



From policies to programmes: the thematic programme CSOs and LAs

*European Commission, DEVCO Unit B2
Civil Society, Local Authorities*

Disclaimer

*It must be underlined **that DCI negotiations on the involvement of the co-legislators in programming are still on-going with the European Parliament and the Council.***

Therefore the discussions taking place in this forum may not prejudice their outcome, in particular concerning the specific objectives and priorities for each programme fixed in the Regulations themselves or in future delegated acts.

The Commission has also proposed to hold a Strategic dialogue with the European Parliament by which the latter will be able to exert an ex ante political control of the objectives, priorities and allocations to be included in the Multiannual Indicative Programmes before they are adopted.

Structure of the session

the thematic programme on CSOs and LAs

- Background - policies on Civil Society Organisations (2012) and on Local Authorities (2013)
- EU instruments and programmes (past and future)
- Building blocks of the future programme CSO-LA 2014-20

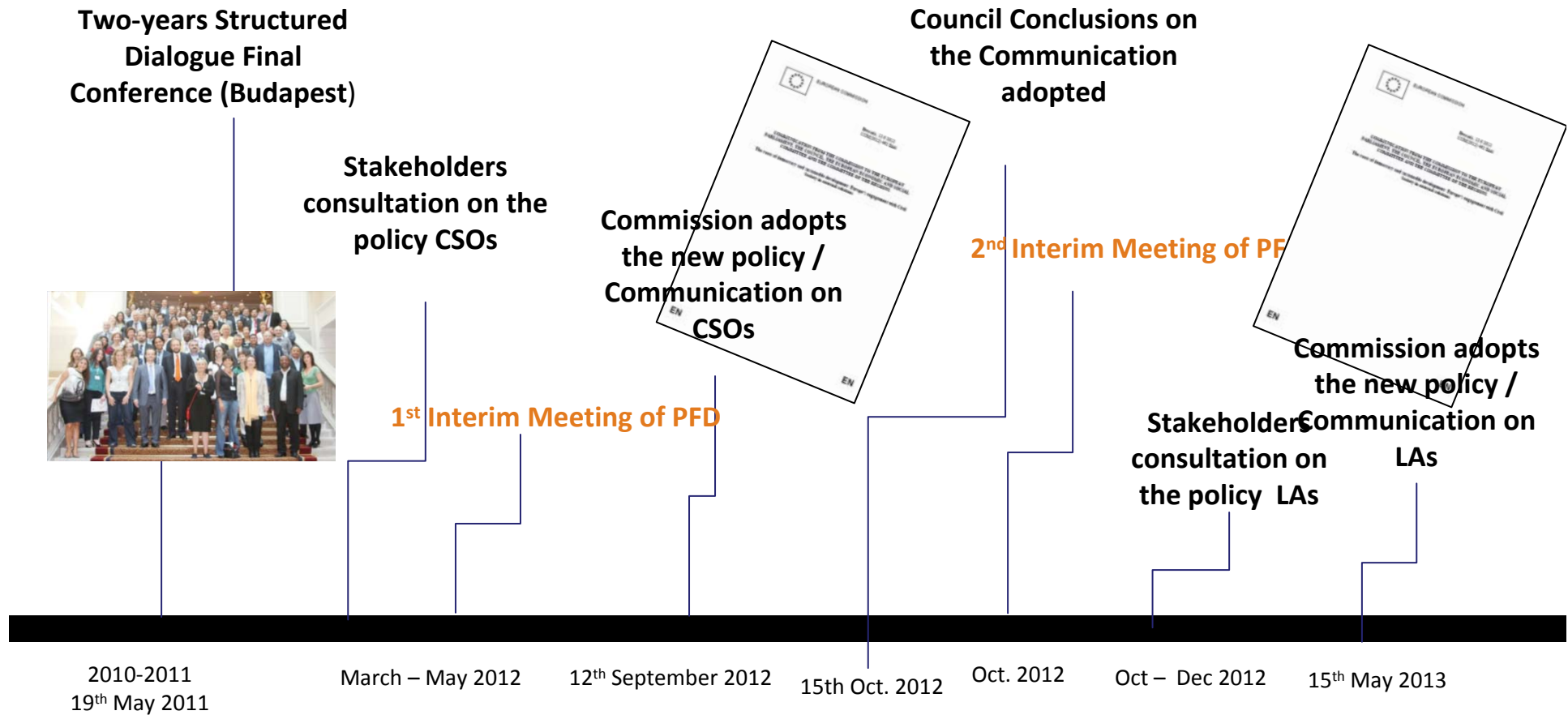
3 objectives / working groups : Country level*

Regional and Global level

**Development Education and
Awareness Raising**

- Towards EU roadmaps on CSO at country level*

timeline



I. The new EU policies

“The roots of democracy and sustainable development”

“Empowering Local Authorities in partner countries”

..and related Council Conclusions



The Policies

CSO: Coverage and priorities

- Support CSOs in Developing, Neighbourhood and Enlargement countries but also in Europe for DEAR initiatives
- In the long term, facilitate constructive relations between national authorities and CSOs in partner countries
- It applies to all EU RELEX instruments

1. Promoting a conducive environment for CSOs
2. Promoting meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in:
 - Domestic policy making
 - EU programming cycle;
 - International processes and debates.
3. Increasing the capacity of local CSOs to perform their roles more effectively.

LAs: Coverage and priorities

- **Multidimensional approach: from local to international**
- **It applies to all EU RELEX instruments**

Priority areas:

1. Support efforts of governments to create a conducive environment for LAs by enhancing political, administrative and fiscal autonomy of Local Authorities through decentralisation reforms,
2. LAs Capacity and institutional development
3. Special attention to sustainable urbanisation
4. Support to Associations of Local Authorities

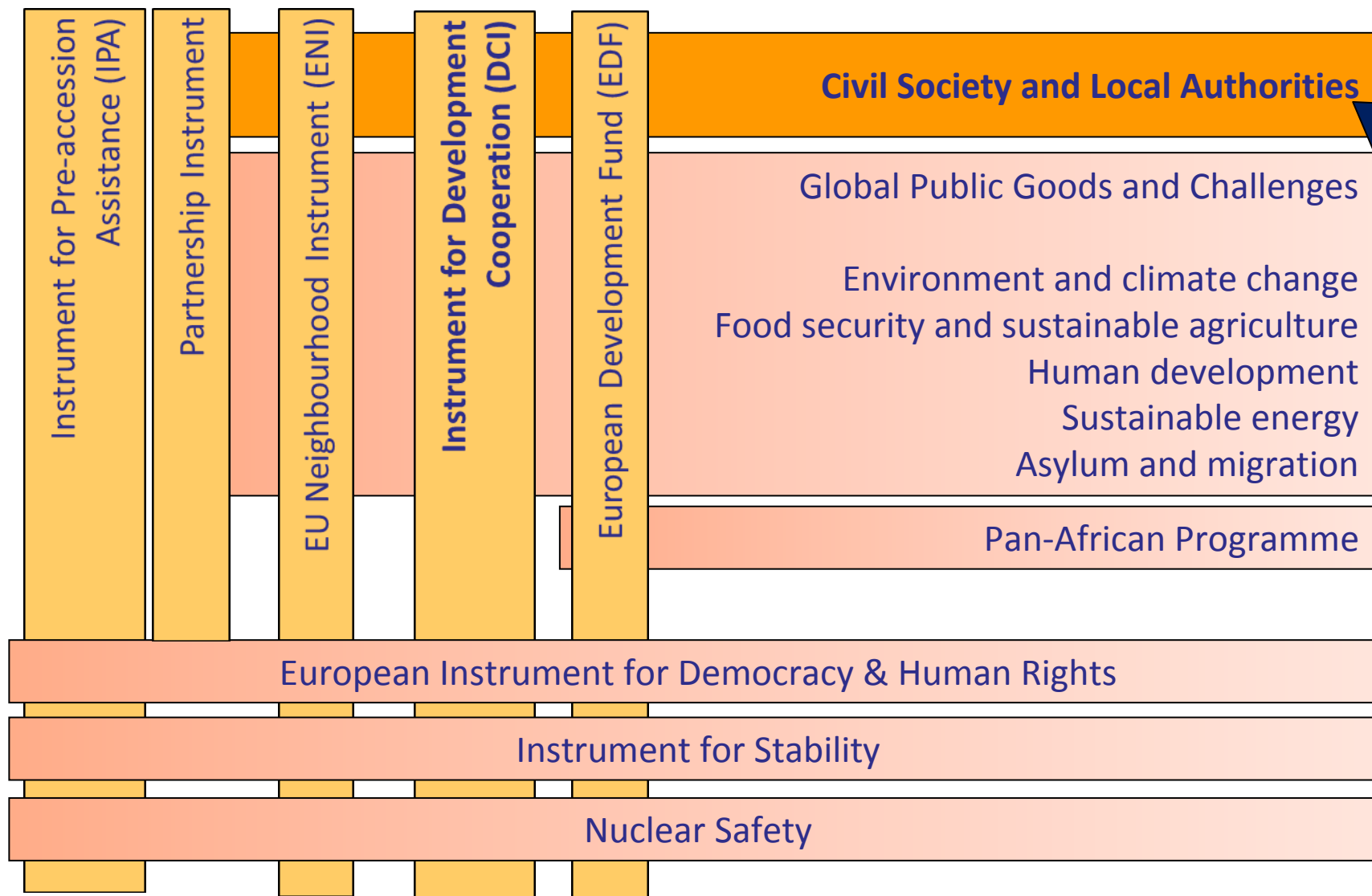
**I. Repercussions on the
new generation
of instruments and
programmes...**

**...and focus on the CSOs –
LAs thematic programme**



Programmes

Overview of proposed future Instruments (2014- 2020)



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Zoom-in

the future thematic
Programme
on CSOs and LAs



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NSA and LA: the predecessor

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- Running since 2007 (current MFF, until 2013)
- Overarching objective poverty reduction
- “actor-oriented” programme aimed at strengthening the capacity of CSOs and Las through support to their “own initiatives”.
- 3 components: country level + multi-country, DEAR and Coordination (networking in EU)
- Covered more than 80 countries in all regions + EU DEAR
- Opened up eligibility to local (non European CSOs)

NSA LA revisions and lessons learnt

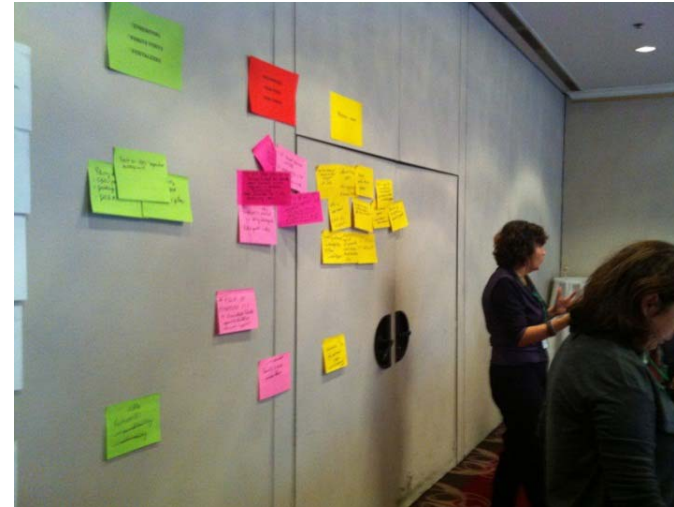
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- Mid Term review in 2009 (ex. improve predictability with indicative list of countries for 3y)
- SD recommendations 2010-11 (ex. on Alter-Funding Modalities, funding umbrella organisations, calls for regional networks, etc)
- Lessons learnt over implementation
- Final evaluation (ongoing)
- Policy Forum recommendations (Oct 2012)



October 2012: some preliminary recommendations from the interim Policy Forum

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October 2012 PFD

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- A preliminary working document circulated and discussed
- Also online consultation open to PFD participants



→ overall appreciation

- It builds on the momentum (gained both at EU and international level): CSOs and LAs recognised as development actors in their own right
- Comprehensive approach to CSOs and LAs
- Multi-level approach (national, regional, global)

→ recommendation

- Acknowledge connections and synergies
- Avoid 'black and white approaches'
- Acknowledge specificities (fragile/MIC countries)
- Reinforce links with Policy Forum
- etc.



The past...
Your recommendations...
And now?

The preparatory document for the
elaboration of the future thematic
programme on CSOs and LAs

Legal base: the (Draft) Development Cooperation Instrument

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The (draft) DCI should define:

- Its objectives
- Its geographical coverage
- Its characteristics, ex.:
 - *Independence*: Works without host country consent and also if there is no bilateral cooperation (either ended or suspended)
 - *Complementarity*: adds value to actions funded under the bilateral cooperation

NB: DCI negotiations on the involvement of the co-legislators in programming are still on-going with the European Parliament and the Council



Essential elements

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- Actor-based programme benefitting CSOs and LAs
- **Built upon policy commitments on CSOs and LAs and contributes to their full implementation**
- EC proposal: increase by 20% (€2 B for 2014-20)
- incorporate lessons learnt from the implementation of the NSA LA and from your inputs



Essential features (i)



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- **Comprehensive approach** to CSOs and LAs
- Global coverage
- Not subject to the differentiation criteria: active in LDCs, LICs, MICs and also in countries graduating from bilateral development assistance
- Maintains its independent nature
- Looks for synergies with other programmes
- **Multi-level approach**
(national, regional, global)

Essential features (iii)

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- Supports actions aimed at enabling CSOs and LAs to respond to populations needs and to participate in inclusive policy-making at all levels
- Will support actions initiated and directly implemented by CSOs and LAs and by other actors aimed at strengthening CSOs and LAs
- Provides a framework to overcome CSOs and LAs constraints (capacity, operational spaces, own governance and multilevel accountability including representativity)

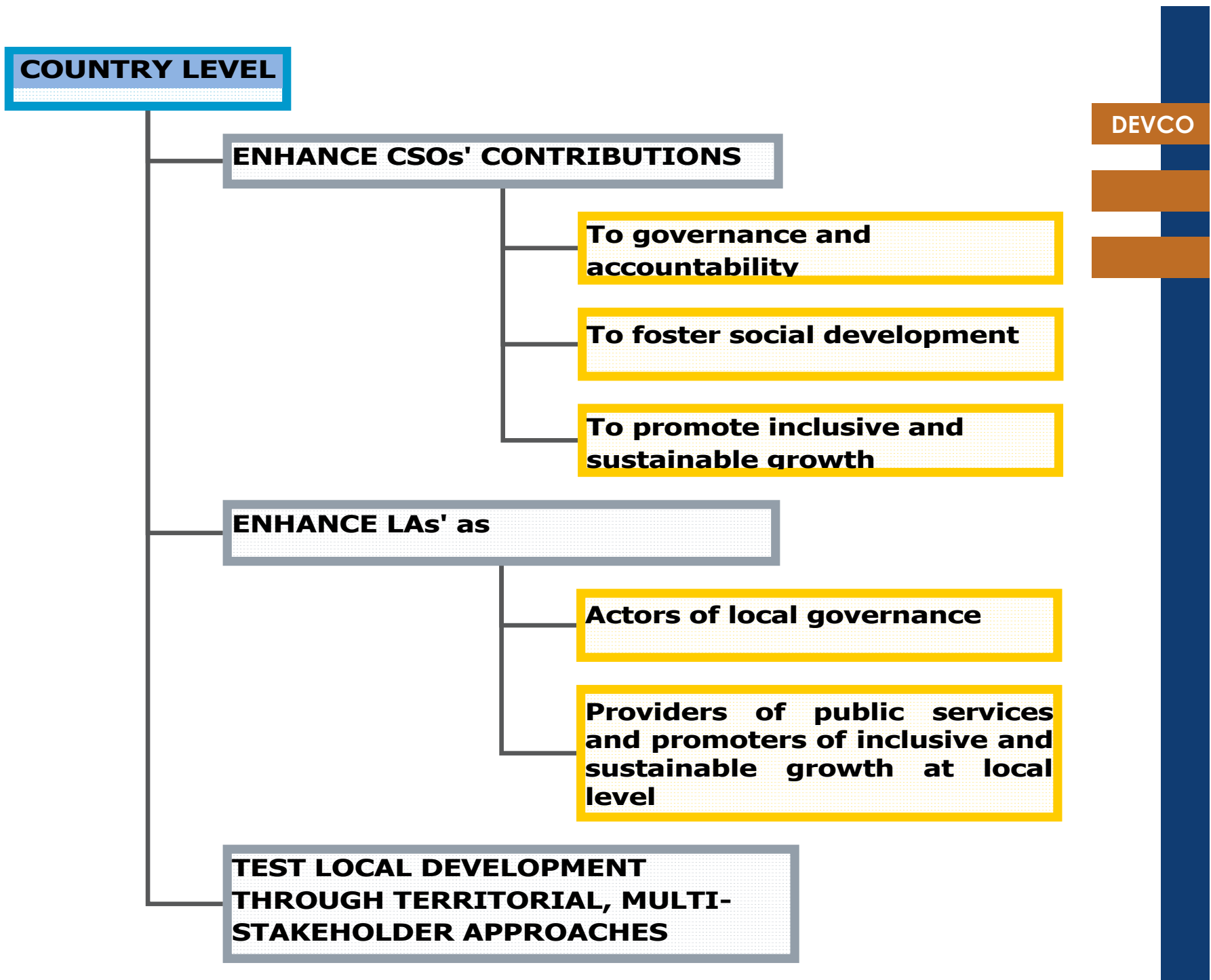
Thematic Programme CS/LAs priorities:

1. Focus on country level
2. Reinforcing regional and global CSO and LA networks to participate in policy dialogues.
3. Develop and support Development Education and Awareness Raising initiatives.

Cross cutting elements

- Enabling environment
- Building synergies on CSO and LA: multi-actor approaches and testing of innovative partnerships
- Foster coordination, to avoid fragmentation, duplication and parallel structures, particularly when it comes to delivering services to population
- Acknowledge the diversity of actors (TU, NGOs, Cooperatives, etc..)
- Fostering equitable partnerships EU / non EU
- Support the structuring of networks

- Focus on capacity development and community mobilization
- Consider all possible support modalities
- Knowledge generation is essential



Actions at Country level

- testing innovations and improving responsiveness of policies to populations' needs, through advocacy and participation to policy dialogue in the various sectors.
- contributing to the improvement of service quality stimulating informed demand and accountability initiatives, including using ICT
- improving capacities to participate in multi-actor partnerships
- Reinforcing service provision where there are limited capacity or resources to effectively deliver services
- **Country level actions linked to the elaboration of EU roadmaps of engagement with CSOs at country level**

Objective 2: Reinforcing regional and global CSO and LA networks notably to dialogue on development issues

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- Objective: strengthening transnational, regional and global civil society and Local Authorities networks, platforms and alliances to enhance their effective contributions to international dialogues on development issues.
- Focus will be on
 - i) strengthening their representativeness and capacities to effectively link local realities to regional and global debates and
 - ii) supporting their networking initiatives, which will allow them, to join forces and act as strategic partners for key policy makers.

Objective 3: DEAR - Development Education and Awareness Raising

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- developing citizens' awareness and critical understanding of the interdependent world, of their role and responsibility in relation to a globalised society; and to support their active engagement with global attempts to eradicate poverty and promote justice, human rights and democracy, social responsibility, gender equality, and a sustainable social-economic development in partner countries.
 - Raise public awareness and mobilise the public regarding development issues on a European scale
 - Promote development education to contribute to making "development" an issue systematically addressed in educational systems

Calendar and next steps

- In the PFD → WGs
- All Delegations have received the note of instruction for the programming 2014-2017
 - EUDs to start identifying areas of intervention for the next 4 years - linked to the Country roadmaps
 - Consulting CSOs and LAs, and donors (including MS)
 - By the 30 September



Your voice matters!

Send your contributions and comments

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- For Regional and global level:
 - To Karina Chircu and Salima Chitalia
 - Before the 15 July
- For DEAR:
 - to Markus Pirchner and Christine Lamarque
 - Before the 15 July
- For Country level and Roadmaps:
 - Positions/comments to E. Pasquini and Marina Juan Oliva
 - Before the 30 September

**Get mobilized at country level
and within your constituency !**



THANK YOU