**Country Joint Programming Factsheet**

***Regional workshop on Joint Programming for Asia***

* *Factsheet* ***to be completed by EU Delegation together with EU******MS*** *(max 2 pages)*
* *Consolidated version* ***to be submitted by the EU Delegation*** *to* [*EuropeAid-A2@ec.europa.eu*](mailto:EuropeAid-A2@ec.europa.eu) *and* [*VI-B2@eeas.europa.eu*](mailto:VI-B2@eeas.europa.eu)***by 17 April 2015****. Factsheet will be used during the seminar.*

1. **Country:** Bangladesh
2. **General expectations for workshop**

- Exchange of lessons learnt best practices on the strategic country JP development.

- Exchange of ideas on how to operationalize and monitor the JP so that is does not become a document to shelve.

- Exchange ideas on how to use joint programming for enhanced policy dialogue and joint advocacy.

- Going beyond strategy: How do we go from Joint programming to joint programmes where appropriate?

1. **Status of Joint Programming in your country**

- Embarking on joint programming is based on voluntary participation by member states.

- The process includes EU Member States (Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, UK), Norway and Switzerland. Coordination ensured by EU Delegation with the helpdesk support.

- The EU+ Roadmap for developing a joint analysis and response was agreed by development Counsellors in February 2013:

* Joint analysis of partner country’s development strategy (Five Year Plan FYP, Vision 2021) included joint Political Economy Analysis, Country Gender Profile, Civil Society Mapping, and Country Environmental Profile.
* Scenario planning and risk assessment.
* EU+ Shared Vision of development challenges, opportunities and priorities in Bangladesh endorsed by HoMs and shared with Economic Relations Division.

- EU+ Joint Programming is complementary to the existing government/development partners' coordination mechanism that takes place in the Local Consultative Groups (LCGs). EU and MS are sharing the coordination workload and meetings' attendance when possible and prepare EU common positions when relevant to present one front to the LCG discussions.

- Joint programming for better and coordinated policy dialogue with the government:

* In 2014, it was decided to focus on quality dialogue at sector level and coordinate common views and positions in preparation of the 7th FYP discussions.
* Sectors were selected according to EU+ group involvement in the Local Consultative Group (coordination mechanisms between development partners and government), human resource capacity and scope for enhanced dialogue in the framework of 7FYP.
* EU facilitators were identified to coordinate EU common positions and messages (Denmark for agriculture, EU for Human Rights, civil society, nutrition, environment and climate change, resilience, France-AFD/UK for urban development, Germany for energy, Netherlands for water, UK for PFM and poverty, Sweden for gender, Switzerland for skills development). HoMs endorsed sectors' priorities and messages in December 2014.
* Interim Joint Programming document was drafted.

- Joint Country Evaluation of the development cooperation of Denmark, Sweden and the European Union covering the period 2007-2013 was launched end of 2014. Inception report is available. Draft final report will be submitted in May.

1. **Key challenges ahead *(to be taken into account for workshop session on 'Identification of operational challenges’)*:**

- Different understanding of what joint programming is.

- Joint programming complementarity to bilateral programming exercises

- Fluctuant motivation and leadership of the participants

- Consultation and participation of government and key stakeholders has been done in a piecemeal way and should be better coordinated.

1. **Challenges overcome:**

- Synchronisation of EU and Member States programming cycles to the government 5 year plan can be done in a flexible way and does not require timeframe alignment. Respective programming cycles can adapt to government five year plans in various ways (including mid-term review, interim period…).

1. **Lessons learnt:**

- Concrete and effective to identify key sectors to apply the JP in particular for advocacy purposes

- There is a consensus that joint analysis is a good and necessary starting point for JP and should lead to common strategic visions of EU and MS development cooperation objectives in the country.

- The most effective JP is at sector level and during the design of co-funded programmes (e.g. Chittagong Hills Tracts, nutrition…) where most of the policy dialogue happens.

- JP is also sharing workload in the country coordination system (Local Consultative Group at sector level can be followed by one EU or MS lead)

- Key role of EU and MS Heads of Cooperation who should lead the process and monitor progress at sector level

1. **Element for next steps *(as starting point for workshop 'Joint Programming individual country sessions'):***

- Consultation process of partners (civil society, private sector…) and in particular pro-active involvement of GoB, etc…

- Alignment to GoB 7FYP mid 2015: EU MIP starts in 2014 on a transitory phase and will be amended, if needed, mid 2015, to adapt the response to the 7th FYP. Other MS will align when own cycle permits.

- By mid-2015, finalise a Joint programming document – equivalent to strategic paper that will be followed by MS implementation plans and indicate multi-annual financial allocation per sector and MS.

- Develop a Common Development Result Framework, monitoring and evaluation in line with 7FYP DRF.

- Develop a communication strategy for advocacy events at sector level (service contract under the MIP support measures)

- Prioritise jointly designed and funded programmes, joint missions and evaluation