



Regional meeting Africa

Gaborone, 8th October 2018

Enabling Environment

How the key challenges faced by African partners are reflected in Africa's Development Agenda ?

- Historical post-colonial challenge: often have seen unequal partnerships in the past. EU funds coming to Africa have often gone back to the EU in form of resources (incl. from 30 billion Euro EDF?)
- Often donor funds are linked to interest of donor countries. Do we know how to we create a balanced, equal, partnership?
- Capacity to implement the EU-Africa agreements challenge
- Institutional challenge, lack the institutions for monitoring, oversight
- Institutionalization of Civil Society participation is a challenge, shrinking space, weakening, funding cuts
- Challenge for Africa's 54 countries to have a strategic position and negotiate as one block with the EU on partnership agreement.
- Is there a role for regional organisations SADEC, ECOWAS, Great Lakes... ?

How the key challenges faced by African partners are reflected in Africa's Development Agenda ?

- Tense situation with EU on migration, youth unemployment, social protection, illicit financial flows, EU corporations tax evasion
- Challenge to have Civil Society priorities in the African position, e.g. on free circulation of goods and people within Africa
- Lack also participation of African private sector especially social enterprises and their needs and priorities, e.g. legislation, taxation
- Challenge is lack of legal framework for inclusion of all stakeholders: a consultation mechanism to come to common understanding and common position
- Challenge is that EU delegations in countries have limited interface with Civil Society, mainly work with government
- Challenge is that often funds come with outside consultants, need more African capacity, experts that stay

How EU policies could better support African efforts to tackle the concrete challenges?

- ✓ Creating institutional space for partnerships between civil society in EU and African CSOs, to build each-others capacity, work in strategic coalitions
- ✓ Create spaces to ensure diversity of civil society organisations, e.g. have spaces for women and feminist organisations, indigenous peoples and people with disabilities organisations, etc.
- ✓ Strengthen local African private sector, social enterprises, cooperatives, women-lead businesses that are less prone to corruption and will enhance democracy and inclusion (vs. EU and multinational corporations)
- ✓ Prioritize halting tax evasion, illicit financial flows, by engaging with and increasing accountability of banking sector, political parties, governments and corporations
- ✓ Ensure broad SDG-based development partnership and EDF, not only focussed on migration, but on job creation and local action

How EU policies could better support African efforts to tackle the concrete challenges?

- ✓ Address specific challenges of **the informal sector**
- ✓ Address specific **challenges of women**, e.g. menstrual hygiene and sexual exploitation and abuse
- ✓ Address specific challenges of **small African entrepreneurs, (women) farmers** through micro guarantees and micro insurances
- ✓ Address specific challenges of **pollution e.g increasing cancer** in rural areas from pesticides (flower industry), pollution by mining etc.

What should ideally be reflected in the new EU-ACP Partnership Agreement?

- ✓ Re-think the EU-African partnership, to ensure it is favourable for both sides. EU invests a lot in Africa, how do we make sure that this investment, contributes to equality, SDGs and benefits both sides
- ✓ The new EU-ACP (as off 2020) should indeed have separate areas for the Pacific and Caribbean, but can have a common foundation of values, principles, based on overarching aim of the Agenda2030,
- ✓ The Paris Declaration with country based programming is a priority, and national policies and programs should be aligned with SDGs, and the AAAA
- ✓ The new EU-ACP should ensure the culture of peace, democracy and security, and lead to phase-out of EU investments and policy that are contrary to this (e.g. arms sales)
- ✓ Policy coherence between EU-ACP/EDF+ with other EU-Africa investments and trade policies overall should be ensured

What should ideally be reflected in the new EU-ACP Partnership Agreement?

- ✓ The new EU-ACP should strengthen the role of civil society, as self-organised, independent, values-based, critical, engaged in policies, bottom up implementation, monitoring, and accountability holders
- ✓ The **new EU Dev. Fund should have specific, increased and sufficient funding for civil society** to be engaged in policy making, planning, be independent monitors, and to implement at local level, pioneering solutions
- ✓ There should not be the insistence for complementary of funding, e.g. blending EU Dev Funds with domestic or private sector funds for civil society funding
- ✓ Include in Civil Society funding innovative financial mechanism in particular micro-guarantees (as collateral for e.g. women farmers and entrepreneurs) and micro-insurance (small farmers, SMEs)
- ✓ Reduce the burden of co-funding requirements and eligibility criteria for Civil Society funding from EDF+