

Roadmap

Title of the initiative: **Communication in view of the UN MDG Review Summit ('Monterrey Package 2010')**

Type of initiative (CWP/Catalogue/Comitology): CWP

The Communication will be supported by five Staff Working Papers:

- "A renewed Global Compact to foster progress towards the MDGs"
- Monterrey Report on Financing for Development
- Aid for Trade monitoring report 2010
- Aid Effectiveness report: EU status of implementation
- Policy Coherence for Development Work Programme 2010-2013

Agenda Planning reference: **2010/DEV/002**

Lead DG/contact person/details: DG DEV/A

Expected date of adoption of the initiative (month/year): 20 April 2010 (finalisation procedure until 21 April 2010)

Date of modification:

Version No:

Initial IA screening & planning of further work

A. Context and problem definition

(i) What is the political context of the initiative? (ii) How does this initiative relate to past and possible future initiatives, and to other EU policies?

In September 2010, an UN High Level Meeting will take place to assess progress towards the MDGs targets and mobilise efforts to speed up progress. With five years remaining before the agreed 2015 deadline for reaching the MDGs, and the additional obstacles to progress brought by the multiple crises and climate change, the EU should step up its efforts to support its developing partners to achieve the MDGs. 2010 is also the stocktaking year for a number of intermediary targets set for the MDGs (EU Agenda for Action) and for ODA.

The Communication will couple the mandatory annual monitoring and progress report on EU27 commitments (as outlined in the five SWPs) with the need to consolidate a common EU position for the major upcoming international events, primarily the UN MDG Review High Level Event to be held in New York in September 2010. It follows up on the EU participation in the series of international events on development or with impact on developing countries.

What are the main problems identified?

(1) The progress on global development has been uneven, both in terms of targets/indicators and among countries, regions and groups of population. Besides, the recent crises (fuel, food, financial/economic), combined with the longer term challenge of climate change, have had an additional negative impact, especially for the most vulnerable, and are threatening the sustainability of progress achieved so far. A renewed/strengthened Global Partnership for Development is therefore needed to speed up progress towards MDGs.

The EU has been a driving force for global development, both in thinking and funding. EU should continue to lead, but for that the EU has not only to demonstrate how it will implement agreed EU and international commitments but also to come with ambitious and innovative proposals. To be heard, the EU should present its choices with a single voice.

(2) Wider engagement of all actors in all aspects of development is needed to make development work, especially important being supporting the ownership by developing countries and ensuring global burden-sharing by non-EU donors, new economies and emerging powers.

(3) *There is some progress in developing countries, in implementing international aid effectiveness principles and the additional EU commitments in this area , but the pace of progress needs to be enhanced.*

Who is affected?

EU Member States, other international donors, developing countries and the European Commission.

(i) Is EU action justified on grounds of subsidiarity? (ii) Why can the objectives of the proposed action not be achieved sufficiently by Member States (necessity test)? (iii) As a result of this, can objectives be better achieved by action by the Community (test of EU Value Added)?

The annual reporting on EU progress on taken commitments (financing for development, aid effectiveness, aid for trade, policy coherence) is a core activity of the Commission and is based on the Council's requests to that end. Based on the article 210 of the Treaty on the EU and the functioning of the EU, the Commission may take initiatives to promote coordination of development policies, and the Communication will make proposals for better achieving common development objectives.

B. Objectives of EU initiative

What are the main policy objectives?

The overarching objective is to speed up progress on global development by providing strong EU input to the processes, with the particular focus on achieving a successful UN MDG Review meeting in September.

For that, the Communication should facilitate a coordinated follow up and implementation of the commitments that the EU and its Member States have taken, including on aid effectiveness, financing for development, policy coherence for development, aid for trade and progress on MDGs; thus contributing to ensuring that the EU remains credible about its commitments. That includes more specifically:

- (1) Modifying EU policies to better contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development objectives in developing countries;*
- (2) Proposing how the EU can mobilise the financial resources for development in line with the EU commitments;*
- (3) Getting better "value for money" and development results through improved aid effectiveness, including through division of labour between EU and international donors;*
- (4) Maximising the positive impact of other EU policies on developing countries by seeking synergies and eliminating incoherencies (Policy Coherence for Development)*

Do the objectives imply developing EU policy in new areas or in areas of strategic importance?

No

C. Options

(i) What are the policy options? (ii) What legislative or 'soft law' instruments could be considered? (iii) Would any legislative initiatives go beyond routine up-date of existing legislation?

Two basic options are:

1) The Commission will continue to act on the mandate from the Council to provide annual progress reports as it improves the transparency and accountability of EU activities on development, and propose joint policy and implementation initiatives. The proposals will build on and impact on ongoing work of Commission departments; therefore no new legislative initiatives are foreseen. Joint EU and Member States initiatives could be developed in the form of Council Conclusions.

2) The Commission will cease to monitor EU progress on commitments and propose initiatives, defying its institutional role and the mandate from the Council.

Does the action proposed in the options cut across several policy areas or impact on action taken/planned by other Commission departments?

The proposals will cut across several policy areas and will be coordinated with relevant Commission departments.

Explain how the options respect the proportionality principle

The proposals will be developed to provide a strong EU contribution, in line with the ambition expressed i.a. in the European Consensus on Development, to helping partner countries achieve their development objectives. The policy options do not go beyond what is necessary to achieve the above-mentioned objectives.

D. Initial assessment of impacts

What are the significant impacts likely to result from each policy option (cf. list of impacts in the Impact Assessment Guidelines pages 32-37), even if these impacts would materialise only after subsequent Commission initiatives?

The Communication will propose changes to certain EU policies to make them more development friendly and ameliorate implementation. The proposals could lead to more unified EU action on development.

Could the options have impacts on the EU-Budget (above 5 Mio €) and/or should the IA also serve as the ex-ante evaluation, required by the Financial Regulation?

No

Could the options have significant impacts on (i) simplification, (ii) administrative burden or on (iii) relations with third countries?

No significant impact on administrative burden is foreseen.

Proposing useful elements for global action and clear plans for fulfilling EU commitments would help assure EU credibility vis-à-vis developing countries and other international actors.

E. Planning of further impact assessment work

When will the impact assessment work start?

- Concerning the issue of how the EU can mobilise the financial resources for development in line with the EU commitments; - this relates to the EU (in the sense of Commission + Member States) ODA commitments, ie Commission proposing what MS could do to mobilise the funds.

- The Commission will continue to act on the mandate from the Council to provide annual progress reports as it improves the transparency and accountability of EU activities on development, and propose joint policy and implementation initiatives. The proposals will build on and impact on ongoing work of Commission departments; therefore no new legislative initiatives are foreseen. Joint EU and Member States initiatives could be developed in the form of Council Conclusions. - this was written under options, it is the option that "COM will continue to act on the mandate /.../ and propose initiatives". (of course when it's needed. see next for substance)

- The Communication will propose changes to certain EU policies to make them more development friendly and ameliorate implementation. The proposals could lead to more unified EU action on development. - this can mean eg proposing EU (COM+MS) common line on what areas of MDGs we should concentrate and how, how to better implement the Operational framework on aid effectiveness, how to link Aid For Trade actions better with EPAs, a work programme on PCD for implementing the 2009 November Council conclusions, how to achieve the ODA targets.

(i) What information and data are already available? (ii) Will this impact assessment build on already existing impact assessment work or evaluations carried out? (iii) What further information needs to be gathered? (iv) How will this be done (e.g. internally or by an external contractor) and by when?

(v) What type and level of analysis will be carried out (cf. principle of proportionate analysis)?

An IA report should not be required for this initiative which relate to an annual Commission reporting mandate, to internationally agreed development objectives and to existing EU commitments. (PCD does not have new proposals needing separate IA)

Which stakeholders & experts have been/will be consulted, how and at what stage?

- *The EU Member States are consulted through the annual survey sent to them in December 2009, the questionnaire was discussed with them beforehand.*
- *The Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities are consulted (through their EU platforms) in several information and discussion meetings both on general level and separately on specific issues to be covered by the package.*