



Session: Policy Dialogue Training

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17 October 2018***

Channels for env. policy dialogue

Bilateral: *Sub-committees (enlargement and ENP); High Level Dialogues (strategic partners), Trade and Sustainable Development Committees (FTAs), ad-hoc subject specific (CE missions, VCs)*

EU Regional: *Union for the Mediterranean, Eastern Partnership, Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM)*

Multilateral Environmental Agreements, UNEA, Other UN meetings (SDGs/HLPF)

Non-EU: *G7 Environment Ministers, ASEAN, African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN)*

Examples

Iran

- Political agreement to work on environment
- Dialogue - road map (4 pilots air, waste, water ,soil)
- DEVCO funds for special measures (€8 million for env)
- Implemented through MS agencies
 - EU MS bring own bilateral projects - we lever funding

Other countries

- Similar set up considered for Brazil (water)
- Similar set ups for China Europe Water Platform and EU-India Water Partnership with strong MS involvement.

What makes a dialogue attractive?

- *Interest for both partners*
- *Money! (can steer towards EU priorities)*
- *Exchanges of expertise/know-how/experience.*
- *Taking environment out of its box -links to livelihoods, health, job creation*
 - Circular economy – creating jobs/SMEs
- *Helping countries to implement their international commitments*
 - MEAs/SDGs
 - Improving international image

Lessons

- No pro-active follow-up quickly leads to no interest!
- Environment is a low hanging fruit
 - Citizens are interested (i.e. health) – politicians follow
 - Mainstreaming is easy, cheap and common sense
 - Environmental benefits becoming quantifiable
 - Env actions visible -raise the profile of the EU/media attention
- We need to improve collaboration with EU MS bilateral programmes as project money reduces.
- Environmental profiles were useful as references for dialogue
- We can't have formal dialogue with all countries so we rely on delegations!

Let us know

- **What works for you?**
- **What do you need from us?**
- **Communication tools**
 - What is most effective?
 - What is less effective?