets) be adequately combined, tracked and reported on for maximum impact, accountability and visibility? (optional)**

By creating a data base at the level of the EU + member states where all the aid flows and investments from governments, EU, business, humanitarian and development agencies, public and private sources (external action budgets, investments, aid, etc) are put together. Then a working group formed by (governments, business, NGOs with programs in those countries, recipient countries) should agree on how to have greater impact.

## **2.2 Growth for human development Please refer to section 2.2 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

## **4. How can the EU and its Member States best ensure that aid on education and healthcare becomes more focused and increases further its impact, effectiveness in terms of human development and growth? (optional)**

Making sure that Development Aid supports the national education, social and health systems. Without this strengthening of the national systems there will be no real progress for the majority of the population. When there are conflicts and difficulties, the only systems that remain and continue giving services are the national ones.

Giving its aid to Budget support, with some conditionality's that are social indicators (decided together with the country) to see if the Aid has brought some results in education, health, social determinants of health, the expansion of social protection, etc.

Impact Analysis of EU policies to make sure that other EU policies (Trade, energy, climate change) do not hamper the development brought about by Development Aid.

**5. How should the EU support skills development in partner countries in line with the features and needs of local labour markets, including in the informal sector? How could the EU's global approach to migration contribute in this regard? (optional)**

Support a real modern professional formation at all levels. This needs support of universal primary education and sharing with professional schools and education centers in a real “partnership”.

Support the creation of small local industries to transform the local products.

Supporting internet teaching programs available to the youth in developing countries.

Supporting research on simple technologies adapted to the country.

Supporting research in local family agriculture, to answer small farmers needs.

**2.3 Promoting Governance. Please refer to section 2.3 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

**6. How can the EU adapt its approach, instruments and indicators in support of governance reforms in developing countries/regions? (optional)**

The best practice to promote governance is to promote transparency and accountability in the whole society towards leaders, national institutions and companies.

Support the strengthening of the judiciary system, independent audit institutions and national control institutions. This together with a support to civil society, strengthening their capacity to monitor the national budget and to keep watch on other aspects of governance and accountability is the best means to guarantee long term transparency and accountability.

Support civic education at all levels of society.

Support strong national institutions (Court of Auditors, Human Rights, strong civil society) and independent powers (Executive, legislative and Judiciary), and contributing to the capacity building of those working in these institutions.

Pass the EU Aid through civil society organizations when a country does not have a good behavior in governance and respect for Human Rights. The reliability and capacity to realize the programs of the civil society organizations and NGOs should be guaranteed first.

The EU should be more careful in the evaluation and monitoring of its projects in developing countries. It is not enough to see that the road paid by the EU Aid is there, but the EU needs to see to the quality, conditions of work, etc...

Support civil society monitoring of public services (health, education, social services) to see if the budget allocated has been really expended in those services. This has been done in Zambia through the JCTR. The EU could support civil organizations having the knowledge and the capacity to help communities to do this monitoring. Through civic education and formation for this monitoring certain persons of the community could be formed to see the expenditure in Health Centers, schools, social centers, etc. The data would be sent to the organization in charge of the monitoring. They would compile the data and publish it for the government and for the public.

## **7. How and to what extent should the EU integrate more incentives for reform into its aid allocation process for both country and thematic programmes? (optional)**

We know that in many cases reforms are done in order to get the foreign Aid. This should be used as an incentive to promote more reforms on the line of accountability, democracy, public participation.

Rewards and benefits should be granted for good behaviour, for greater accountability, transparency, public participation, better distribution of wealth, strengthening public services, social protection, in the monitoring of projects, programs. This “good behaviour” should be judged such by government, local civil society and the EU and not by the political agenda.

## **8. How should the EU promote sound frameworks to assess and monitor development results achieved by recipient countries? (optional)**

The EU, member states and receiving countries should define together the indicators of development and the monitoring.

Creation of a committee or working group to assess and monitor development results in the recipient country. This group should be formed by the donor and recipient country (governments, institutions, civil society from both countries). If there is transparency in this committee, it will help to have more transparency in other sectors of the country. At the same time this will be a way of strengthening the capacity of the recipient country.

Support civil society to participate in the monitoring.

The indicators should be based on the socio-economic effects of the Aid on the community - jobs created, quality of schooling, amelioration of health services, well being, livelihood, education performance, etc - and not on the GDP or macro-indicators.

Support the development of transparency institutions at community, local and national level would help the democratic process and the transparency of the government.

## **2.4 Security and fragility Please refer to section 2.4 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

### **9. How should the EU tackle the nexus between security and development, especially in fragile and conflict-prone countries and put together emphasis on democratic governance, human rights, the rule of law, justice and reform of the security sector when programming development interventions? (optional)**

First the EU should make sure that the Development Aid is not linked to politics. Though peace is essential to development, the EU should address its AID in priority to the most impoverished countries. As in fragile and conflict-prone countries Human Rights and democratic processes are not respected part of the Aid should pass through independent civil society organizations working in the area. A great part of the AID should be directed to civil society and organization Capacity building and civic education and peace education.

Support the control of natural resources in the area. The EU should influence the UN Peace keeping force in the country in conflict or post-conflict so the control of natural resources, the transport, sale, etc. is part of their mandate. This will ensure to stop one of the causes of the conflict that most of the time is linked with the exploitation of natural resources.

Create EU and international legally binding legislation to make EU enterprises and individual working in the area and exploiting natural resources, trading in weapons, responsible in EU courts on the breaking of socio-economic and environmental rights in the developing countries.

Support the strengthening of national, provincial and local national institutions (judiciary, police, army, administration) stressing accountability and transparency.

#### **10. How could the EU better coordinate with development actions when programming security interventions? (optional)**

Creating a data base with all the security and peace interventions, relief and development aid from the EU and member states. In this data base the activities of NGOs and other civil society organizations should be also included.

Formation of a working group representative of the different sectors and countries to work out the coordination having the aim that the AID and the interventions benefit first the population of the recipient country, and not the donor country or organization.

#### **11. How can the EU best address the challenge of linking relief, rehabilitation and development in transition and recovery situations? (optional)**

In some cases relief programs though necessary for a short period, can become a burden for the receiving country, mainly for the local producers that see the price of their products fall. The relief aid can have as effect a drop in agricultural productivity as farmers do not get enough benefit. That creates a vicious circle of needing aid. It is important to limit the aid to a short time.

Make sure that the big amounts that come into the province or the country (money or products) due to the relief and aid distribution, encourages the continuation of the conflict by a minority that benefits from the conflict (local companies doing the transport and distribution of the relief), etc.

Help developing the local agriculture, and the rural areas, is a way of providing work to the majority of the population that live from agriculture.

Create legislation (as the USA has done) to forbid the selling of minerals and products coming from the conflict areas. Many conflicts are caused by the benefits linked to the exploitation of local resources (minerals, gold, diamonds, casiterite, coltan, uranium, oil, gaz, etc). The best help for the development of the region is to stop the illegal trafficking in which many EU companies are involved.

#### **2.5 Making coordination of aid a reality Please refer to section 2.5 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

#### **12. What are the most appropriate manners and structures (legal and practical), to make aid effectiveness and European Country strategy documents a reality? How can**

**practical effect be best given to the Lisbon Treaty and the Council Conclusion of 14 June in that regard? (optional)**

**2.6 Policy Coherence for Development Please refer to section 2.6 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

**13. What practical and policy related measures could be taken in the EU to improve Policy Coherence for Development? How could progress and impact be best assessed? (optional)**

In order to achieve Policy Coherence for the Development the impact of all EU policies on development has to be evaluated. This applies in particular also to the EU trade policy. It cannot be that the free trade agenda pursuit through EPAs destroys the very same development perspectives of Africans, EU development aid is meant to foster. At the same time it cannot be that the EU-India Free Trade Agreement puts at risk the access of millions of Africans to generic medicines. EU trade policy has to be fundamentally reconceived, and development concerns have to come ahead of free market ideology and the desire of defending the interests of European companies.

Also the EU's Raw Materials Initiative having as the main objective to ensure the access to raw materials in third countries, harms their development perspectives, by opening the door to unconditional exploitation of Africa's natural resources by European companies.

Developing countries should be able to adopt legislation to oblige investors to reinvest part of the benefits in the country. The current bilateral investments agreements and those being currently negotiated (EPAs, FTAs) impose the liberalization of the financial sector thereby destroying the possibility of government oversight.

**3.1 Partnerships for inclusive growth Please refer to section 3.1 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

**14. How and to what extent should EU aid support industrial investment projects in developing countries and how can the correct balance be made between developing extractive/energy interests and promoting post extractive and industrial sectors? (optional)**

Industrial investment support should take into consideration the impact of the project on local stakeholders and consider the impact on local communities and the environment. A difference should also be made between supporting the establishment of a local industrial sector and helping European multinationals to establish subsidiaries.

The EU should support transformation of local natural resources to add value to these ones. Countries should be allowed to oblige investors to process raw materials locally. These measures should provide for jobs and diminish poverty. Currently the EU insists on the removal of export tariffs (in EPAs and other FTAs).

**15. How could the EU ensure that support to economic development guarantees fair social inclusion of the benefits and provides better protection of social and economic rights, including implementation of core labour standards and better corporate accountability? (optional)**

The best way to start with would be to begin to hold Europe's Transnational Corporations accountable for the way they operate in third countries. European TNCs particularly in the oil and mining sector still manage to get away with the violation of fundamental rights of workers and local communities in third countries, and environmental destruction because the EU has thus far been reluctant to adopt legislative measures, which would allow to hold the parent companies accountable in European courts for the action of their subsidiaries in third countries.

At the same time also the European Investment Bank has to pay greater attention to the way projects it finances in third countries are implemented by companies, make sure that social and labour rights are respected and withhold funding from companies, which do not respect them.

**16. Which measures should be taken - and how should they be best differentiated - to assist developing countries' efforts in establishing an economic environment that is apt to promote business, particularly SMEs? (optional)**

One way of helping developing countries to establish SMEs would be not to insist with free trade agreements such as EPAs, which create an economic environment where SMEs cannot survive in the competition against European multinationals.

Currently an important part of local resources (money) leave the developing countries to be placed in western Banks and in tax havens. This prevents the investment of domestic resources and the creation of an effective industrial network. The EU could prevent capital flight from developing countries by enacting EU and international legislation on tax havens and by closing loopholes to stash fortunes on Foreign Bank Accounts. This would make local resources available for domestic investment and creation of SMEs, and local industries. At the same time it will help to create employment, to favour technical education and to form workers and professionals able to answer the modern needs of industry and services.

Strengthening the rural infrastructure (roads, access to water, irrigation, small electricity grid, communication, markets) to help small producers to sell their products. This will better the livelihood of the rural population and diminish the migration to urban areas.

**17. Which measures or structures might be developed with partner countries, and European and international financial institutions to provide financial support and where necessary low cost finance and financial guarantees to support such growth? (optional)**

Loans for small and medium enterprises and cooperatives or farmers groups should be made available from the different development Banks from the World Bank.

**18. Which instruments could the EU use to promote creativity, innovation and technology transfer and ensure their viable applications in developing countries? (optional)**

If the EU wants to promote innovation and technology transfer it has to stop insisting on tight intellectual property rights norms like those included in TRIPS or the inclusion of measures going even beyond TRIPS in FTAs. Tight IP norms impede Africans' access to technology, which they could then develop and adapt to their own needs risking to strangulate creativity and innovation which are at the foundation of the development of poorer countries. As Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz has already warned, what developing countries need to evolve economically is TRIPS- not even tougher IP measures (see Stiglitz, J., 2006, *Making Globalization Work*, W. W. Norton).

Create prizes for very simple technological discoveries in the developing countries. E.g. The prizes should be directed to the population of developing countries. Example, different prizes for: the best amelioration to family farming; to improve the livelihood of rural population; to better the health of poor population; the best local and simple bathroom; destruction of waste; house building; etc.

**3.2 Fostering regional integration; continuing to ensure trade for development Please refer to section 3.2 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

**19. How can the EU's experience better inform regions that are seeking to strengthen their integration? (optional)**

Over the last years the EU's push to force African countries to sign EPAs threatened several regional organisations in Africa like, SACU, CEMAC and ECOWAS and so does the EU's insistence on having the regional levies abolished with the EPAs. Stopping these policies would be an important contribution to supporting regional integration in Africa.

Supporting the regional integration in the way the recipient region and countries desire, and not on the way the EU tries to benefit from this integration. This means having at heart the real development of the countries in the region.

Support the AU as it is done is good, but there are always certain "dependencies" created between donor and recipient countries or regions. This should be diminished by a real listening to the needs of the recipients.

**20. What can be done to ensure more consistency between the EU's trade and development policies? (optional)**

The free trade agenda contained in EPAs destroys the possibilities for development of African countries and therefore undermines the objectives of the EU development policy. The same applies to the inclusion of stringent IPR requirements in trade agreements, which impede technological development in third countries and hinder the access to generic medicines. A fundamental reconsideration of the EU's trade strategy for developing countries is therefore necessary.

To work together towards policies that are more coherent. Have a committee of different DGs to see to this coherence in “concrete” trade agreements.

Exclusion of all IPRs strengthening regarding medicines, seeds and low-carbon technology in Free Trade Agreements with developing countries.

**21. How could the aid for trade provisions be improved in order to make maximum use of its leveraging potential for expanding sustainable economic activities in the developing countries, leading to further growth? (optional)**

The first question to address is if aid for trade is really new money or simply development aid which was already planned anyway and is repackaged under a new label.

The EU should answer the finance demand for concrete projects decided by the receiving country and not to meet the interests of European multinationals present there.

The EU should answer the demands of small producers and small local business, to see their needs to access new markets.

**4.1 Climate change, biodiversity and development Please refer to section 4.1 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

**22. Given the close interlinkage between climate change, biodiversity and development, and given the new opportunities offered by climate finance and the markets, how can the mainstreaming of climate adaptation as well as disaster risk reduction into the EU's development policy be strengthened in order to ensure more climate resilient and sustainable economies, as well as forest and biodiversity protection? (optional)**

Protect forests and biodiversity and Contribute to reforestation and maintenance of woodland areas threatened by desertification.

Support ClimDev Africa by strengthening and improving the coverage of climate monitoring on the continent, accompanied by measures to disseminate relevant information for farmers.

Support cooperatives and regional associations instead of large-scale industrial agricultural investments. WB, IFRPI, ICRAF, USAcademy studies show that local communities manage resources better than large-scale agriculture by maintaining soil fertility, right use of water resources and more labor intensive.

Reject support to any technology economically unsustainable for developing countries, such as water desalination, agricultural investment that emit greenhouse gases, large-scale biofuels investment using fertilizers and heavy mecanisation, and solutions such as 'Biochar'.

In fact, some new technology, low Carbon emitting, easy to run should be useful but are too expensive because of Property Rights. Support exclusion of IPRs for low-carbon technologies for developing countries.

**4.2 Energy and development Please refer to section 4.2 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information**

**23. How can the EU best act to support developing countries' efforts to secure sustainable energy for all their citizens? What role might, for example, an EU-Africa**

**Joint Programme play in progressively providing sustainable electricity to every citizen, combining development and climate change funding and leverage loans from Development Financial Institutions? (optional)**

Support national governments in the implementation of rural supply of energy.

Support local production and small electricity grid based on renewable energy resources specifically oriented towards local economy and social needs.

Prioritize the provision of energy in rural areas. This will help rural development and contribute to reduce urban migration. Development Aid should be orientated to local development and not to the EU electricity supply.

Support the creation of the African funds for rural electrification as established in the EU-Africa Partnership.

Fund public education campaigns on sustainable renewable energy.

Train local technicians in installation and maintenance of energy supplies. This will create employment.

Support electricity distribution as a public service. This is the only way of promoting rural supply of electricity. If electricity distribution is left to the free market and open competition, rural areas will never get electricity as it is too expensive to bring it to the far away villages.

Support projects and programs that foster local development and not industrial renewable energy production. Monoculture and capital-intensive production of biofuels requiring large-scale areas, threaten communities' livelihoods, violate land rights, destroy the environment, provoke deforestation, use too much water, while not reducing GHG emissions.

5. Agriculture and food security Please refer to section 5 in the full version of the Green Paper for background information

**24. How can the EU's development policy best contribute to enhanced food security while safeguarding environmental qualities? Which policies and programmes are most conducive for small holder and private sector investment in agriculture and fisheries? (optional)**

Budget support.

Support the strengthening of the national agricultural systems.

Support small farmer's networks initiatives for development.

Adopt programs well adapted to specific local context of food sovereignty needs and environment.

Promote farming systems suitable for family farmers. These systems should use in the best way the ecosystem to ensure food security even in difficult climate conditions.

Adopt policies that foster food security in the long term.

Sustain holistic rural policies that include food sovereignty, health, education, clean water, sanitation.

Support local, provincial and national infrastructures for storage, preservation, transport and processing of agricultural commodities. This will facilitate the value chain and will help to fight poverty in a meaningful and lasting way.

Direct the Aid towards the development of rural infrastructures vital for agriculture such as: roads, local seeds farmers' systems, research oriented to small farmers needs.

**25. Which strategic areas should the EU engage in, particularly with respect to Africa? How can the EU stimulate agro-ecological approaches in farming and sustainable intensification of agriculture, sustainable fishing and aquaculture? (optional)**

Note: Agro-ecology is contextual: the balance between production, stability and resilience is based on diversification and not on intensification!

EC could increase impact on food security by acting on 3 strategic areas in agriculture: seeds, water and small farmers.

Seeds: Strengthen local initiatives for conservation and exchange of farmers' seeds through the promotion of seeds exchange bank and adequate seed storage and conservation facilities. The multitude of traditional varieties of seeds is a key factor for adaptation to climate change and for food security while preserving environment and biodiversity. Seeds are basic for many food crops. The access to quality seeds, well adapted to local conditions, at affordable price and the protection of biodiversity are two crucial points for farmers. The free exchange of seeds between farmers, not linked to IPRs is vital for family farming and food security in developing countries.

Water: Direct aid and programs towards implementation of all the MDGs.

Strengthen the capacity of the small farmers' associations.

Fisheries, EC should ensure that EU Fishery treaties with third countries should not be a condition for development assistance to those countries.

**26. How should the EU support the fight against malnutrition? (optional)**

Having coherent policies so that other EU policies do not undermine the right to food e.g. trade, energy policies.

Strengthen local agriculture and small farmers as key local economy actors. This will improve the possibility to purchase food and ensure diversification of available food on markets.

Buy local products to provide emergency food aid. This will encourage local economy.

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