**Country Joint Programming Factsheet - Pakistan**

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

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

Learn from experiences of other EU Member States (EU-MS) in other countries of the region concerning harmonization and synchronizing of EU-MS strategy building and budget planning cycles in order to create entry point for phasing in Joint Programming.

Learn from other experiences how EUM have been able to overcome difficulties linked to the lack of compatibility in fund management.

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

- A Head of Missions' report issued in 2013 expressed the will to implement joint programming (see in annex)

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- Nonetheless, since this statement, two Member States have launched their bilateral cooperation programming cycle, to be ended at the end of 2015.

- Each year there is a joint reporting EU-MS "AFPAK" (global, including cooperation, humanitarian, Human Rights, democracy…), following this year the structure of the joint commission.

- Currently, an evaluation of the Cooperation EU-Pakistan is underway, with conclusions to be available at the end of 2015; the Terms of Reference have been designed in order to provide conclusions and recommendations for a closer cooperation with EU-MS

Medium-term introduction of Joint Programming envisaged, road-map for phasing in however not yet worked out, many co-financings between EU-MS/EU-DEL on project level (see point 6)

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

- The size of ODA to Pakistan overall is small 1-2% of GDP and limited government interest/incentives in coordination.

- Not all MS have ODA to Pakistan and the size and scope of the support varies from donor to donor.

- Strong national agendas, many EU-MS are just introducing new cooperation strategies with Pakistan, planning cycles are not aligned, difficult to find entry point to JP

- It can be difficult to align management policies and practices and expectations – e.g. fund management requirements vary by donor which can make practical delivery of JP difficult.

1. **Challenges overcome:**

Ongoing regular exchange and close coordination on project and political levels between EU-MS, joint messaging vis-à-vis Federal Government of Pakistan, Provinces, other international partners/community of donors.

Opportunities to align programming where sought to add value by working together. Key areas of cooperation on elections, education and supporting development in conflict affected regions of Pakistan through a World Bank Multi-Donor Trust Fund have proved to be successful ways of working jointly.

1. **Lessons learnt:**

Need to keep co-financing as instrument for cooperation, need for phased approach (sector and time-wise) and definition of realistic milestones. Coordination through regular EU Development counsellors meetings allows for sharing of information and coordination on policy issues.

Currently, in our ongoing portfolio, there is an on-going cooperation on the fields of:

(1) Good Governance, Human Rights, Democracy and Rule of Law:

- Project "support to Human Rights and Democratic Institutions" EU Denmark

- Elections: EU+UK/DFID (joint scoping exercise recently completed)

- Rule of Law – Punjab: EU, UK

- STRIVE: EU, UK, Germany

(2) Education/TVET

- Sector Budget Support Education in KP: EU, UK/DFID

- Technical and Vocational Education and Training: EU with Germany, Netherlands

(3) Local Development

- FATA programme "Assistance to Uprooted People" EU, Germany

 (4) Energy

 - Munda, Mangla, Kheyal Khwar: EU, Germany, AFD, EIB

(5) Recovery and Sustainable Development in Conflict Affected Regions

* Multi-donor Trust Fund (World Bank) : EU, DK, DFID, DE
1. **Element for next steps *(as starting point for workshop 'Joint Programming individual country sessions'):***

- Share learning to improve existing areas of cooperation.

- Agree upon roadmap and timeline for considering where further JP may be feasible taking into account individual donors’ planning cycles and potentially progress to a better phasing.

- Joint sector programming as a piloting and initial step? For example in those sectors where we have already seen good cooperation and joint EU interests? (e.g. elections, TVET)

- Flag Climate Change as a cross cutting topic and a specific dimension within EU and MS programmes as much as possible.