



DEVCO **Environment** **Week 2017**

CONCLUSIONS

6-10 February 2017 – Brussels, Belgium

SESSION 1: A NEW POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR EU INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Director-General of DG DEVCO (MANSERVISI):

*“10 billion people living a European lifestyle by 2050 would require 2 planets,
we need to **change our consumption and production**”*

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Paris Agreement are breakthrough agreements, with truly **global agendas and shared responsibilities** and implications for the way we conceive Development Cooperation.

Begin implementation of the agendas with the right action: **engage in policy dialogue** - rather than jumping into projects and financing – and support mainstreaming of the shared commitments into national policies

We need to **translate the new agendas and challenges** into relevant action, and tell our story why this is *‘the right thing to do’*

SESSION 1: A NEW POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR EU INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



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Director-General of DG Environment (CALLEJA-CRESPO):

*“Good news: there is a sense of change,
global consciousness of challenges and readiness for action”*

Priorities:

1. SDGs are universal and require ***mainstreaming of environmental challenges*** across policies and programmes.
2. A ***circular economy and green growth*** are the future.
3. Ecosystems are on the verge of collapsing; ***biodiversity needs to be mainstreamed*** across sectors; EU is leading through Action Plans on Wildlife Trafficking and FLEGT.
4. A need to step up efforts to ***reduce pollution and develop Green Cities***.
5. **Climate Change and natural resource challenges** (water, desertification) are connected with migration and resilience; they require a holistic approach.

SESSION 1: A NEW POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR EU INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Steven Stone (Chief of Economics and Trade Branch UNEP):

*“We need to change **our definition of economic success**, away from GDP only, towards investing in **sustainable development**, recognizing the value of nature and accounting for environmental costs.”*

Build on country efforts to green and develop innovative partnerships

SESSION 2: GREEN ECONOMY – FROM PILOTING TO SCALING UP

“Over 65 countries globally are pursuing green growth or green economy strategies...”



SESSION 2: GREEN ECONOMY – FROM PILOTING TO SCALING UP

1. The framework for EU cooperation on green economy is in place
2. EU GE programmes are relevant and show results; **impact variable** from one country to another
3. **EU's added value?** Share its experience, use its market and standards, mobilise investments
4. **Recommendations:** Better measurement and evidence; narratives; dialogue; coordination
5. **Follow up opportunities:** Dissemination of evaluation findings, S2G indicators, briefs on EU experience

SESSION 3: ENHANCING ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MAINSTREAMING

- ✓ Environmental sustainability and climate action are at the heart of the **Sustainable Development Agenda**:
 - people, planet, prosperity, peace, partnerships
- ✓ Under the new agenda **mainstreaming is not optional**
- ✓ **“I am not a donor”** – environmental sustainability & climate action is part of our political agenda and interest, which we must promote
- ✓ **Policy dialogue** is powerful to engage with partner countries on sustainability and climate change. It must be accompanied by action



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DEVCO
« World Café »

SESSION 3: ENHANCING ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MAINSTREAMING

- ✓ The **Mid-Term Review** is an unique opportunity to ensure further alignment of MIPs with environmental sustainability and climate policy commitments. We need to act quickly!
- ✓ **Everyone has a role** to play for effective mainstreaming
- ✓ Mainstreaming is mainly about **having the right mindset**. As well, DEVCO can provide technical support
- ✓ **Ownership** of mainstreaming efforts by partners is fundamental. We should be **supporting national mainstreaming** initiatives
- ✓ The **External Investment Plan** opens opportunities and must be used for promoting sustainable investments

SESSION 4: FLEGT AND FORESTS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL AGENDA

- ✓ Forests > FLEGT action plan > Voluntary Partnership Agreements > licenses
- ✓ VPAs are a powerful instrument to spur governance reforms, or could also provide elements to promote sustainability of other commodities, but in an enabling environment.
- ✓ Some elements for an enabling environment for VPAs:
 - ✓ Active civil society
 - ✓ High level political support
 - ✓ Interested private sector (EUTR is an incentive)
 - ✓ Transparency
 - ✓ Committed and resilient people (in EU and in partner country)
- ✓ Need to develop alternative engagement modalities on forest governance (when VPA are not the most appropriate one)

SESSION 4: FLEGT AND FORESTS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL AGENDA

- ✓ Forests are entry points to contribute to poverty reduction, climate change, growth and employment, and several SDG – and reciprocally.
- ✓ Deforestation in many regions needs to be addressed through its main driver: agricultural expansion and land use – with a specific approach in the case of EU consumption of agricultural commodities.
- ✓ A landscape approach is relevant, to take into account the multiple dimensions of forest services.

SESSION 4: FLEGT AND FORESTS CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL AGENDA

"FLEGT licenses are not the end, nor the beginning of the end, but the end of the beginning". Giovanni Serritella (on the importance of recognising all the transformational results of a VPA).

"We work for free". Franck Viault (on the large amount of political dialogue and technical work of EC staff required to advance VPAs, in addition to financial support).

SESSION 5: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

“We are demonstrating that livestock and wildlife can exist in the same economy; that wildlife and conservation can bring stability; securing a future for wildlife in a connected landscape; transforming lives to give a sense of purpose, improved wellbeing and economic development. And finally, reconnecting people with wildlife in ways that resonate with their cultural history.”

Mike Harrison, Northern Rangelands Trust, Kenya

Water shared: “People who produce water, share it; people who benefit from water, share the benefits,”

Natalia Araujo, Fundacion Natura Bolivia

“We cannot make progress on oceans unless we make progress on other SDGs and vice versa.”

Mette Wilkie, UNEP

“Transfrontier conservation allows you to expand the area over which you do conservation, can contribute to economies of scale, security and regional integration.” *Conrad Aveling, B4Life Facility*

SESSION 5: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

CONCLUSIONS

- We are facing the sixth mass extinction in the history of Earth. The last was 65 million years ago. Now we – humans - are causing the 6th. And things are going to get worse before they get better.
- Protected areas have to be at the centre of any strategic approach. But so do people. We therefore have to intervene in large functioning landscapes that contain important protected areas and viable multi-resource use areas linking them.



SESSION 5: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

CONCLUSIONS

- Building constituencies with local communities is key; and peace and security are a precondition for effective land management and conservation.
- Civil society can rapidly mobilise public support and diplomatic pressure for conservation.
- We must address demand for wildlife products, but unless we urgently stop the killing and trafficking there will be no wildlife left.



SESSION 6: EMERGING ISSUES AND CONCLUSION

*“environmental factors (...are...) already embedded
in the global migration dynamics...”*



SESSION 6: EMERGING ISSUES AND CONCLUSION

Strengthening resilience and addressing migration - why environment matters

1. **Migration decision:** often made on the basis of the perception of environmental conditions not yet a reality
2. **Environmental migration drivers:** in many areas are the same with economic
3. **Future trends:** rising and changing demography, south-south, transit countries, migration more difficult, towards vulnerable regions
4. **Role of development policy interventions:** learn from best practices, environmental management, remittances and investments, urban planning (need for policy coherence)

Thank you!

