

DEVCO Week on Environment

Implementing the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

2015 marked a defining year. Besides the Paris Climate Agreement adopted in December 2015, world leaders adopted a new global sustainable development framework – the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and its associated 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – at the 70th UN General Assembly. The 2030 Agenda represents a commitment to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development by 2030 worldwide, ensuring that no one is left behind.

The 2030 Agenda integrates in a balanced manner the three dimensions of sustainable development – the economic, the social, and the environmental. While environment cuts across all the 17 goals, four of them focus specifically on terrestrial and marine ecosystems, climate change and sustainable consumption and production. The new agenda calls for enhanced efforts to promote environmental sustainability, the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, and the decoupling of environmental degradation from economic development. The recent Commission proposal for a **new European Consensus on Development** reflects a pro-active EU response to the SDGs, aligning EU development policy with the main orientations of the 2030 Agenda: *people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnership*.

The new **Global Strategy on the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy** sets out the EU's core principles and objectives for engaging in the world. It puts sustainable growth and jobs, resilience and migration, renewable energy and climate change, and security and development at the heart of EU global priorities. **This renewed policy agenda is an opportunity for the EU to move towards innovative forms of partnerships**, with a stronger emphasis on policy dialogue, blending and investment plans.

Unit DEVCO C2 promotes the **environmental dimension of the new sustainable development agenda**, across the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It supports efforts in **developing countries to preserve, enhance and sustainably use natural capital, strengthen environmental governance, achieve environmental sustainability, develop an inclusive green economy and implement relevant Multilateral Environment Agreements**. In coordination with DG Environment, it contributes to the external dimension of EU environment policies, notably by supporting international negotiations processes under the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (Cites), the Convention for Biodiversity (CBD) and the work of three international chemicals and waste Conventions.

C2 is responsible for supporting the **mainstreaming of environmental objectives in EU development cooperation** and for the programming and management of the environment component of the Global Public Goods and Challenges Programme (GPGC) under the Development Cooperation Instrument. The unit leads the design and coordinates the implementation of **three GPGC thematic flagships**: (1) Biodiversity for Life (B4Life), (2) Switch to Green, and (3) Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT).

The EU delegations are central to the fulfilment of our shared policy commitments on environment. Moreover, **the upcoming mid-term review of the Multiannual Indicative Programme** provides a key opportunity to strengthen the environmental dimensions of EU development cooperation.

On 26 February 2016, the European Commission adopted a Communication on the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking, which sets out a comprehensive blueprint for joined-up efforts to fight wildlife crime inside the EU, and for strengthening the EU's role in the global fight against these illegal activities. The plan has three main strands – greater enforcement, better cooperation, and more effective prevention. The Action Plan is to be implemented jointly by the EU institutions (Commission services, EEAS, Europol, Eurojust) and EU Member States until 2020.

DEVCO C2 is therefore organizing a *DEVCO Environment Week*, with two seminars back-to-back:

1. 6-8 February, 2017: DEVCO Thematic Seminar on Environment – Implementing the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2. 9-10 February, 2017: Conservation, development and security (co-organised with DG ENV)

I. DEVCO Thematic Seminar on Environment - Implementing the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (6-8 February)

Objectives:

1. Provide staff in EU Delegations and in DEVCO with a greater understanding of key environment related issues and recent policy developments, in order to strengthen the environmental dimension of EU development cooperation, both at policy level (including policy dialogue) and programme level (through dedicated actions and mainstreaming), notably through the upcoming mid-term review of financing instruments.
2. Discuss key policy issues in order to strengthen policy work, both in headquarters and delegations.
3. Exchange information and experience about recent developments at global level, in the EU and in partner countries, and about EU cooperation programmes on environment related topics.
4. Provide guidance on existing services and tools, and strengthen the collaboration between headquarters and EU Delegations on environment related topics.

The seminar will focus on environment related topics and cover the different areas of DEVCO's action: environment, biodiversity, wildlife and ecosystems, forests, desertification, green economy. Climate change will receive particular attention throughout the seminar.

Target group:

- Staff in EU delegations and HQ working on environment related matters
- Staff working in other sectors in need of a better understanding of these matters in order to mainstream environment into their work.

Estimated number of participants: 90

Programming and venue: 6-8 February 2017, Bibliothèque Solvay, Rue Belliard 137

THEMATIC SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENT: AGENDA

Monday 6 February

08:30 – 09:00 *Welcome and registration*

SESSION 1 (AM): A NEW POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR EU INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

09:00 – 10:30 **Part I: Setting the Scene – our policy priorities**

- Opening address by **Stefano Manservisi, Director-General** of Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO)
- Address by **Daniel Calleja Crespo, Director-General** of the Directorate-General for Environment (ENV): the EU's international environmental policy priorities
- Q&A with the DGs
- Objectives and content of the Seminar

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:50 **Part II: Towards Environmental Sustainability**

- Environment in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Keynote speaker: Steven Stone, Chief of Economics and Trade Branch (ETB), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- The Paris Agreement and the New Climate Change Agenda
Etienne Coyette, DEVCO C6 (Sustainable Energy and Climate Change)
- The Proposal for a New European Consensus on Development
Michael Ellis, DEVCO A1 (Policy and Coherence)
- Panel discussion: What does this mean for EU development cooperation?

12:50 – 13:00 **Presentation of facilities and available services**

13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch break*

SESSION 2 (PM): GREEN ECONOMY - FROM PILOTING TO SCALING UP

14:00 – 14:05 **Introduction to the session: Objectives and structure of the session**

14:05 – 15:00 **Part I: Context and priorities**

- The EU circular economy package, links to EU external action (DG ENV)
- The SWITCH to Green Flagship Initiative (DEVCO C2)
- Support available (SWITCH To Green facility)
- Q&A

15:00 – 16:00 **Part II: What have we achieved?**

- Preliminary findings of the ongoing evaluation of EU international cooperation on Sustainable Consumption and Production (evaluation team leader)
- Moderated discussion on findings and preliminary recommendations

16:00 – 16:15 Coffee break

16:15 – 17:15 Part III: Promoting the green economy at country level

- Group discussions

17:15 – 17:30 Feedback from break out groups and conclusions of the session

Tuesday 7 February

SESSION 3 (AM): ENHANCING ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MAINSTREAMING

9:00 – 10:30 Part I: Presentations

- Mainstreaming in the EU international cooperation and development
DEVCO C2 and C6
- Achievements to date and perspectives
Environment and Climate Change Mainstreaming Facility
- Practical experience: challenges, opportunities and lessons learnt
- Q&A: questions to the panel

10:30 – 11:00 Address by Roberto Ridolfi, Director for Sustainable Growth and Development, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO - C): focus on the mid-term review of programming, followed by Q&A

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00 Part II: Discussion groups

How to strengthen integration of environment and climate change in our policy work and programmes?

- Key issues for discussion and recommendations
 - *How to make everyone responsible for environment and climate change integration?*
 - *How to strengthen policy dialogue and ownership on environment and climate change integration?*
 - ***The mid-term review: a unique opportunity***
 - *Tools for environment and climate change integration – use and limitations*
 - *Showcasing good practice and success stories*
- Discussions (2x20 minutes) in *World Café* format
- Feedback to the plenary, followed by short plenary discussion.

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

SESSION 4 (PM): Forests: state of play on the EU Action Plan on Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT) and forests contribution to the global agenda

14:00 – 15:30 Part I: EU FLEGT Action Plan update

- EU FLEGT Action Plan: state of play and way forward (DEVCO C2)

- Lessons from Voluntary Partnership Agreements and promotion of forest governance and available tools and support (FLEGT and FAO FLEGT Facilities)
- Delegations' experience in implementing FLEGT (EUD Indonesia)
- Discussion: recommendations to improve EU's support to forest governance and fight against illegal logging?

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 17:30 Part II: Forests' contribution to the global development and climate change agenda

- Forests' contribution to the global agenda (in particular to SDG and climate change agreement) (Keynote speaker, Robert Nasi, CIFOR)
- EU international agenda on forests, including deforestation (DG ENV)
- Delegations' experience in support to sustainable forest management
- Discussion: recommendations for possible thematic support in this field (4 thematic groups)

Wednesday 8 February

SESSION 5 (AM): BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION / A FOUNDATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

9:00 – 10:30 Part I: The EU approach for biodiversity conservation in development cooperation

- The B4Life Flagship Initiative, how it responds to the EU's policy agenda, and available tools and support
- The EU's 'Larger than ...' series of strategic approaches for biodiversity conservation for Africa, Asia, South America and Oceans
- The Role of Oceans for Sustainable Development (Mette Wilkie, Director Ecosystems Division, UNEP)
- Q&A

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 Part II: Stories from the Field

- Addressing the conservation-development nexus: Kenya's Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)
- The 'reciprocal water agreement' methodology: Fundación Natura Bolivia
- Delegations' experience in the conservation—development nexus: projects in Kenya, Bolivia & Indonesia
- Q&A

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

SESSION 6 (PM): EMERGING ISSUES AND CONCLUSION

14:00 – 15:20 Part I: Strengthening resilience and addressing migration - why environment matters

- Environmental degradation, climate change and migration
Presentation by François Gemenne, Professor at Université de Liège and Sciences Po Paris

- Moderated panel discussion – how to better address these linkages in the EU response to migration

15:20 – 15:45 *Coffee break*

15:45 – 17:00 Evaluation and Conclusion

- Evaluation and live feedback from the floor
- Conclusions, key messages and recommendations
- Closing remarks (Chantal Marijnissen, Head of Unit DEVCO C2)

II. Conservation, development and security (9-10 February)

Objectives:

This seminar, co-organised with DG ENV and EEAS, will convene key stakeholders in charge of the implementation of the external dimension of EU biodiversity policies, with a particular focus on the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking¹.

The three main objectives are:

1. Capitalise the first results obtained one year after the adoption of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking.
2. Discuss policy and implementation 'hot' issues, in particular Public-Private-Partnerships, sustainable financing and the conservation-security nexus.
3. Network and strengthen the collaboration between EC headquarters, Member States and EU Delegations on wildlife issues.

Target group:

- Programme officers, focal points and Heads of Section in charge of environment matters in EU Delegations
- DG DEVCO, ENV, HOME, EEAS, TRADE, JRC
- Directors or managers of selected EU-funded programs on wildlife issues
- Member States

Estimated number of participants: 200

Programming and venue: 9-10 February 2017, Centre Albert Borschette, Rue Froissart 36

¹ N.B. This seminar will have been preceded by an event organised by DG ENV on 8 February, focusing on the *internal* dimension of the Action Plan – cooperation with relevant business sectors in particular – aiming to further incentivize Member States to implement the EU Action Plan on Wildlife Trafficking, and seek engagement of the private sector for specific actions.

CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY: AGENDA

Thursday 9 February

The External Dimension of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking

9:00 – 10:00 Session 1: Wildlife trafficking – extent of the problem, and the political response

- Setting the scene: the scale and impact of wildlife trafficking
- EU Wildlife Trafficking Action Plan: first results and lessons, and linkages with other EU policies

10:00 – 12:30 Session 2: Law enforcement at local and international level – ending the killing, stopping the trafficking

- Examples, success stories and lessons learnt

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00 – 15:30 Session 3: Wildlife conservation-security-development nexus

- Case studies
 - CAR/South Sudan/DRC/Chad trans-border region: transhumance, conservation, and armed conflict.
 - How protected areas can contribute to peace-building mechanisms: the example of Colombia

16:00 – 17:30 Session 4: The nexus Conservation - development

- Political dialogue and diplomacy at bilateral and regional level (including trade instruments), and coordination with funding agencies

Friday 10 February

9:00 – 12:30 Session 5: EU Action Plan & Continental strategic approaches for wildlife conservation

- Break out discussion groups (Africa, Asia, Latin America and Caribbean, Oceans)
- Discussing how the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking, and the continental strategic approaches ‘Larger than....’, can be used by Delegations and other stakeholders to strengthen anti-trafficking initiatives, and guide and plan development cooperation in their regions through integration of landscape conservation approaches.

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00 – 15:00 Session 6: Wrap-up of the continental sessions

15:00 – 16:30 Session 7²: High-level panel - Political dialogue and diplomacy at bilateral and regional level

- How can we implement conservation projects with and at the profit of local communities?
- How does biodiversity contribute to food security and other ecosystem services?

16:30 – 17:00 Session 8: Feedback and conclusion

- Facilitators of group discussions report back from morning regional breakout sessions

Chair: DEVCO C2 or B4Life facility and ENV

² This session is the second part of an introduction given only to EU delegations on 8 February.