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The European Community's Development Policy

Programme of Action 2003

Programme of Action 2003

NEW PRIORITIES AND COMMITMENTS

A key objective of the Council-Commission statement of November 2000¹ on EC Development Policy was to help focus EC development cooperation on a number of priority areas to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals. However, since the launch of the policy statement, there have been several new international initiatives (the Monterrey, Johannesburg and Doha agendas) and new EU domestic concerns (e.g. migration) which have created new, additional priorities. Ideally, the resulting new EU commitments should be viewed as being complementary and logical additions to the existing policy statement, which need to be taken forward in parallel and synergistically with the existing EC development agenda to ensure that its coherence and focus are not compromised. But in some cases this may not be the case, and both coherence and concentration may be at risk.

The policy statement of November 2000 was intended to cover a medium-term perspective and to be evaluated 'at the appropriate time'. It is still too early to conduct a full evaluation. However, in view of the recent initiatives and priorities it is useful to see how they can be consolidated and operationalised within existing EC development policy, or – alternatively – where such efforts meet serious constraints.

This document describes the major actions recently proposed, undertaken or planned by the Commission to implement the European Community's Development Policy in 2003 and 2004. It is conceived as an information tool for the activities undertaken by the Commission and it is an update of the 2002 Programme of Action².

For each action undertaken or planned, the table attached spells out the expected results, an indicative timetable and its status of implementation. It is structured around two major axes: policy issues and working methods. It offers an overview of the measures and initiatives planned for in the priority areas identified for concentrating EC activities and for cross-cutting topics. In addition, it makes the linkages with related issues, such as conflict prevention policies, the relief-rehabilitation and development linkage, and with synergies with other EC policies such as the information society and the environment.

Without overturning existing priorities, the thrust of the Community approach must be to translate new policies approved since November 2000 into action and ensure that they are consistent and add to the overall EC development policy framework. In this context, one should not only assess how new priorities and cross-cutting themes can be reconciled with the existing priority areas for EC development policy, but also how they fit in with the comprehensive programming approach of the Country Strategy Paper (CSP) process.

¹ Statement by the Council and the Commission, 10 November 2000.

² SEC(2002)568 of 14.05.2002

FRAMEWORK OF ACTION

For the years 2003 and 2004 the Community will focus on clusters of action, each of which will be complementary to the general approach and objectives of the policy statement of November 2000:

(1) To deliver on international commitments

Whilst new international conferences are being prepared (e.g. UNCTAD XI, World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)) the prime focus of EC action shall be on delivering on recently agreed commitments:

- Continue to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (focus on poverty, education, health, gender, environment);
- Deliver on Monterrey commitments by transforming these commitments into action (increasing ODA; promoting investments, good governance, fair trade, debt relief);
- Deliver on Johannesburg commitments by transforming these commitments into action (energy initiative, water initiative; focus on poverty eradication, health, natural resource management and biodiversity);
- Contribute to the Doha Development Agenda by transforming commitments into action (focus on trade liberalisation, investments, capacity building and technical assistance, policy coherence, mainstreaming trade into national policies, trade policy, global governance).

(2) To ensure an appropriate policy mix at country and regional level

The mid-term reviews (MTR) of the Country Strategy Papers (CSPs) and Regional Strategy Papers (RSPs) have started in late 2002 and will continue in 2003 and 2004. The Community is faced with the challenge to ensure that CSPs and RSPs address the new challenges, that they remain up to date and relevant documents for both the EU and the partner countries, and that they are conducive to the ongoing efforts of concentration of programming. In the context of the MTRs the Community must therefore take account of the following:

- The various EU policy priorities with respect to different countries/regions, as laid down in existing agreements and programmes (Cotonou, MEDA, ALA, Tacis etc);
- The general development policy priorities and cross-cutting issues agreed in the November 2000 statement (poverty focus, trade and development, regional integration, macroeconomic policies and social services, transport, food security, institutional capacity building, gender, environment, human rights) and made more specific in subsequent sectoral communications and Council conclusions;
- The EU commitment to provide a comprehensive response to promoting sustainable development in developing countries, as agreed in various Communications and Council conclusions in relation to WSSD (Johannesburg) and DDA (Doha).
- The link with the EU's external political action (CFSP, conflict prevention);
- The link with ECHO operations (Linking Relief Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD));

- The implications of other EU policies on developing countries (e.g. trade, agricultural and fisheries policy, migration policy, policies on environment, food safety regulations, research, information and communication technologies; fight against drugs, money laundering, human trafficking, international terrorism).

(3) To strengthen implementation and coordination of EC development cooperation

A precondition to fulfil above objectives is a further strengthening of the performance of the EC development cooperation. In this context the following elements are relevant:

- Deliver effective assistance based on agreed development programmes (focus on RELEX-reform, comitology, financial regulation, untying of aid);
- Strengthen operational co-ordination and complementarity with the Member States, other donors and UN agencies;
- Step up cooperation with new Member States in area of policies, aid delivery and working methods.

MAKING EXTERNAL SPENDING MORE RESPONSIVE

If we are to improve the articulation between the above political priorities and the use of financial assistance, EC spending will have to become more flexible and responsive. This is not to say that the existing principles and instruments of cooperation between donor and recipient should be overhauled. The contrary is true. EC priority-setting must fully respect the partnership relation with recipient countries and must be in line with ongoing efforts to improve the quality and reliability of medium-term programming, addressing the root causes of poverty, conflict and instability, as identified in agreed Country Strategy Papers and Regional Strategy Papers. These papers (and their upcoming midterm review) will continue to be the focal point for reconciling sometimes conflicting priorities, and bringing them together in one single coherent country- or region-specific framework for action.

The need to increase flexibility and responsiveness was at the very basis of the Commission's reform of the management of external assistance, particularly in terms of improving quality and speed of delivery. In the meantime, the Commission has been able to make some progress, in particular with the rapid reaction mechanism, the recent decision to allow access to the emergency reserve for non-humanitarian crisis needs and by reducing allocations to non-performing countries. Also, the recent proposal to set up an EU Water Fund is relevant in this context.

To further increase responsiveness of external spending, the following ideas in particular may merit consideration:

- Creation of bigger margins of unallocated expenditure in the main budgetary assistance programmes and the EDF to meet unexpected crises or new political priorities without upsetting medium-term commitments. It would be important to be able to mobilise funds very quickly if necessary, drawing on experience with humanitarian assistance and the rapid reaction mechanism. It shall be reviewed how the need for more responsive spending relates to European Parliament's initiatives to set benchmarks for support to certain sectors.

- Review certain provisions of the Cotonou Agreement to improve flexibility. Cotonou introduced first steps towards a more flexible management of funds. This implies being serious in the mid term review about rewarding performing countries and reducing allocations for non-performing ones. Full use should also be made of the appropriate institutional provisions in particular to ensure that the ACP-EC Council of Ministers plays an active role in deciding on changing priorities and taking the measures necessary to ensure efficiency. Furthermore it will be important to reconsider certain provisions in order to gain full flexibility in particular to be able to respond to international commitments. On a related point, further consideration shall be given to the budgetisation of the EDF.
- Address the delays in implementation, by tackling blockages within the Commission (including delegations) and by taking account of the capacity problems in many ACP partner countries. This should be done without weakening the principle of ownership which remains essential to success. In this context the Commission takes the line that ownership concerns the formulation of development policies, co-operation strategies, programmes and reviews. Co-management at the level of payments and contracts are of a different order and efficiency criteria should prevail. The additional workload for the Commission should however be properly assessed, and the corresponding resources be allocated to Commission delegations and HQ.
- Bringing Foreign and Development Ministers more into the decision-making (currently with the Finance Ministers) on the breakdown of expenditure between the main geographical and other programmes in heading four of the budget. Ministers would thus get a greater sense of ownership of the pattern of spending which would also better reflect the Council's own work programme as this develops following the decisions.

FURTHER ISSUES FOR DEBATE

Today's EC development cooperation is confronted with the need to deliver on international commitments, to establish an appropriate policy mix with its partner countries, and to ensure effective and responsive delivery of assistance. At the same time, it also has to anticipate and prepare for specific future challenges, such as the work of the Convention and the forthcoming Inter-Governmental Conference, the new Commission in 2004 and the enlargement of the EU in the same year. To turn these challenges into opportunities, the Commission will contribute to – and hopes to benefit from - the emerging debate on questions such as:

- The poverty focus of the EU's development cooperation policy and programmes. How to approach this objective in low and middle-income countries, including questions about the Community's approach in different regions and the distribution of EC aid. This should also look at how and how far Member States have taken on board a poverty focus in their bilateral programmes. There are valuable lesson-learning opportunities for the EC and the ten acceding Member States.
- The Community's development added value. Are the six priority areas defined in the November 2000 statement now generally confirmed as areas where the Community can add value? Does the Community have a comparative advantage in these areas? How are priority areas for EU Member States' bilateral programmes being defined? How do they correspond to what is done at Community level (and are they based on comparative advantages of the Member States)? Coordination with Member States is critical to avoid duplication in country, and to maximise synergistic approaches to programming.

- The Community's specific role in addressing global public goods. How and how far is the EU (Commission on behalf of the Community, plus Member States) currently contributing to provision of GPGs of importance for development? Does the Community need new instruments (development or otherwise) to participate in global initiatives, including coordinated global action (e.g. the Fast Track Education Initiative) and global public goods (e.g. control of communicable diseases)? What implications does an enhanced role in global-level initiatives have for the Community's current focus on the country level?

CONCLUSION

2003 and 2004 will be crucial years for the future of EC development cooperation. The framework of action has been defined, both on an internal EC level and amongst the global community. During the next 2 years – the final phase of the current Commission's term – the Community will have to deliver.

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PART I. POLICY ISSUES

Extract from the joint Statement on EC Development Policy:

The main objective of Community development policy must be to reduce and, eventually, to eradicate poverty. This objective entails support for sustainable economic and social and environmental development, promotion of the gradual integration of the developing countries into the world economy and a determination to combat inequality.

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
1	COUNTRY STRATEGIES AND MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE POVERTY REDUCTION OBJECTIVE			
	Objective: improve the poverty focus in Country Strategy Papers and EC co-operation programmes, through:			
	- support to Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSP) where they exist;			
	- a systematic introduction of appropriate results indicators in EC co-operation programmes to measure and review progress.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processing of Country Strategy Papers will be finalised in 2003. CSPs provide a framework for EU assistance programmes over a 3 to 5 years period, based on EU/EC objectives and policy coherence, the partner country government policy agenda, an analysis of the country's situation, and the activities of other major donors. Launching of the process of CSP Mid Term Reviews Development of an indicative set of performance indicators applicable across all regions and used in CSPs, in cooperation with experts from Member 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater focus, Increased ownership, complementarity with other donors, consultation of civil society in the field Closer link between country strategies and EC support Assessing whether, and if yes in what way, CSPs should be updated. Agreement on a core set of poverty-focused result indicators, linked to MDGs, that should be present in all CSPs and in as many PRSPs as possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All CSPs are approved, except for countries with whom cooperation has been suspended or delayed for political reasons (e.g. Liberia, Togo, DRC). MTRs taking place in late 2002, 2003 and 2004 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to conclusion In progress Done

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<p>States and OECD-DAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage preparation of PRSPs in middle-income countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased coherence with EC sectoral priorities and more comparability across country programmes • Basis for a more substantive co-ordination and agreement on strategies in the management committees (involving Member States and the Commission) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
<p>2 IMPROVING MECHANISMS FOR ALLOCATION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES</p> <p>Objective: Financial resources (from the EDF and budget resources under Heading 4 for external actions) must be allocated so as to maximise their effect on poverty reduction. Consequently, the least developed and other low-income countries should be given particular attention. The efforts by the governments of partner countries to reduce poverty as well as their performance and absorption capacity should also be duly considered. Among the middle-income countries, those with a high proportion of poor people and which are fully committed to implementing coherent poverty reduction strategies should be given priority.</p>				
	<p>An operational methodology for the allocation of EC assistance has been or is being developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For ACP countries, allocation criteria for financial resources take into account needs, policy performance and poverty reduction efforts. Governance, implementation of assistance and absorptive capacity, vulnerability and EU priorities and commitments. • MEDA, ALA and Tacis: new methodology is being developed, which includes indicators of needs, population, poverty, and political and economic performance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved assessment and monitoring of the Community's contribution to poverty reduction, on the basis of a methodology accepted by Council and Parliament. • Increased focus on poverty in the distribution of EC assistance by country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done • Ongoing

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
3	GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES			
3.1	Follow-up to international conferences Context: 2003 is the year of concrete implementation of the commitments given at the international events that took place in 2002: the UN Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, March 2002), and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, September 2002). The mandate to monitor these commitments was given to the Commission by the GAERC of November 2002.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the implementation of the commitments made in preparation for the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey). • Report on the implementation of the EU's sustainable development strategy and specific commitments from WSSD. • Move forward the debate on mechanisms for priority setting on global public goods. • Preparation of EU-Africa Summit. • Communication on EU Africa Dialogue • Preparation of UNCTAD XI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU made eight commitments to make progress in terms of ODA, Co-ordination/harmonisation, untying of aid, trade related technical assistance, Global Public Goods, Innovative sources of financing, reform of the International Financial System and debt relief. • Strong EU input to International Task Force on GPG deliberations. • Preparation of Working Paper on implications of GPGs for the EC's development cooperation policy. • Reinforce Cairo process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the GAERC in May 2003 • Report to the GAERC in May 2003. • International Task Force mandate is for 2 years (to end 2004). • Second half of 2003. • Mid 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In preparation • In preparation • Ongoing • To be done • In progress • In preparation • In preparation

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
3.2	EU Water Initiative			
Objective: Consolidate and operationalise the EU Water Initiative to facilitate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the sanitation target of the WSSD.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of joint EU/ACP decision on the use of the conditional € 1 billion from the EDF on the basis of the approach outlined in Communication (2003)211 on the creation of an EU Water Fund. • Support, facilitate and stimulate initiative development at the EU level and promote dialogue with Member States and partners (developing countries and stakeholders) • Develop working "tools" and communication activities for the Initiative • Promote water sector programmes in line with the Initiative objectives and progress in the development of the initiative in the ACP, Mediterranean and Tacis contexts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of an EU Water Fund • Secretariat operational and main Initiative elements in place (design phase completed) • Dialogue taken forward in countries/regions and with stakeholders from the private sector, financing organisations and civil society • Inventory of water activities within EU development cooperation developed • Monitoring/reporting formats agreed • Improved awareness of initiative through web site and electronic newsletter • Water and sanitation and water resource management targets integrated into national and regional strategies • Increased number of water sector support programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision to be taken in early 2004 • End 2003 • September 2003 • 2003-2004 mid-term review process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Started (Secretariat being established) • Started • On-going

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a programme for action in 5 river basins in Africa to act as catalyst for the EU initiative development in Africa • Establish within the Commission mechanisms to ensure coordinated contributions from the various DGs concerned and facilitate EIB involvement • Co-ordination with international donors and representation international for a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of needs completed and agreement reached on priority actions and programme for support in co-ordination with the African Council of Water Ministers • EC contribution to the initiative identified • Task Group established providing EC co-ordinated contribution • EIB involvement defined • EU water Initiative reflected in international fora and programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of 2003 • End 2003 • Continuous participation in world water Forum in 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification phase started • Ongoing • Ongoing
3.3	EU Energy Initiative			
	Objective: Consolidate and operationalise the EU Energy Initiative for poverty eradication and sustainable development in order to facilitate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support, facilitate and stimulate initiative development at the EU level and promote dialogue with Member States and partners (developing countries and stakeholders) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretariat operational and main Initiative elements in place (design phase completed) • Dialogue taken forward in countries/regions and with stakeholders from the private sector, financing organisations and civil society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started (Secretariat being established)

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop working "tools" and communication activities for the Initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory of energy activities within EU development cooperation developed • Monitoring/reporting formats agreed • Improved awareness of initiative through web site and electronic newsletter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote energy programmes in line with the Initiative objectives and support the Initiative development in the ACP context • Develop the EC contribution to the African component of the Initiative • Establish within the Commission mechanisms to ensure coordinated contributions from the various DGs concerned and facilitate EIB involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Energy programmes increased • ACP Pacific EC component of the initiative defined and financing proposal prepared • Agreed approach with Member States on the division of target countries/regions. • ACP Africa approach further developed through country level actions and conference in Nairobi • EC approach agreed amongst relevant services • Task Group established providing EC co-ordinated contribution • EIB involvement defined 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003-2004 mid-term review process • End of 2003 • June 2003 • September 2003 • End 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going • Started • On-going

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-ordination with international activities and representation international for a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-ordinate, as appropriate, with other Type II initiatives, such as GVEP and UNEP network Provide information to UN (CSD) as required for Type II Initiatives Prepare for Energy Conference in Boon in 2004 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going
4	<p>DEFINING AND IMPLEMENTING EC STRATEGIES IN THE PRIORITY AREAS</p> <p>Context: Six priority areas have been identified on the basis of two main criteria: first, priority areas contribute to the objective of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the gradual integration into world markets; second, Community action in those areas must have added value. In other areas, the Community will provide finance to support policies where other donors and institutions take the lead in policy dialogue with partner countries.</p>			
4.1	<p>Trade and development</p> <p>Objective: As a leading player in the area of trade and development assistance, the Community should ensure that the synergies between trade policy and poverty reduction are fully exploited and that development policy and trade and investment policies are complementary and mutually reinforcing in the benefit of developing countries.</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up of the Communication on trade and development. The Commission intends to encourage and support the mainstreaming of trade and investment into country/regional strategies (CSP/RSP) and programmes (NIP/RIP). The Commission will work towards a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines on trade-related assistance, prepared and discussed with Member States Review of country and regional strategies will specifically pay attention to trade issues. Increased funding, where appropriate, for trade-related assistance, including in relation to DDA and EPA.. This would help countries participate more effectively in negotiations, build institutional and regulatory capacity to implement the outcomes and contribute to reduce supply side constraints. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 2003 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In preparation To be done

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<p>development-friendly outcome of the Doha Development Agenda (DDA). EC will contribute to ensure that DDA really benefits developing countries, in the context of negotiations and through complementary actions, including trade related assistance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building to implement existing WTO provisions and prepare for DDA negotiations (€10m intra-ACP programme is now being implemented). • Preparation of €50 mln trade capacity building programme under 9th EDF • Collaboration in the Integrated Framework for the LDCs • Assisting ACP with preparation for EPA negotiations: (a) Implementation of Capacity building measures: €20 m programme, (b) regional and national programmes under 9th EDF to be prepared. • EPA negotiation process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All ACP phase ; subsequent regional discussions as soon as feasible; • Task force on trade related assistance and capacity building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liberalisation of trade and investment in developing countries at a pace consistent with their economic and social constraints and environmental considerations. • Improved market access for developing countries. • Better preparation of ACP and other developing countries in DDA discussions. • Financing proposal for submission to the EDF Committee. • Follow-up of diagnostic trade integration studies for selected LDCs; seat on IFWG as donor representative. • Enhanced capacity to negotiate and implement trade agreements. • Sustainability Impact Assessments for countries and regions and use of the results in EPA negotiations. • Clarification of key negotiation issues during the all-ACP phase ; • Start of regional level negotiations. • Inventory of past trade-related assistance; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003 • 2003 • July 2003 • 2003 • 2003 • 2003 and beyond • 2003 • September 2003. • April 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • In progress • In progress • In progress • In progress • In progress • Ongoing • In preparation • Done

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase access to trade expertise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to the Doha Database • Assessment of trade-related assistance in the programming documents; • Conclude trade-specific framework contracts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2003 • May 2003 • December 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done • In progress • In progress
4.2	Regional integration and co-operation Objective: Continue to promote progress in regional economic co-operation among developing countries as a potential source of enhanced trade and investment, economic efficiency and growth, and as a decisive stepping stone for better integration into the global economy, especially for low-income countries			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACP: start implementation of the integration component of the six RIPs that were signed during 2002. • Monitoring progress towards regional integration (to be used for the mid-term reviews of the RIPs during 2003/2004). • Political and economic dialogue with regional organisations. • Support the African Union and NEPAD initiative, including in international fora (i.e. Evian G8 Summit 1-2- June). • Participation in EU/SADC political dialogue. • MEDA : implementation of 2002-2006 regional strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and appraisal of programmes designed to support regional integration (and EPA preparations). • Guidelines to assess progress towards regional integration. • Greater coherence between regional economic communities and Pan-African initiatives. Contribution to conflict resolution and prevention. • Harmonious relations with the region (including settlement of Zimbabwe issue). • Addressing, by sector, issues that are common to a region and beyond the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing proposals to be submitted to the EDF Committee • September 2003 • Throughout 2003 • Throughout 2003 • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • To be done • In progress • In progress • In progress

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia: regional strategy papers for Asia; including ASEAN. • Latin America: mandate for negotiating Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreements with Central America and Andean Community. • Tacis: implementation of the 2002/2003 RIP ongoing. This programme covers inter alia networks, environment, justice and home affairs, as well as nuclear safety. 	national capacity of individual countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003 • 2003 • 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • In progress • In progress
4.3	Macroeconomic policies and equitable access to social services (health, education)			
	Objective: Improving the macro-economic framework in the developing partner countries, encouraging the emergence of an investment-friendly environment and ensuring a fair distribution of the benefits of growth and access to basic social services such as education and health.			
4.3.1	Support improvement in the economic policy framework of the partner countries			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support economic reform programmes in the context of poverty reduction strategies. • Continue to link budget support to progress on improvement of equitable access to social services. • Development through the Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) of assessment of public finance. • Continue support for the E-HIPC initiative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved link between macroeconomic support and public services delivery, especially in health and education. • Greater emphasis on equity issues alongside poverty. • Improved efficiency, transparency and accountability of budget management systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 • Throughout 2003 • 2003 • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • In progress • To be done • In progress

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication on privatisation • Launching of Investment Facility with EIB. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved development of private sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2003 • June 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • To be done / ongoing (MEDA)
4.3.2	Health Objective: Maximise the contribution of EC development policy instruments towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the targets of important International Conferences in the field of health, HIV/AIDS and population, with gender equality being a key component			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver on the new EU policy framework for health, AIDS, population and Poverty (HAP) • Deliver on the EU Programme for Action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased effectiveness of EC policy dialogue and investments in HAP at country level. • Progress towards Health, AIDS and population MDGs monitored • HAP programming Strengthened and followed-up • Enhanced partnerships developed and coherence promoted • Focus on communicable diseases in programming strengthened • Progress on and coherence of Programme for Action followed- up • Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria (GFATM) supported • EU voice in international fora strengthened • Initiative for the production of Global Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Ongoing

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies in the area of sexual and reproductive health (SRHR) and rights supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goods supported and strengthened • Focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in programming strengthened • Policy dialogue and partnership around the Cairo platform strengthened • 10th anniversary of International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD+10) in 2004 prepared 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
4.3.3	Education Objective: Maximise the contribution of EC development policy instruments towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the field of education and training, with gender equality being a key component			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operationalise the Education for All Fast Track Initiative (FTI) • Monitor progress towards the education MDGs on the basis of sectoral indicators • Provide guidance and assistance to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC financial support to FTI country proposals • Stronger EU voice on education on international stage • Dissemination of findings and reporting on impact • Refinement of monitoring tools and indicators for education • Study on education indicators and donor harmonisation • Updated programming guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 • Throughout 2003 • Spring 2003 • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • To be done • In progress • In progress

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	programming, re-programming and reviewing country and regional strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Communication on Education and Training in the Context of Poverty Reduction in Developing Countries (COM(2002)116). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better integration of internationally-approved goals and strategies in the field of education in EC programming in sector, thematic and budgetary support • Enhanced partnerships and donor co-ordination in education promoted • Promotion of basic education focused in policy dialogue at country level and in EC programming • Policy dialogue and partnership on education and gender equality, education and HIV/AIDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress
4.4	Transport Objective: Improving the sustainability of transport sector development in developing countries in order to promote poverty reduction, economic growth, environmental protection and regional integration.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of Commission external aid in the transport sector, with AIDCO/RELEX/TREN and others. • Adoption of sector indicators and launch of EC-EU joint sector monitoring in 5 countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for improving sectoral approach and effectiveness of sector interventions • Improved monitoring of partner countries' performance and better EC-EU co-ordination in promoting corrective action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country Reports: September 2003 • Draft Final Report: December 2003 • Study to prepare methodology for monitoring system: March 2003 • Draft Proposals for monitoring system: September 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field phase started • Indicators agreed with Member States:

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise paper on 'Transport and Poverty Reduction' to complete the ongoing reflection on Transport and Poverty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals for improving the integration of poverty reduction objectives into transport support strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study carried out with DFID to examine existing practice in ACP completed: September 2003 Final paper finalised taking into account draft paper of 2002 and above study: December 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft paper to be completed end of 2003
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Programming, and Programme monitoring and Review Process for ACP countries where transport is EC focal sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More consistent application of EC sectoral approach. Increased adoption of Sector Programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Mid Term Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of €8m programme for support to the Sub-Saharan Africa Transport Programme (SSATP). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC participation in joint African Governments/Donor Programme to improve transport services in Africa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financing Proposal to be presented to EDF: April 2003. Attend SSATP Annual Conference: May 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Financing Proposal under discussion with AIDCO.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen co-ordination with MS and other donors in sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved coherence in sector between EC, EU MS, and other donors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Experts Meeting: June 2003 Participate in DFID Research Planning January 2003 Attend multi-donor country transport sector reviews: March 2003 and September 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Done / ongoing

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
4.5	Food security and sustainable rural development			
Objective: Improve food security and rural well-being in developing countries in a sustainable manner to contribute to the overall poverty alleviation objective and the goals of the World Food Summit. Promote sector policies and strategies to foster economic growth and equitable social development based on the protection of soil, water and biodiversity and sustainable natural resources management.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulation of an EC strategy on Forest Development Co-operation–Staff Working Paper • Formulation of strategy papers and guidelines for key thematic issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land tenure reforms - Indicators for food security, agriculture - Role of decentralised institutions in R&D, in coherence with EU/ACP S&T joint policy documents. • Increased and more focused co-ordination with MS and other major donors. • Sectoral contribution to capacity building and programming of financial resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Country and regional support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased attention to non-forest sectors impact on forestry; increased focus of EC co-operation in the forestry sector on regional specificities and priorities; improved complementarity between EC and MS and addressing new policy issues such as illegal logging, trade and forest law enforcement • Increased impact of development co-operation through more coherent approaches in the areas of food security, rural development and agriculture. Support to land reforms and rural development • Increased coherence with regard to policies and strategies and further enhancement of donors complementarity. • Adequate integration of rural poverty, food security and sustainable natural resources management objectives into development co-operation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Working paper by first half 2003 • Throughout 2003 • Throughout 2003 • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • Guidelines to be finalised by mid-2003 • Done/ongoing task • Ongoing • Ongoing

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	strategies – Thematic budget lines			
4.6 Governance and Institutional capacity building				
Objective: Strengthening developing partners' institutional capacities in particular to consolidate democratisation processes, improve governance including the fight against corruption, respect of the rule of law as part of poverty reduction strategies. Resources to be deployed in all areas of Community assistance, in particular trade, economic policies, the social sectors, environmental issues and regional integration.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of a Communication on Governance and Development. • Preparation of guidelines on "Governance and Institutional development" in view of CSP reviews. • Preparation of a handbook on governance reflecting best practices in EC and other donors' experience. • ACP: implementation of the Cotonou Agreement: article 33 on institutional development and capacity building to be integrated in national and regional programming – (Institutional support and support to the emergence of civil society and non-State actors). Activities in improving security and law enforcement will also be part of actions in this field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordination and complementarity between Commission, Member States and donors reinforced, coherence of the different EC policies ensured, partner countries' ownership in the formulation of the relevant reform programmes facilitated • Tool covering the whole project cycle of every governance cluster and providing guidance on how to mainstream governance in interventions in other sectors available • Institutional support measures gradually integrated in all CSPs and programming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication drafted by June 2003 • Guidelines prepared by December 2003 • Mid-2003 • Programming cycles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • In progress • In preparation • In progress

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDA; TACIS, Asia and Latin America : Capacity-building (including in the health and education sectors) is a key component and goal of development and economic co-operation with these regions. Activities in improving security and law enforcement will also be part of actions in this field. • OCTs: increased focus on human capacity building e.g. in R&D and information society, notably through human mobility and the training of researchers. 			
5	DEFINING AND IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES FOR CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES			
5.1	Human rights and Democratisation Objective: The promotion of human rights and democracy is an integral part of development. It is an objective in itself and a vital factor in strengthening the impact and sustainability of cooperation.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainstreaming of human rights considerations in ECHO's operations. As of 1 February 2001, when submitting humanitarian projects for funding by ECHO, partners must explain how their operation will impact on the human rights situation in the field. • Mainstreaming of human rights considerations in development cooperation programmes, including EDF operations, as identified in the Commission Communication of May 2001 on the EU's role in promoting Human Rights and Democratisation in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the basis of the objectives and action points identified in the communication on Human Rights and Democratisation, the Commission will regularly evaluate whether progress is being made, particularly in the countries identified as priorities. • Human rights and democracy aspects integrated in all development cooperation programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 • Programming cycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Ongoing

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<p>third countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an operational implementation plan for the actions identified in the Commission Communication of May 2001. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deepened understanding of programming management and impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In progress
5.2	<p>Mainstreaming gender equality</p> <p>Objective: Deliver on mainstreaming gender in development co-operation and external relations.</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of the legal basis for gender mainstreaming in development co-operation Sharing of information on EC and Member State best practices on gender mainstreaming in development co-operation Support and co-ordination of policy dialogue on mainstreaming of gender equality in development and RELEX policy areas. Assessment of the extent to which gender is mainstreamed in CSPs Development of the capacity of staff to integrate gender into their work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Regulation for the Gender Budget Line Creation of a Brochure on 'Gender in EU Development Co-operation'. Review and provide input to the PRSPs and CSPs from a gender perspective Engendering of the sector guidelines particular in the areas of transport, macro-economic support, water, trade and use and management of natural resources. Assess the 10-12 most recent CSPs as to the mainstreaming of gender into the final draft and compare to a similar systematic exercise (40 CSPs) that took place last year Training planed for Heads of Unit and Desk Officers on 'Gender in EC Development Co-operation' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 2003 April 2003 Throughout 2003 March 2003 April 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In progress In progress In progress Done In progress

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
5.3	Environment Objective: To integrate the protection of the environment and sustainable management of natural resources in the definition and implementation of all Community development activities.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of environmental considerations into national and regional policies, all strategic plans and programmes of EC development co-operation, in particular CSPs and RSPs as well as indicative programmes, structural adjustment programmes and sector-wide reform and support programmes • Preparation of orientation (programming guidelines) for the "Environment and Tropical Forests" budget line for 2004/2005. • Improvement of environmental mainstreaming procedures and tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate integration of sustainable management of natural resources and environmental considerations into development co-operation policies/strategies and programmes/projects • Increased efficiency and consistency in relation to the objectives of integrating environmental concerns into development policy at operational level. • Final drafting and launch of the Environment Integration Manual (EIM) to produce a user friendly tool for staff in delegations and headquarters • Training of staff in EC and partner countries on environment policies/ procedures, MEAs in development policy, and on the EIM to ensure application of agreed procedures • Specialised technical assistance for mainstreaming environment into EC development policies, programmes and projects (helpdesk). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 • End 2003 • End 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done / to be reviewed in context MTRs. • In progress • In progress

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
6	SYNERGIES AND LINKS WITH OTHER POLICY AREAS			
6.1	Linking relief, rehabilitation and development			
Objective: Improving the Community's contribution to international efforts in post-crisis situations and developing a more coherent and effective approach to the link between relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD).				
	<p>Follow-up to COM(153) of April 2001:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of disaster preparedness in CSPs. • Analysis of the CSPs from a LRRD point of view for those countries where ECHO is phasing-out in 2003. • Deepen co-operation between AIDCO, DEV, RELEX and ECHO on LRRD implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECHO to focus on its core mandate • Allow clearer definitions of phase-in and phase-out measures • Availability of an appropriate framework for LRRD implementation. Enhance, where appropriate, precision and relevance on LRRD issues in the CSP. • Identify priority actions by country and by sector for timely LRRD implementation. • Ensure mutual complementarity of activities financed under the 'mainstream' financial instruments (EDF and Budget Lines) and ECHO's interventions. • Improved consultation and coordination among relevant services. • Joint plan for LRRD and DPP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003 • June 2003 • June 2003 • June 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • In progress • In progress • In preparation

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
6.2	Conflict prevention and peace building policies Objective: Improving the coherence and effectiveness of EU action in the field of conflict prevention in the developing countries through an approach based on long-term preventive action.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up to the Conflict Prevention Communication COM(2001)211. • Better integrate/mainstream conflict prevention into overall strategies toward partner countries (including development assistance). Indicative activities: conflict assessment missions, use of indicators and IQSG process, organisation of internal workshops/seminars. • Raise the effectiveness of our actions in tackling 'cross-cutting issues' such as trafficking in drugs or arms, trade in illicit goods, environmental degradation. Indicative activities: conflict assessment missions, emphasis on coherence in Country Strategy papers. • Further develop our ability to respond rapidly to crisis. Indicative activities: improved early warning capacity, Commission crisis room, use of the Rapid Reaction Mechanism for quick fund disbursement, refocus the work of the EC supported Conflict Prevention Network. • Promote international cooperation with governments, international organisations and civil society including 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressively develop conflict prevention analysis in Country Strategy Papers and integrate appropriate measures in co-operation programmes in the countries concerned. • Improve the EU's response to crisis & post-crisis situations (repeated from 6.1) • Improved coherence of action in the field in crisis situations with UN and other agencies • Ensuring that early warning indicators, which have been developed, translate into early action • Improved support to EC action on security sector and DDR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003 • In context MTRs • Continuous • 2003 • 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Ongoing • Ongoing • In progress • Ongoing

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	UN, OECD, Council of Europe, OSCE and G8. Indicative activities: European regional conference on peace building; coordination of Commission representation in various multilateral forums, active participation in follow up to Johannesburg and in G8 efforts to encourage countries in conflict to create the necessary conditions for them to enter the HIPC process as soon as possible.			
6.3 Migration and development				
	<p>Follow up to Communication on 'Integrating migration issues in the European Union's relations with third countries' (December 2002):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working paper on guidelines and best practices to address migration issues in CSPs; • Propose legal basis for specific budget line on co-operation with third countries in the field of migration. • Make further progress on implementation of Art. 13 Cotonou. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate integration of migration issues in development policy and support the developmental dimension of migrating flows. • Ensure policy coherence as well as complementarity and consistency of financial instruments. • Introduce the various aspects and dimensions of migration as an additional element in EU/ACP political dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2003 • July 2003 • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be done • In progress • Ongoing

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
6.4	External dimension of global environmental issues Objective: Ensure commitment of developing countries to the obligations deriving from Multilateral Environmental Agreements.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the international debate in relation to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (Climate Change, Biodiversity, Desertification, Wastes and Chemicals) and exploration of synergies between Conventions • Follow up to EC strategy on climate change in the context of development co-operation • Implementation of the Biodiversity Action Plan in the area of economic and development co-operation (adopted in March 2001), particularly actions 3, 8 and 11. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basis for the follow-up and input to EU initiatives on environment/development strengthened, including implementation activities related to DCs and LDCs • Increased attention on the impact of climate change in developing countries and the provision of a strategic framework for the effective integration of climate change related concerns into national and regional development frameworks • Biodiversity issues more firmly integrated into sector policies and strategies; in-house capacities and awareness strengthened. • Prepare contribution to the interim report of the implementation of the EC Biodiversity Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2003 • Throughout 2003 • Throughout 2003 • July 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • To be reviewed in context MTR • To be reviewed in context MTR. • In progress
6.5	Information society Objective: Mobilising the potential of Information Communication Technologies as part of strategy to foster economic growth and to fight poverty in developing countries.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Commission Communication and Council Conclusions on ICTs (Information and Communications Technologies) for Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote use of information and communications as tool for development, and support capacity-building to promote appropriate policy environment to allow access to and use of information and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication on World summit on Information Society-WSIS • ICT component of 9th EDF RIP, ACP Program • Mainstreaming of ICTs in the regional programming. • Commitment of Budget Line 623 on ICT and energy • ICT Member States Experts group • Development of Commission internal guidelines for mainstreaming ICTs in development work. • Remote Sensing 	<p>communications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the key issues for the EU, in preparation for coordination of EU positions in the preparatory process and the summit on the basis of Council and EP agreed orientations. • Facilitate the transition from programming to implementation of the ICT component in six RIPs and the launch of the ACP study • Refined tools to ensure that information and communications do help the poor and the marginalized • Preparation of Order for Service to AIDCO • Contribution for coherence and complementary between EC and MS activities (convene two meetings of the EC/MS experts group) • Production of guidelines to assist EC officials to promote use of ICTs as tool for development and to support capacity-building to promote appropriate policy environment • Launch African Monitoring of Environment for Sustainable Development initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication tabled by May. Council conclusions by September • Draft financing proposals ready by December. • Continuous activity • April 2003 • 1st meeting: January; 2nd meeting Fall. • 1st draft March. Final guidelines available middle of the year • Feasibility study ready by October 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In preparation • In progress • Ongoing • Started • Pending • In preparation • Consultancy contract done

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
6.6	Organised crime and terrorism Objective: Prevent transnational organised crime and terrorism as part of a targeted EU contribution to wider international efforts (G8, UNCTC, FATF)..			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring security issues to dialogue with partner countries at regional, sub-regional and national level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security issues integrated into development co-operation in a way which is compatible with a development agenda and partner countries' development priorities • Appropriate areas for assistance identified, in particular support to UNSCR 1373 implementation and relevant international instruments (UN Conventions and protocols) ratification and implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing

PART II. PRINCIPLES AND WORKING METHODS

Code	Action undertaken / planned	Expected results	Indicative timetable	Progress status
7	<p>STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIP AND PROMOTING OWNERSHIP</p> <p>Objective: The partner country's ownership of its development strategy is key to the success of development co-operation. It is therefore necessary to deepen the dialogue and ensure coherence between domestic policies and Community support programmes. Dialogue will also serve to ensure the conditions for efficient co-operation with particular focus on capacity-building and good governance. This will promote transparent and responsible management of all resources devoted to development.</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC co-operation strategies to be based on policy dialogue and increased role of partner countries in programming • Deconcentration, devolution and/or decentralisation in the framework of the reform of the management of external aid. • Increase the recourse to sectoral programmes to be co-ordinated by the partner country. • Where the conditions allow, transition towards direct budgetary support to be favoured as one among other possible funding mechanisms for sectoral programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partner country's own development strategy, also agreed with other major players (PRSP where it exists) to be the basis for EC development co-operation programmes. • Increased responsibility of the partner country in the management of EC aid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programming cycle. • 2003 • 2003 • 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • In progress • In progress • In progress

8	PROMOTING PARTICIPATION OF NON STATE ACTORS Objective: To encourage wide-ranging participation of and ownership by all segments of society in the development process with a view to creating conditions for greater equity, for inclusion of the poor in the benefits of economic growth and for strengthening the democratic fabric of society. This approach must be implemented whilst respecting the diverse and complementary roles of the State, local authorities, economic and social partners, the private sector, and civil society in all its forms.			
8.1	Work and dialogue with European NGOs			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodic dialogue (twice a year) between representatives of European NGOs and the EC Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Affairs. • Ad-hoc meetings between European NGOs and Commission Services on specific topics (relations with new NGO confederation (CONCORD), trade, linking relief, rehabilitation and development). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved mutual understanding. • Better integration of NGOs' experiences and practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting: May 2003 • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • Ongoing
8.2	Promoting participatory approaches in development co-operation			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up to the Communication on civil society in EC development co-operation. • Drafting of practical guidelines for EC delegations on operational procedures on non-State actors' access to funds under Cotonou provisions. • Updating the quantitative and qualitative assessment of the way civil society was involved in the consultation process for the programming of the 9th EDF in ACP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased contribution of non-state actors to the setting of strategic priorities, to the implementation of EC co-operation programmes and to the consolidation of the democratic process in partner countries. • Relevant Cotonou provisions implemented. Non-state actors capacities increased. • Mobilisation of existing competence within civil society and support for the creation of new competencies, improved complementarity of action with public authorities and with the EC, on the basis of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting of guidelines for all developing regions for an effective participation of Non-state actors and capacity building support: first half of 2003. • Operational guidelines to be disseminated to services and delegations by mid 2003. • 47 final CSPs were reviewed in 2002. The assessment will continue in 2003. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • In progress • In progress

	countries.	value added and relevant skills/interests.		
9 ENSURING CO-ORDINATION AND COMPLEMENTARITY WITH MEMBER STATES AND OTHER DONORS Objective: Improving international co-ordination and moving towards a division of labour at the level of country support strategies with a view to increasing aid efficiency, while encouraging the partner country in its leading role in coordinating the collective efforts of all donors. Increased coordination within the Union. Whenever possible EU to speak with one voice in international fora.				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reach concrete steps in the co-ordination of policies and the harmonisation of procedures at EU level before 2004 Stronger operational co-ordination with other donors Implementation of the 2001 communication on UN-EC relations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal by the Task Force on co-ordination and Harmonisation of an Action Plan at general level, in four pilot countries and in the food crisis in Ethiopia. Strengthening of the implementation of guidelines for operational co-ordination: increasing number of joint actions for studies, analyses and evaluation, increased exchanges of information and to further harmonisation in the phasing and timing of the programming process between the Commission and Member States. Improved coordination with Member States through Management Committees. Contribute to the international High level Forum on Harmonisation (with DBs and OECD/DAC). Identification of areas of potential co-operation and joint actions in the field with Japan and Norway. Improved cooperation and visibility of EC in projects with World Bank Group. Selection of "strategic UN partners" with whom dialogue on programming and policy- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreement at GAERC in May 2003 Evaluation of the 3Cs February 2003 2003 2003 Selection should be completed for March 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In progress In progress Done In progress Ongoing In progress

		making could be strengthened		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More active presence and input of the EC into different governing bodies of the UN entities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing
10	IMPROVING POLICY COHERENCE			
	Objective: Ensure that Community development policy objectives are taken into account in the formulation and implementation of other policies affecting the developing countries. Equally, in accordance with the Treaty, coherence between development policy and other EC policy objectives has to be ensured.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy coherence in country programming: CSPs shall include a section on coherence, in which the 'EC policy mix' in the partner country is examined. • Active contribution to the reform process of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) • Close follow-up and provision of input to the review process of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) • Develop methodologies for systematic sustainability impact assessment of EC initiatives in the social, environment and economic fields. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC policy mix systematically considered in CSPs. • Moving towards increased coherence between development policy and the Common Fisheries and Agricultural Policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003 • 2003 • 2003 • 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing, also in context of MTRs. • Ongoing • Ongoing • Ongoing
11.	IMPROVING THE SPEED OF DELIVERY AND QUALITY OF EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE			
11.1	Strengthening the programming process			
	Objective: The reform of the management of external aid includes a radical overhaul of the approach to programming to reflect policy objectives and priorities. Multi-annual programming of Community external aid will be given greater substance to ensure the right "policy-mix" for each country or region in terms of policy and Community instruments. The policy dialogue with beneficiary countries is considered as a key element in the process.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the work within the inter-services Quality Support Group (iQSG), 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the methodology and tools available for country strategy drafting and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of improved programming tools: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress

	<p>established in 2001. The iQSG assesses draft country and regional strategies to ensure consistent high quality of CSPs; it is also collecting and disseminating “best practices”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisation of the feed-back following the review of multi-annual programming documents. 	<p>reviews, including identification of best practice examples and development of tools e.g. for mainstreaming of gender and environmental issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Commission contribution to the Country Analytic Work Joint Website 	<p>2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to the CAW Joint Website: first half of 2003 • Identification and dissemination of best practices: 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In preparation • In progress
11.2	<p>Unifying the management of the project cycle within EuropeAid Co-operation Office</p> <p>Objective: Improve speed and quality of aid implementation by unifying the project cycle, from identification to evaluation.</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to improve implementation following the creation of EuropeAid Cooperation Office in 2001. • A quality support system has been set up in DG AIDCO. It comprises a Quality Support Group (QSG) and a Thematic Network in important fields. • Development of implementation guidelines on important areas, such as sector approaches in trade, education and health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More coherent and efficient management of aid programmes. • High quality standards applied across all stages of programme design and implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout 2003. • Draft guidelines: February 2003. The guide on budgetary aid is complete. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • Operational • Done
11.3	<p>Reforming the respective roles of Member States and Commission (“comitology” practices)</p> <p>Objective: Refocus the work of the committees towards more strategic and sectoral policy issues.</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue efforts to streamline and harmonise “comitology” procedures for all regular EC external aid instruments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved platform for policy guidance from Member States. • More upstream strategic discussion in committees and less involvement in micro-management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission proposals are being submitted each time the respective regulation is to be revised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress

11.4	Deconcentration of tasks and responsibilities to EC Delegations in third countries Objective: Improve relevance, effectiveness and speed of aid delivery through deconcentration.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define a deconcentration operational concept responding to the principle that “Everything that can be better managed or decided close to the field should not be managed or decided in Brussels” done by March 2001. Agree resources and action plan to strengthen the 31 third wave Delegations. Mobilise necessary resources (human, telecom, computer, technical, budgetary) in 31 third wave Delegations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 78 Delegations manage EC external Aid according to the agreed concept by end 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st phase: 21 Delegations in 2001 2nd phase: 26 Delegations in 2002 3rd phase: 31 Delegations in 2003 By April 2003 By end 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Done Done In progress To be done In preparation
11.5	Strengthening the evaluation function Objective: Further developing evaluation with a view to learning more from the lessons of the past and to developing a results-oriented approach.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of annual indicative programme by EuropeAid Board. Annual programmes adapted consequently. Implement framework contract to support the development, testing and dissemination of evaluation methodologies applicable to instruments of external co-operation and covering ex-ante, intermediary and ex-post evaluation. Set up a procedure on the feedback of evaluations reports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sectoral or thematic evaluations available on time. Reinforcement of quality and methodology. Reinforcement of the lessons learned from evaluations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 2003 Throughout 2003 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Done In progress In progress

11.6	Reducing the number of instruments and simplify procedures Objective: Address the fragmentation of development aid instruments. Over time harmonising the operation of financing instruments, starting with the inclusion in the budget of the EDF combined with a reduction and a regrouping of the existing budget headings around some central topics.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDF instruments have been rationalised under the Cotonou Agreement. Furthermore previous EDFs will be merged with the 9th EDF. The same holds for the OCTs. • Reduce number of budget lines (from 70). • Implementation of the Practical Guide to EC external aid contract procedures. • Implementation of the new Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the EC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better use of available financial resources, increased consistency in implementation, reduced delays in spending. • Reducing budget lines can improve effectiveness and coherence i.e. on thematic areas. This will be closely linked to improvement of the multi-annual programming of these budget lines as well as improving and standardising the reporting on results. • Increased transparency and rationalisation of contract procedures. • Simplified and improved management of Community funds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACP: implementation of Cotonou • Commission proposals rejected by EP. New proposals to be made during the first half of 2003 • Throughout 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partially done • In progress • In progress • Continuous
11.7	Further untying of EU aid Objective:			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further untying of EU aid, through the implementation of Communication COM(2002)639 of 18/11/2002 on 'Untying: enhancing the effectiveness of aid' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council conclusions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under discussion

12	IMPROVING INFORMATION Objective: Make public opinion aware of the challenges and objectives of European solidarity towards the developing countries. Informing Council, Parliament and other actors on the implementation of EC Development Policy Statement.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production and dissemination of information kits in relation to major events • Strengthen networks of press officers of EC delegations • Production of videos and TV-spots • Publication of brochures, magazine (The Courier) and website. • Programme of Action and Annual Report to Council and Parliament. • Collaboration in the implementation of the communications strategy for external assistance including 'messages' on external assistance and a focused campaign in the Member States (PRINCE). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of factual information on EC development cooperation for press and policy makers. • To provide Council and Parliament with the information needed to assess EC development policy. • Raise the level of awareness on external assistance amongst the EU public. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU-Africa Summit (April) / UN Summit on ICT and Development (December)/ Informal Development Council on Enlargement and Development (June) • Seminar (March) • March • Throughout 2003 • Programme of Action: May • Annual Report: July • Launched by July 2003, implementation in 2003-2004. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In preparation • Done • Done • In progress • Done • In progress • In preparation
13	PREPARING FOR ENLARGEMENT Objective: Ensure that the enlargement is well prepared in terms of development policies, aid delivery and working methods and that proper capacity building and awareness are established in the new Member States.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the impact of enlargement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification, introduction and monitoring of the "development acquis", including in terms of institutional framework, resources and financial commitments • Evaluation of the impact on trade with ACP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study completed in May 2003 • Study completed in June 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • In progress

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of the new Member States in terms of capacity building and active participation. 	<p>countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation of public awareness and support for development in the new Member States Implementation of common and co-ordinated actions by the EC and Member States in support of an integration of acceding countries into EU endeavours for development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study completed in June 2003 Launching of joint actions in first quarter 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In progress In progress
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