



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Introduction to the thematic instruments and programmes for 2007-10

Introduction to the instruments and thematic programmes for 2007-10

Support to civil society





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Editorial



Freedom, democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, solidarity and social cohesion are founding principles of the European Community and form the basis for our relations with the outside world.

Within its international cooperation efforts, the European Commission has a wide range of programmes and instruments at its disposal, each of which benefits from substantial financial support.

The thematic programmes in particular act as a vehicle for European Union values through various means, e.g. actions against famine, torture, the death penalty, HIV/AIDS and illnesses related to poverty, deforestation and global warming, or for the rehabilitation of child soldiers and drug abuse victims, or in support of the International Criminal Court,

for the use of natural resources and fair trade or in favour of raising awareness among the public regarding controversial themes such as development cooperation.

Each year, more than 2000 projects, more often than not embarked upon in difficult circumstances in partnership with non-governmental organisations who take responsibility for the action, receive a financial contribution from the Commission totalling some EUR 870 million annually.

The Union, in the name of its citizens, offers long-term solidarity to peoples of all nations, a commitment requiring responsible and effective use of contributions from European citizens, i.e. the Community budget.

Thematic programmes represent a real asset. They enable global, regional or trans-regional interventions, as well as interventions in politically-sensitive areas which cannot be carried out under the geographical programmes.

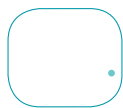
This brochure summarises the real progress made over the past fifty years through thematic actions, including the fight against poverty and for peace in the world, led by professionals in development aid from the European Commission and made possible through the generosity of all European citizens.

Mr. Koos Richelle
Director General



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Instruments and thematic programmes

What is a thematic programme?

A thematic programme is a transversal programme financed by the European Commission, which intervenes in areas such as the protection of human rights, the promotion of democracy, the eradication of poverty, self-sufficiency in food production, education, on ecological and health-related projects. They are implemented using a [horizontal approach](#), supported by national and regional cooperation programmes drawn up by the Commission. Contrary to the geographical programmes, they are not the result of a direct negotiation between the state and the Commission, but are proposed by [civil society organisations](#) or [NGOs](#) in Europe or beneficiary states.

Thematic programmes, which complement geographical programmes, may be used in [several situations supporting](#):

- activities for different partner countries not part of the geographical programmes;
- activities which complement the geographical programmes by supporting other stakeholders such as civil society organisations or international institutions with exclusive competence;
- activities which imply a certain independence in relation to the partner country.

Each [thematic programme](#) is regulated on the basis of [decisions](#) made by the European Parliament and the Council of the EU, which specify the priorities and respective funding for a period of two or three years. The new programming period covers 2007-10.

Civil society at the heart of Commission programmes

Practically all the thematic programmes are open to contributions from the various civil society organisations, both north and south. Non-state actors are [privileged partners](#) of the Commission as, besides the support from which they may benefit under the geographical instruments, they are the principal beneficiaries of the thematic programmes. This is underscored by the fact that they occupy a principal place in the programmes and instruments managed by EuropeAid:

- “Non-state actors and local authorities in development”: a programme destined solely for them;
- “European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights”: civil society organisations are seen as key players in promoting human rights as well as participative and representative democracy.

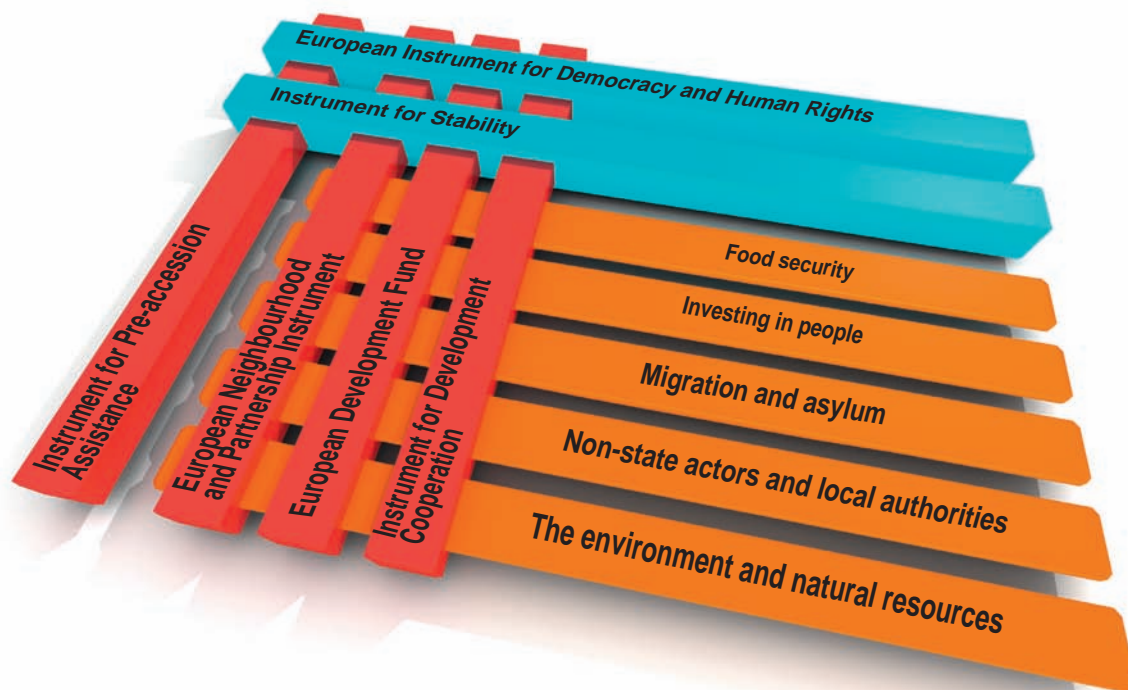
What is the role of the European Commission delegations?

The [European Commission delegations](#), to be found in most non-EU member countries, play a [key role](#) in implementing thematic programmes at local level. They take part concurrently in:

- consultation with local civil society;
- decision-making;
- managing calls for proposals;
- on-the-ground monitoring of implementation;
- informing, training and networking of local organisations.

EU financing mechanisms

The European Union has created five financial instruments for channelling external aid during the financial period 2007–13. The European Development Fund, not part of the EU budget, supplements these instruments.



European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)

The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights contributes to the establishment of democracy, the rule of law, and the protection of human rights and basic freedoms. It is designed to complement the other instruments available for ensuring the implementation of related Union policies, which range from political dialogue to diplomatic procedures, via various instruments of financial and technical cooperation, including the geographical and thematic programmes. It also supplements the interventions, more associated with crisis situations, part of the new Instrument for Stability.

- Geographical Instruments
- Thematic Instruments
- Thematic programmes ensuing from the DCI covering the DCI, ENPI and EDF countries

Instrument for Stability (IfS)

The Instrument for Stability aims to strengthen security in partner countries where there is an actual or emerging crisis (short-term component). It also guarantees security in stable countries (long-term component).

Instrument for Development Cooperation (DCI)

This instrument replaces the array of geographical and thematic instruments created over time. It encompasses, first and foremost, **cooperation with partner countries and regions selected geographically**, namely: Latin America, Asia, Central Asia, the Middle-East and South Africa. The second DCI component consists of the **five thematic programmes** discussed in this brochure (in orange on the diagram). The third pillar of the DCI regulation is a series of secondary measures favouring the **18 ACP signatories to the sugar protocol**, which aim to provide support during their adjustment phase in the face of new market conditions linked to the reform of Community arrangements regarding sugar.

European Development Fund (EDF)


Based on the Cotonou Agreement, the linchpin of European Union cooperation with the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, the European Development Fund provides aid for 79 ACP partner countries of the Union and for the overseas countries and territories of member states. The tenth European Development Fund entered into force in January 2008.

Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)

This pre-accession instrument provides assistance to countries directly in line to become members of the European Union (such as Macedonia, Turkey and Croatia) and the Balkan countries (Albania, Serbia, Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro).

European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)

The European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument directs European Union aid to 17 countries: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian National Authority, Russia, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine. It is a specific component of trans-border cooperation which covers the border regions of the member states of the European Union.



The Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000 by the United Nations serve as a guide for European cooperation policy.

The 8 MDGs are:

- Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger;
- Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education;
- Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women;
- Goal 4: Reduce child mortality;
- Goal 5: Improve maternal health;
- Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases;
- Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability;
- Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development.



The Instrument for Development Cooperation (DCI)

Achieving the [8 Millennium Development Goals](#) adopted in 2000 by the United Nations is the mainstay of European cooperation. These goals range from reducing extreme poverty by half to universal primary education, in addition to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS, all by 2015, and are the guiding light for creating a better world.

In cooperation with [partner countries](#) and the [international community](#), the European Commission is doing much to achieve these objectives, in particular through the [Instrument for Development Cooperation \(DCI\)](#). This instrument reaffirms the goals in development cooperation policy, namely, the reduction of poverty, sustainable economic and social development and the gradual and harmonious integration of developing countries into the world economy.

In addition to providing assistance in different parts of the world, the DCI brings together the [five thematic programmes](#) which aim to address different [global challenges](#), such as environmental protection, questions of demographic movement and food security. These 5 programmes are outlined on the following pages.

Non-state actors and local authorities in development

Solidarity with citizens

Supporting non-state actors and local authorities means encouraging local participation in development, at both national and local level. It also means working for better governance and more participative development which is thus more relevant to citizens.

These organisations are a real benefit given their proximity to local communities and their greater flexibility when it comes to implementation. This is why the European Commission has supported their involvement for many years in the development process, in particular as regards the new thematic programme “Non-state actors and local authorities in development”.

The primary aim of this new programme is to strengthen the abilities of non-state actors and local authorities to provide help. It also serves to co-finance actions in areas as diverse as rural development, health, environmental protection and education, as well as long-term partnerships between civil society and local authorities. These initiatives may be grouped according to the following three principal objectives:

- supporting actions aimed at a democratic, cohesive and autonomous society in partner countries by enhancing the skills of non-state actors and local authorities, supporting populations with no access to resources or basic services and excluded from the political decision-making process, and favouring dialogue between state and non-state actors;

- financing awareness-raising and educational initiatives among the European population on the topic of development, by encouraging a better understanding of the stakes involved and stronger involvement of all in the fight against poverty and more balanced relations between the differing regions of the world;
- facilitating coordination and communication between local authority networks and civil society stakeholders, both involved in the European public debate on development.



The budget for all this?

The programme will be financed by a total budget of around EUR 1.6 billion for the 2007-13 period (EUR 213 million for 2008).

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/non_state_actors_en.htm

CASE STUDY

Integrated development project for young people, women and displaced populations

Area

Altos de Cazucá, Soacha Municipality, Colombia

Background

For more than 40 years, Colombia has had to deal with an internal conflict which has displaced, according to estimates, some 2 to 3 million people who live in very unstable conditions.

The integrated development project for displaced populations was set up in the wake of a huge number of people arriving in the Soacha municipality after their land had been confiscated. This project means that these people can be taken in, however they also need water and electricity as well as welfare services.

Latent civil war is the underlying problem, quite apart from this already difficult situation. Despite the presence of public authorities, paramilitary groups are still holding sway, the persecution of community organisation members continues and there are countless civilian victims, in particular women and children.

Aim

To create a legal and psychosocial centre for meeting with displaced peoples, to contribute to making their transition into local society easier, and to enable them to benefit fully from their basic rights.

Impact

- 3 000 people have received legal and psychosocial aid as well as individual, family and community support;
- project beneficiaries are in a better position to defend and promote their rights;
- the living conditions of 150 families have been improved.

Commission partners:

- Fundación Educación y Desarrollo (FEDES) - Colombia;
- ProgettoMondo-MIai Onlus - Italy.

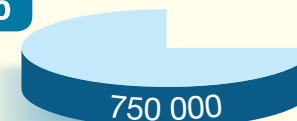
Commission contribution:

EUR 750 000 for 2006-2008, i.e. 75% of the total budget for this project.



Commission contribution (EUR)

75%



The environment and natural resources

Let's save the planet together

"The Earth is not a gift from our ancestors; it is a loan from our children"
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Our daily well-being and prosperity depend on a **protected environment** and the **sustainable management of natural resources**, but it is the survival of our species, and thousands of others, which is at stake.

Those most affected by destruction and degradation are the poorest, in developing countries. It is therefore no longer merely an ecological issue or a matter of local or national concerns: **the challenge is now global**.

The **ecological state of emergency** is there for all to see: two-thirds of the planet's main ecosystems are now in a state of degradation or overexploitation. This makes the international community's efforts in terms of the MDGs all the more difficult in that several of these population groups depend on these ecosystems for their survival.

A priority for driving European action worldwide

In addition to the programmes implemented in partnership with the governments of the different countries concerned, the **thematic programme** for the environment and the sustainable management of natural resources, including energy, aims primarily to:

- support the **incorporation of environmental issues** into the fabric of developing countries by means of support to civil society stakeholders;

- promote the **implementation of initiatives and commitments** made at both European and international level;
- increase the **prominence of environmental issues** in EU external policy;
- **strengthen international governance** on the environment and make EU actions a **key part** of the process;
- **broaden** the options as regards sustainable energy, in particular by developing a legislative and administrative framework which favours investments and businesses, and also by stimulating regional cooperation.



The budget for all this?

This thematic programme has a budget of around **EUR 470 million** for 2007-10, of which EUR 101 million are available for 2008.

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/environment_en.htm

CASE STUDY

National Forest Programme Facility

■ Area

In several countries and regions of the world.

■ Operation

The National Forest Programme Facility is a **funding system** which **encourages national and local authorities to take part** in drawing up and implementing National Forestry Programmes (NFPs) in their country. It centres on **strengthening capacities and sharing information** and offers **information services** throughout the world.

■ Objective

- find consensus on forest-related questions at national level;
- incorporate sustainable forest management into other sectors, with an emphasis on reducing poverty;
- apply international commitments in national forestry plans and policies.

■ Impact

Since its inception in 2002, the Facility has supported the development and implementation of a wide array of activities connected to the theme of global warming, sound forestry resource management, preserving biodiversity, exchange of good practices, capitalisation and information distribution, etc.

■ Commission partners

- the Facility is overseen by a steering committee made up of representatives from beneficiary countries, the World Bank, financial partners, research institutions, NGOs, foundations, the private sector and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO);
- 57 beneficiary countries (27 African countries, 14 Latin American and Caribbean countries, 12 Asian and Pacific countries, 4 Central Asian countries) and 4 regional bodies.

■ Commission contribution

EUR 3.25 million have been earmarked for 2003-2006. The European Commission is the principal donor to the National Forest Programme Facility. In 2006, the project received an extra EUR 4.5 million.



Commission contribution (EUR)

56%

4 500 000

Migration and asylum

At a time when more and more people are moving around the globe, often illegally, management of migration flow is looking set to become one of the major challenges of the beginning of the century, for both developing countries and industrial powers. As a response to this, the European Union is cooperating with its partner countries under a new programme specifically designed to tackle the issue of migration and asylum.

Technical and financial assistance for non-EU member countries in the area of **migration and asylum** is the main objective of this **thematic programme for cooperation**. Cooperation with non-EU member countries is not designed to tackle the underlying causes of migration, but is more concerned with better management of the different forms of migration flows.

Tackling a multifaceted issue

This programme deals with the **main factors** of migration:

- fostering the **links between migration and development**;
- promoting **well-managed labour migration**;
- **fighting illegal immigration, trafficking** and making it easier to re-admit illegal migrants;
- **protecting migrants** against any form of exploitation and discrimination;
- promoting asylum policy and the **protection of refugees** under international standards.

Actions carried out under this programme aim to contribute, in accordance with the EU's global approach to migration, to:

- enabling partner countries to benefit from the **advantages of migration** while limiting the negative consequences that migration may have for individuals or nations;
- implementing an approach which takes into account both the **states' interests** and the **rights and interests of individuals**.

The budget for all this?

The thematic programme for cooperation with non-EU member countries covering migration and asylum is intended to run for **three years** and thus covers the period **2007-10**. Its budget stands at **EUR 205 million**.

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/migration_en.htm



CASE STUDY

Protecting asylum seekers

■ Area

Croatia and the Western Balkan region

■ Background

Questions related to asylum are new challenges that the Western Balkan countries must face. In Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia asylum legislation is either in its draft phase or has been adopted and recently come in force and thus needs to be applied rigorously.

■ Objective

- bolster the asylum system in Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia;
- apply international standards on asylum and law enforcement in domestic legislation;
- promote human rights;
- contribute to the development of regional cooperation.

■ Impact

- the involvement of project stakeholders in activities linked to drawing up a new law on asylum has led to better protection of asylum seekers, in line with European Union (EU) standards;
- seminars, conferences and other training activities are organised to increase the level of knowledge and accountability of stakeholders involved in asylum-related issues;
- the first steps towards forging cooperation among police officers and NGOs on asylum questions have already been taken.

■ Commission partners

- the centre for human rights at Sarajevo University;
- the centre for human rights and the Peace Institute in Belgrade;
- the legal information centre in Slovenia.

■ Commission contribution

The Commission has set aside EUR 1 275 000 for the project “Protection of asylum seekers in the Republic of Croatia and the Western Balkan Region” for 2005-08, i.e. 78% of the total budget for this project.



Commission contribution (EUR)

78%

1 275 000

Food security

Putting an end to food insecurity and extreme poverty

Did you know that more than 800 million people do not have enough to eat and that 160 million live on less than half a dollar a day (MDG1)?

More than a quarter of children under 5 years of age in developing countries are malnourished. This impedes their mental and physical development and puts the survival of the most vulnerable in danger.

Food crises are a severe problem for the economies of these countries and exacerbate the existing poverty already affecting their people. Social and political stability is also sometimes threatened by such crises.

It is thus essential to increase agricultural production in these countries by giving priority support to small farm holdings and to agricultural research into development as well as to alleviate the chronic problem of access to food through structured support actions targeting the poorest populations.

This is what the European Commission is endeavouring to achieve in its thematic programme on food security.

- promoting **innovative approaches** (e.g. nutrition, etc.);
- encouraging the advancement of the food security programme, and its **harmonisation and alignment** with development partners, civil society and donors.



The budget for all this?

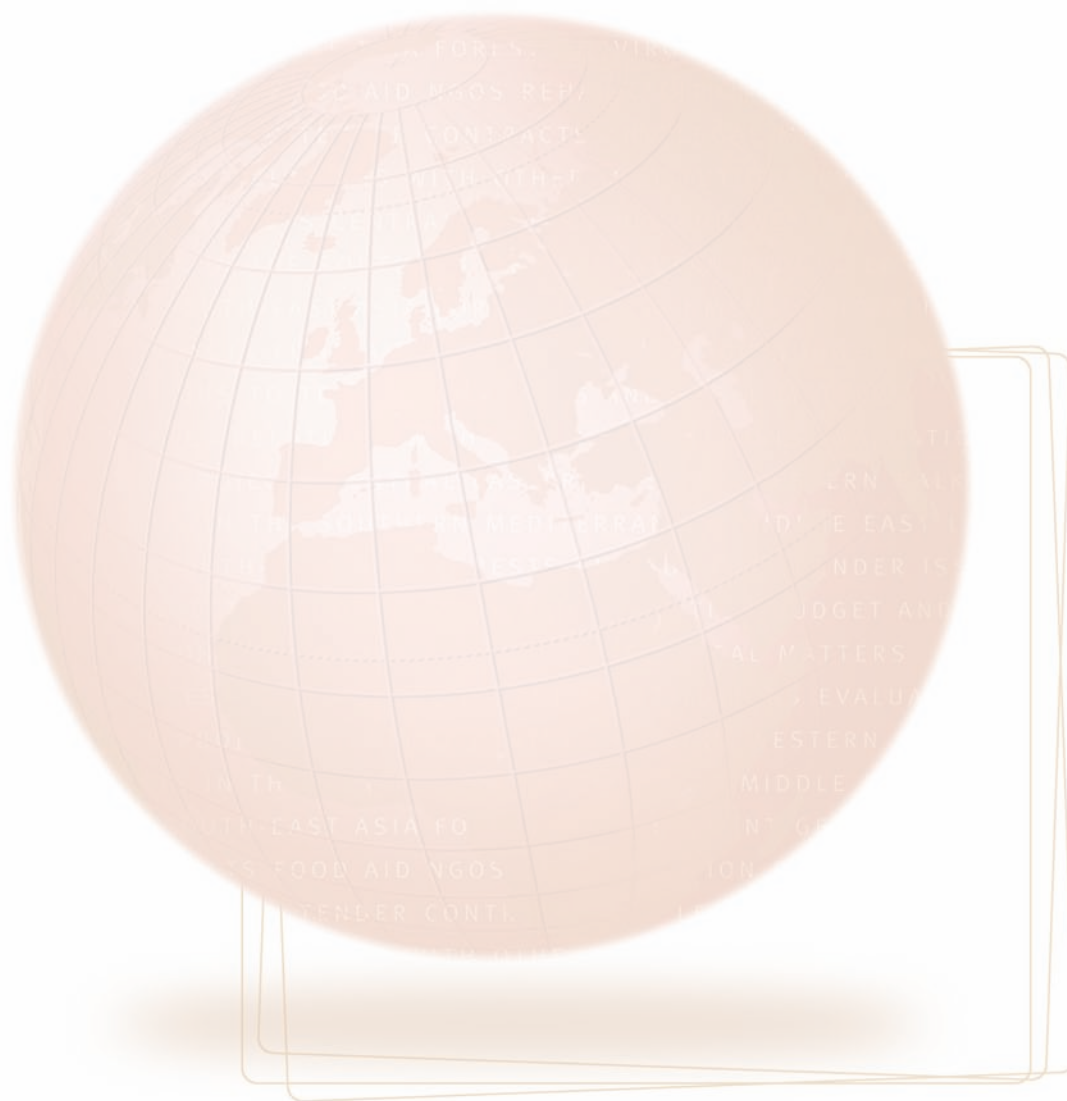
The **budget for 2007-10** is just over EUR 925 million, including aid and administrative costs. The programme does not include the financing of humanitarian food aid, which is now managed by the humanitarian aid service of the European Commission (ECHO). The national food security programmes are covered by geographical instruments.

Feeding the world's people

The programme is guided by the following **strategic priorities**:

- **supporting research**, innovation and information distribution in matters relating to food security, with a special focus on supporting the enhancement of capacities and **scientific and technological cooperation**;
- linking **information** and **decision-making** in order to enhance response strategies;
- using the potential of **continental and regional approaches**;
- responding to food insecurity in **exceptional transition situations** as well as in fragile and bankrupt states;

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/food_en.htm



Investing in people

Human and social development: everyone's right

Women, men and children throughout the world must be able to benefit from care and illness prevention, have access to education and culture, and be respected in terms of their rights and needs. Skills development and access to decent work are also included among these rights. It is a question of the lives and well-being of millions of people, as well as the development of their country.

This is why the thematic programme "Investing in people" supports actions in six different areas, which cover nearly all the Millennium Development Goals (see page 10):

- good health for all;
- education, knowledge and skills;
- gender equality;
- other aspects of social and human development such as:
 - employment and social cohesion, (aiming to improve working conditions on an international level);
 - youth and children (against the exploitation of children and in favour of improving job prospects for the young);
 - culture (access to culture and cultural diversity).

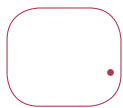
The budget for all this?

The total budget for the "Investing in people" project is around EUR 130 million per year.

The EUR 1 billion earmarked for this programme for 2007–13 is spread as follows:

- 588 million (59%) for health for all;
- 130 million (13%) for education, knowledge and skills;
- 57 million (6%) for gender equality;
- 222 million (22%) for the other aspects of human and social development (8% for employment and social cohesion, 9% for youth and children and 5% for culture).





Education, knowledge and skills

A fundamental right and a weapon against poverty

Did you know that 115 million children in the world are without education?

Education and vocational training give children and adults a real means of creating a chance for themselves to build their own lives and fully participate in the economy and modern society, both of which are currently undergoing rapid globalisation.

The 115 million children currently uneducated are mostly from marginalised groups and countries in dire economic or political crisis. Girls in general are more affected than boys, in families where the mother has often never gone to school.

Educating children, keeping them at school and offering them the chance to receive a sound education and high standard of vocational training are vital to ensuring that they have access to decent work.

Guaranteeing primary education for all and developing a solid framework for education and vocational training are the priorities outlined in the "Education knowledge and skills" component of the thematic programme "Investing in people".

What are the aims?

- contribute to achieving the 2nd MDG: primary education for all by 2015. This goal is both quantitative and qualitative, as it involves promoting access to quality primary education, such that children can become and remain part of the school system until the end of the primary cycle;
- help developing countries enhance the skills of their citizens and their opportunities for finding a high standard of employment, by stimulating education and technical and vocational training.

The budget for all this?

EUR 18 million on average per year under the thematic programme "Investing in people".

Gender equality

“Women carry one half of heaven” (Chinese proverb)

Women represent nearly half of the world's population. Despite this, both their status and living conditions can vary radically from one region to another. Their lives, whether on a social level or in terms of health, are often precarious. Added to this, they are the victims of inequality, discrimination and violence on a daily basis.

In many societies, women are responsible for the majority of daily tasks linked to food production and accessing resources such as water, and also due to educating children and caring for their family or community members. They thus play a vital role in their community, but also more generally in their country's socio-economic development, due to their work as well as the fact that their level of education and autonomy influences their behaviour and that of their children in relation to health, whether in terms of illness prevention or family planning, or in relation to the environment and access to information.

The European Union has made gender quality one of the strategic components of its development policy. In addition to actions carried out by the European Commission in cooperation with its national partners, the programme “Investing in people” promotes women's rights and gender equality with initiatives which aim to:

- support **civil society**, in particular NGOs and women's associations, in countries most affected by gender inequalities, including countries where national laws or customs serve to reinforce these inequalities. The objective is to contribute to increasing respect for **women's rights**, improve their **access to education and culture**, and provide them with

greater **political, socio-economic and legal** autonomy;

- promote the inclusion of gender equality when drawing up policy, through by supporting political, legislative and financial initiatives at national, regional and international level.



The budget for all this?

On average, **EUR 8 million** per year under the thematic programme “Investing in people”.

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/investing_en.htm

CASE STUDY

Silence is violence: enhancing women's autonomy

Area

Botswana

Background

The non-governmental organisation “Women Against Rape” (WAR) provides support for women victims of rape or other forms of violence. Rape provokes emotional and psychological trauma among entire families and has devastating impacts throughout society.

Socio-psychological assistance is the cornerstone of WAR's activities. The organisation provides support for women during legal proceedings, provides training designed to help vulnerable women become more autonomous from an economic point of view, and contributes to rehabilitating rapists or perpetrators of other forms of violence against women.

WAR also carries out preventative work through education and cooperation with other agencies. The education of children on gender equality is an important part of the project “Silence is violence”, which affects the entire community.

Aim

- socio-psychological assistance and education;
- implementation of economic self-sufficiency;
- rapist rehabilitation;
- legal support;
- awareness-raising in schools;
- emancipation and political reform.

Impact

- 255 people benefited from the socio-psychological assistance package in 2006;
- 120 women participated in the training programmes, and 50 are already making use of their skills;
- 70 abusers were rehabilitated in 2006;
- several women have recovered from their traumas and have succeeded in moving forward;
- the number of complaints made and cases won has increased.

Commission partner

Women Against Rape

Commission contribution

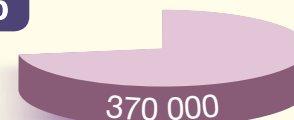
The Commission has granted EUR 370 000 to the project “Silence is violence”, i.e. 73% of the total cost of the project over a period of 30 months.



Commission contribution

(EUR)

73%



Good health for all

Did you know that each minute a child dies of HIV/AIDS and another is infected with it?

Malaria, another serious illness linked to poverty, kills 1 million people a year, for the most part children. Tuberculosis, which was thought to have been eradicated, is now resurging, with resistant strains apparent and vulnerability to it engendered by HIV/AIDS.

In addition to the three main **illnesses linked to poverty**, there are so-called 'neglected' illnesses, such as those linked to respiratory infections or diarrhoeal diseases. Women, who are already severely affected by illnesses connected to poverty are very often the first victims of the lack of adequate health care provision, in particular when giving birth.

The quality of national health systems and universal access to basic medical services are essential. Certain countries, in particular in Africa, suffer from a **dire lack of medical staff**; training for doctors and nurses is vital for coping with this, as is keeping trained professionals in the countries where they are most needed.

The thematic programme "**Investing in people**" aims to respond to three major challenges in its 'Health' component:

- strengthen health systems and improve medical services to respond to the **human resources crisis** and the departure of medical professionals;
- combat the three **main transmissible illnesses linked to poverty (HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria)** and cope with the neglected and emerging illnesses. This will be carried out together with civil society in the affected countries but also in conjunction with the international community;

- promote **health and the rights of all as regards sexuality and reproduction** by following the Cairo Agenda (Programme of Action from the International Conference on Population and Development [ICPD], held in Cairo in 1994), in particular gender equality, empowerment of women and young people, procreative rights, reproductive health and the fight against HIV/AIDS, by providing medical products, supporting civil society organisations in the countries with the greatest need in this area, and participating in information campaigns.



The budget for all this?

The programme "**Investing in people**" allocates on average more than **EUR 80 million** per year to health.

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/investing_en.htm

CASE STUDY

Creating an environment for improving young people's sexual and reproductive health (SRHP)

Area

Tajikistan

Background

Tajikistan has a very young population: 70% are under 30 years of age. Young people are particularly at risk from sexually transmitted infections given their lack of knowledge about contraception and the difficulties they face when looking for services and clinics able to help and inform them.

On average, more than 12% of women use abortion as a means of contraception. The impact of STDs is significant, and cases of HIV/AIDS are on the rise. Use of intravenous drugs is common: 70% of people infected with HIV/AIDS use this type of drug.

Aim

Improve, by 2009, the sexual and reproductive health of 350 000 young people aged 10 to 24 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan's capital, and in the Yovon and Vahdat districts, through:

- better access to health services and information;
- better education of young people in the area of sexual and reproductive health;
- the updating of social and environmental policy, incorporating support for sexual and reproductive health.

Impact

- 8 quality clinics designed for young people have been set up;
- 30 signpost services for guidance, assistance and availability for young people have been created;
- clinical staff as well as assistance and guidance staff have been trained in sexual and reproductive health.

Commission partners

- CARE Nederland;
- NGO - Street Children;
- NGO - Positive;
- NGO - RAN;
- Tajik youth support committee.

Commission contribution

For 2006-09, the Commission has granted EUR 1.5 million, i.e. 90% of the total budget earmarked for this project.



Commission contribution

(EUR)

90%







The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights

Democracy and human rights as ramparts against poverty and conflict, represents a leitmotiv that the European Union defends vigorously across the world, in particular via the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).

The EIDHR, launched by the EU in 2006, is a [financial instrument](#) which aims to defend [democracy](#) and [human rights](#) throughout the world. It replaces and builds upon the European initiative launched in 2001. The new instrument aims to [promote the universal values](#) of democracy and human rights by focusing on, inter alia:

- international justice;
- support for electoral monitoring;
- the rights of indigenous peoples;
- the rights of women and children;
- support for the defenders of human rights;
- help in the fight against torture;
- promoting the abolition of the death penalty.

Linking continuity and innovation

The EIDHR objectives reflect the link between continuity and innovation – continuity through the legitimisation of the electoral process thanks to the work of European observers, and innovation through new support initiatives for those defending human rights.

The new EIDHR targets [five key objectives](#) which consist in:

- [improving](#) respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- [strengthening](#) the role of civil society in the democratisation process;
- [supporting](#) and [strengthening](#) the regional and international framework for the protection of human rights, justice, the rule of law and the promotion of democracy;
- [building](#) confidence in and enhancing the reliability and transparency of democratic electoral processes, in particular through monitoring electoral processes;
- [supporting](#) actions in areas covered by [EU guidelines](#): dialogue on human rights, defenders of human rights, the death penalty, torture and children in armed conflict.

Support given under the EIDHR supplements [other](#) EU policies on democracy and human rights, ranging from [political dialogue to diplomatic initiatives](#) by means of various [financial and technical cooperation](#) mechanisms.

Democracy and human rights

As an ardent defender of democracy and human rights, the European Union has made the promotion of democracy and human rights one of its main causes throughout the world.

Initiatives supporting democracy and human rights

The EU has, over time, developed a whole range of **instruments** for promoting democracy and human rights, from political dialogue to diplomatic initiatives, or from financial support to technical cooperation, such as:

- the Instrument for Development Cooperation (**DCI**) and the geographical and thematic programmes deriving from it;
- the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (**ENPI**);
- the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (**IPA**);
- the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (**EIDHR**).

EU action in the world is carried out using **different forms of support**:

- strengthening the capacities of institutions and stakeholders on the ground;
- implementation of education and training programmes;
- developing awareness-raising activities and networking;

- dialogue, with a view to promoting the ratification of international legal instruments and the implementation of legislative, judicial and administrative reforms by a country's authorities;
- surveillance and protection of rights as well as the rehabilitation and reintegration of torture victims.



<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/eidhr>

CASE STUDY

Fighting against impunity and preventing torture

Area

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay

Background

The populations of Argentina, Chile, Brazil and Uruguay underwent periods of severe trauma during the countries' respective dictatorship years. Several years post factum, many individuals continue to experience serious psychological problems caused by the incessant violations of human rights sanctioned and even perpetrated by the State.

Aim

To provide psychological and medical assistance to those suffering from psychological or physical scars resulting from human rights violations, and to facilitate their return to normal life.

Impact

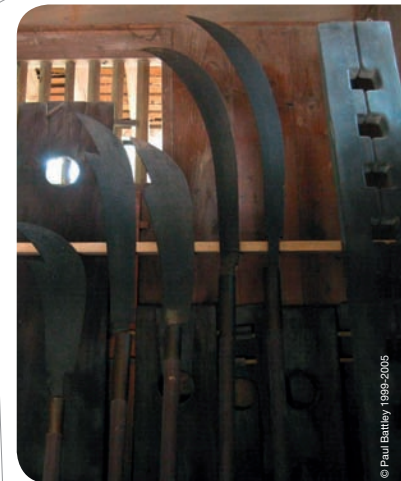
- 1 681 individuals benefiting from medical treatment and helped towards rehabilitation;
- 32 legislative acts adopted in favour of human rights;
- 150 initiatives put in place to enhance the skills of the medical personnel in four torture prevention and rehabilitation centres;
- 42 scientific publications contribute to raising the level of general knowledge about the social traumas connected to human rights violations and more specifically to torture.

Commission partners

- EATIP – Equipo Argentino de Trabajo e Investigación Psicosocial (Argentina)
- CINTRAS – Centro de Salud Mental y Derechos Humanos (Chile)
- GTNM/RJ – Grupo Tortura Nunca Mais – Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
- SERSOC – Servicio de Rehabilitación Social (Uruguay)

Commission contribution

The European Commission has earmarked EUR 1 035 000 for this project which began in April 2006. This represents 75% of the total cost of the project (EUR 1 380 000).



Commission contribution (EUR)

75%

1 035 000

Monitoring electoral processes assistance

Organising periodical elections is the mainspring for securing sustainable development and initiating credible democracy. The EU's instigation of an electoral process in non-EU member countries is achieved through assistance projects and observation missions which draw on various financial instruments.

Electoral assistance comprises **technical or material support** used in the electoral process. It may take on various forms, such as:

- professional support allowing a legal framework for elections to be established;
- general participation in the national electoral body (e.g. making material and equipment available to impartial observers);
- support in registering political parties and voters;
- involvement of NGOs and civil society in several domains, e.g. educating voters in civic matters and training local electoral observers;
- support in media monitoring and training journalists.

Electoral observation is the **political component** of electoral assistance. Its main aim is to:

- **validate** (if necessary) the electoral process;
- **build up** public confidence in the electoral process, with the aim of preventing fraud and intimidation;
- **reinforce** respect for human rights;

- **contribute** to conflict resolution.

EU **electoral observation missions** consist in:

- monitoring the whole electoral process by deploying teams using a tried-and-tested methodology;
- evaluating the strong as well as the weak points in the whole electoral process;
- formulating recommendations which provide the basis for opting to continue with assistance beyond the elections, or otherwise.



<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/election-support>

CASE STUDY

Legislative and municipal elections of November 2006 – Presidential elections of March 2007

■ Place

Mauritania

■ Background

On 3 August 2005, Mauritania underwent a regime change following the non-violent ousting of Colonel Ould Taya, who had headed the country since 1984. A military council presided by Colonel Ould Mohammed Vall has held the executive and legislative reins since then, with the aid of a constitutional charter adopted the day following the coup d'état.

■ Aim

Since it considered the coup of August 2005 a violation of the principles of democracy and the rule of law (under Article 9 of the revised Cotonou Agreement), the actions of the European Union were designed principally to:

- secure, with specific measures, a commitment from the Mauritanian authorities to hold credible elections, heralding the end of the military political regime (the Mauritanian authorities did indeed commit to this);
- contribute to the cultivation of a democratic ethos in Mauritania (in line with the commitments adopted in the context of the Cotonou consultations), in particular by means of assistance programmes;
- encourage the instigation of a transparent electoral process which conforms to international standards, including the participation of non-governmental stakeholders in electoral monitoring.

■ Impact

The legislative, municipal and presidential elections of 2006 and 2007 bear witness to a successful transition towards democracy which has allowed new, democratically-elected institutions to be put in place, and mark a historical step towards the democratisation of political life in Mauritania.

EU actions have significantly contributed to:

- putting an end to a swathe of authoritarian regimes characterised by unacceptable violations of human rights and basic freedoms;
- helping move the Mauritanian political landscape towards effective pluralism, as well as a better climate of freedom.

■ Commission partner

International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

■ Commission contribution

EUR 2 970 000 for both elections (2006 and 2007), i.e. 100% of the total project budget.

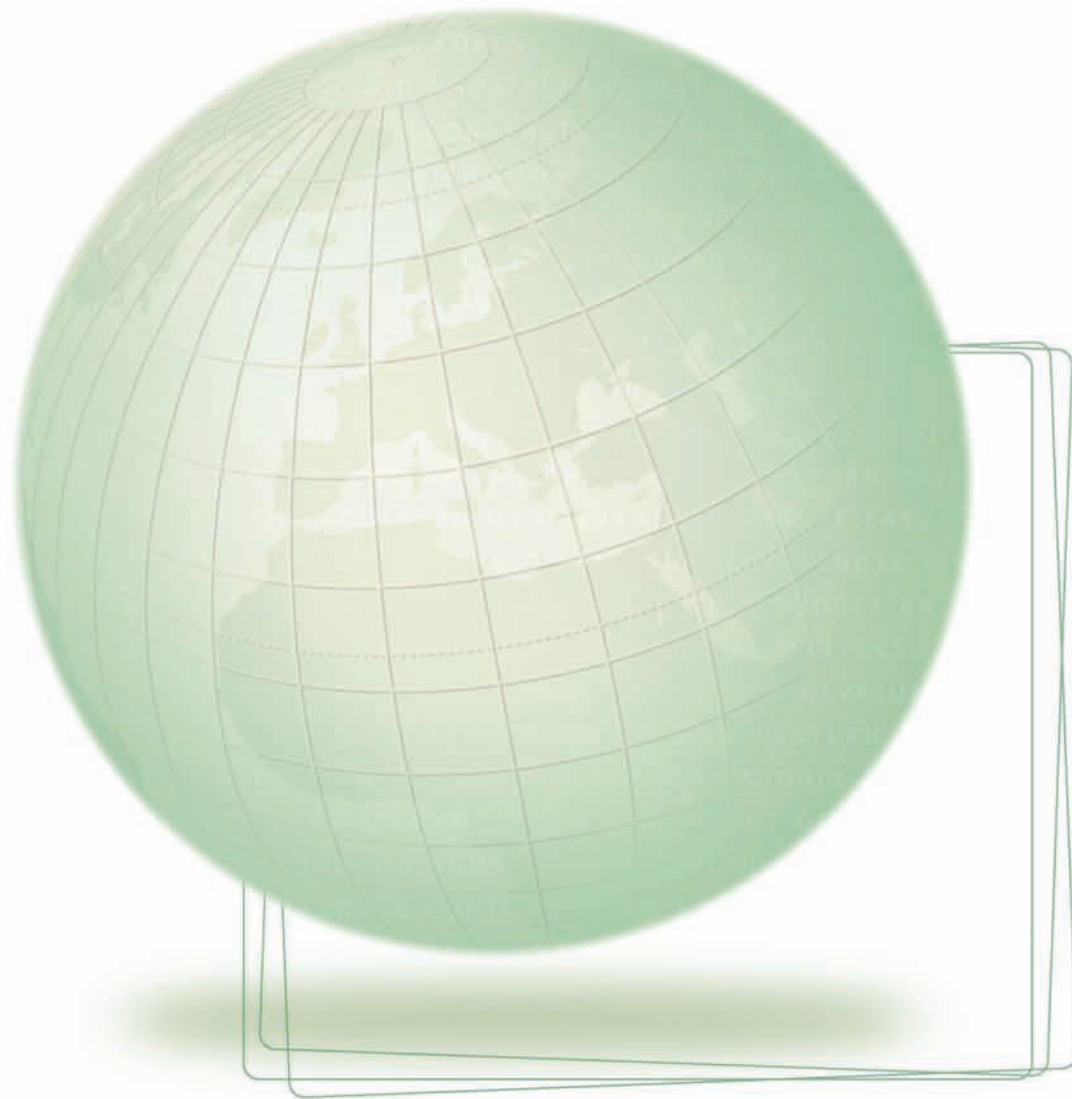


Commission contribution

(EUR)

100%

2 970 000



Instrument for Stability

The European Union, aware of the role of security not only for citizens but also as a prerequisite for development, has been working for a long time to ensure the continuity of this principle in partner countries. The Instrument for Stability is the Commission's main thematic tool relating to security in partner countries which are undergoing crisis or where one is imminent.

The Instrument for Stability has two components, one short-term for crisis situations and the other long-term for stable situations, which means that external cooperation policies may be implemented.

What are the aims?

The four **objectives** are:

for the short-term component:

- **re-establishing stability** in situations of crisis or emerging crisis;

for the long-term component:

- strengthening **response capacities of non-EU member countries to cross-border threats** such as terrorism and organised crime, including the illicit trafficking of weapons, drugs and human beings;
- fighting and protecting against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;
- pre- and post-crisis capacity building.

The budget for all this?

In force since 1 January 2007, this strategic instrument has a **budget** of some **EUR 2 billion** spread over **seven years**.



Support to civil society in geographical programmes

The thematic programmes are not the only support available to civil society organisations in the development cooperation initiated by the European Commission. Support from civil society and, more generally, from non-state actors is a **strategic priority** evidenced by **all the geographical instruments** related to development cooperation. The need to make sure the thematic programmes are **complementary** to the actions undertaken in the geographical programmes is also a principle legally enshrined in the Instrument for Development Cooperation.

These geographical programmes share in common the fact that they encourage the involvement of non-state actors in the dialogue with state authorities on development strategies and sectoral policies, as well as in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of development projects and programmes.

The involvement of **non-state actors** (NSA) in development policy is therefore no longer limited to calling on the latter's services as partners in the implementation of projects. It is more oriented towards setting up a new partnership founded on the exchange of responsibilities between the state and civil society in the fight against poverty and participation in good governance.

Still, the process of participation involves fragile organisations with limited capabilities and sufficient experience and maturity required to be a real counterbalancing force to the state and to defend their interests against donors. Their involvement quickly exposes their lack of representativeness and legitimacy and insufficient human, analytical, technical and financial capacities.

To enable them to carry out their mandate as vital players in public life and development, EC support aims to strengthen civil society organisations using integrated programmes to bolster their capacities. These notably concern strengthening the internal governance of organisations, their operational and strategic capacities, and their abilities to work as part of a network, communicate, and also participate in dialogue on public policy guidelines.

The programmes are laid down in the geographical programming documents (Country Strategy Papers/National Indicative Programmes). More information can be found on the websites of the delegations of the European Commission, or alternatively 'civil society' representatives within the delegations can be contacted.

General site of the delegations

http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/delegations/intro/web.htm

EuropeAid – Where we work

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/index_en.htm

How to get a grant

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/funding/index_en.htm

How to obtain funding from the European Commission?

As of 2008, all potential beneficiaries must be registered in the EuropeAid database [PADOR](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/online-services/pador/index_en.htm). Registration is to be carried out by the organisations themselves using the following link: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/online-services/pador/index_en.htm

PADOR contains all the administrative data linked to the experience of an organisation legally registered in a country (with statutes and a financial account) as well as all the necessary documentary proof. Private persons cannot access PADOR.

A manual, a Q&A forum and on-line training are available on the same page.

The [allocation of EuropeAid funds](#) is made on the basis of [calls for proposals](#). For each thematic programme, specific calls are published [annually](#) on the basis of financial programming.

These calls may be launched from Brussels or locally by one of the European Commission delegations. Full documentation and explanatory material regarding all calls for proposals may be found on the "Funding" pages accessible from the home page of the EuropeAid website.

In practice, interested parties are invited to regularly consult the calls for proposals to find out when they should be able to take part.

[Transparency](#) and [equitable treatment](#) regarding the level of funding are guaranteed by the selection process. Eligibility criteria are laid down at the time of publication and adapted to specific circumstances.





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