

UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - Public Consultation on revising the European Consensus on Development

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

(1) Introduction

The year 2015 was a strategic milestone for global governance, poverty eradication and sustainable development. It marked the target date of the UN Millennium Development Goals and a point to reflect on the progress made to date and the challenges ahead in addressing their unfinished business. 2015 also saw a series of landmark international summits and conferences over the course of the year (the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#), the [Addis Ababa Action Agenda](#), the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and the COP 21 [Paris Agreement](#) under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) which have collectively re-cast the way the international community, including the EU, will work to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication for many years.

Importantly, and in contrast to the Millennium Development Goals, the 2030 Agenda, including its seventeen Sustainable Development Goals, is a universal Agenda which applies to all countries. It reflects many core European values and interests and provides an international framework for tackling global challenges such as climate change. The EU response to the 2030 Agenda is moving ahead in a range of ways:

- Firstly, as part of EU efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, the [Commission Work Programme for 2016](#) announces an initiative on the next steps for a sustainable European future which will explain how the EU contributes to reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and map out the internal and external aspects of EU policies contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Secondly, the High Representative will present the [EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy](#) that is expected to steer the different EU external policies contributing to the global vision of a more stable, prosperous and secure world. It should set out the strategic direction for the full range of EU external action, and as such will help guide EU implementation of the 2030 Agenda in external action.
- Thirdly, the EU will review its development cooperation policy. Existing leading policy documents (including the [2005 European Consensus on Development](#) and the [2011 Agenda for Change](#)) are currently framed around the Millennium Development Goals and need to adapt to incorporate the 2030 Agenda. Given its direct relevance to the EU's overall relations with developing countries, this review will be carried out in full consistency with the ongoing work on the future of the partnership between the EU and the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, under a post-[Cotonou](#) framework.

Views from this consultation will be used to inform the way forward on the initiatives above and in particular the revision of the European Consensus on Development and other external aspects of 2030 Agenda implementation. The consultation seeks your views on **how development policy, in the context of EU external action as foreseen by the Lisbon Treaty**, should respond to the range of landmark 2015 summits and conferences, and also to the rapid changes happening in the world.

Replies can include views which could apply only to the EU institutions and also to both the EU and its Member States – it would be helpful to clarify this in your response. This open public consultation will run for 12 weeks from 30 May 2016 to 21 August 2016. A brief summary and analysis of all consultation contributions will be published by November 2016 and all individual contributions will also be made available on the consultation website (unless respondents ask for their contributions not to be published).

(2) Information on respondents

- * 2.1 Received contributions may be published on the Commission's website, with the identity of the contributor. Please state your preference with regard to the publication of your contribution.

Please note that regardless of the option chosen, your contribution may be subject to a request for access to documents under [Regulation 1049/2001](#) on public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. In such cases, the request will be assessed against the conditions set out in the Regulation and in accordance with applicable [data protection rules](#).

- I do not agree that my contribution will be published at all
- My contribution may be published but should be kept anonymous; I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication
- My contribution may be published under the name indicated; I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication

- * 2.2 Are you registered in the EU's Transparency Register?

Please note: Organisations, networks, platforms or self-employed individuals engaged in activities aimed at influencing the EU decision making process are expected to register in the transparency Register. During the analysis of replies to a consultation, contributions from respondents who choose not to register will be treated as individual contributions (unless the contributors are recognised as representative stakeholders through Treaty provisions, European Social Dialogue, Art. 154-155 TFEU).

- Yes
- No

- * 2.2.1 If yes, what is your registration number?

773425322899-55

- * 2.3 Name (entity or individual in their personal capacity)

Nadacia Habitat for Humanity International

2.5 What type of stakeholder are you?

- Government institution / Public administration
- University / Academic organisation
- Civil society (including Non-Governmental Organisation, specialised policy organisation, think tank)
- International organisation
- Private sector or private company
- Citizen/private individual
- Other

2.6 Please specify

Registered as a Foundation. International NGO, part of the global network of Habitat for Humanity organizations.

* 2.7 What is your place of residence (if you are answering as a private individual) or where are the headquarters of your organisation situated (if you are answering on behalf of an organisation)?

- In one of the 28 EU Member States
- Other

2.8 Please specify

Headquartered in Bratislava, Slovakia, Nadacia Habitat serves Habitat for Humanity programmes in the EU, Eastern Neighborhood, Middle East, and Africa.

(3) Context: why a change is needed

The EU and its Member States are determined to implement the 2030 Agenda through internal and external actions as well as contribute to the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, given the strong interlinkages. In this context, our policies, should take into account changing global conditions and trends, to ensure that they remain fit-for-purpose across the time-horizon to 2030.

The global landscape has changed significantly compared to the time of adoption of the Millennium Development Goals. While much has been achieved, with more than one billion people having been lifted out of extreme poverty since 1990, great challenges remain and new ones are emerging. At global level, more than 800 million people still live on less than USD 1.25 a day. The world is witnessing multiple conflicts and security tensions, complex humanitarian and global health crises, deteriorations of human rights, environmental degradation, resource scarcity, urbanisation and migration. Migration flows across the world will continue to have important impacts, and present both a risk and an opportunity. The EU needs to address global security challenges, including tackling the root causes of conflict and instability and countering violent extremism. Climate change can continue to amplify problems and can severely undermine progress. Important changes include demographic trends, a new distribution of wealth and power between and within countries, the continuing globalisation of economies and value chains, an evolving geography of poverty and a proliferation of actors working on development. Projections also suggest important challenges are ahead (for example, continuing unprecedented urbanisation, and other demographic challenges including ageing societies for some and the potential for a demographic dividend for others). Continued attention will be given to a democratic, stable and prosperous neighbourhood. A revision to EU development policy should take into account these trends (including anticipating those that will remain central in future) whilst retaining a core focus on eradicating poverty and finishing the job started by the Millennium Development Goals.

Finally, the EU Consensus needs also to adapt to the Lisbon Treaty, which provides for all external action policies to work within the frameworks and pursue the principles of objectives of Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union. In particular, coherence between the different parts of EU external action and between external and internal policies is crucial.

The EU will need to address these new global challenges, many of which require coordinated policy action at the national, regional and global levels. The 2030 Agenda provides a framework which can guide us in doing so.

3.1 There is a range of key global trends (e.g. changing geography and depth of poverty; challenges related to climate change, political, economic, social, demographic, security, environmental or technological) which will influence the future of development and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Which of these do you think is the most important?

Urbanisation is key. Urban population has grown in 50 years by 20%. This fast rate will continue, to 66% of the global population by 2050. It transforms the social and economic fabric of entire nations, societies and economies, with opportunities but also a plethora of critical challenges, "making it one of the 21st Century's most transformative trends". Yet the MDG only included a vague promise of "significantly improving" the lives of slum dwellers.

Progress has been achieved in several areas (water, sanitation, and some slums), the scale has not been in line with the size of the global challenge and deficit. In the Agenda 2030, a broader and stronger urban focus is found (e.g. SDG 11, "To make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", but also many other SDG are relevant). There are critical implications of the recent Sendai, Addis and Paris global agreements. Habitat III is in preparation, an upcoming global UN Summit that will reinvigorate the global political commitment to sustainable urbanisation, producing and implementing a "New Urban Agenda" (NUA). Now, EU policy and urban commitments will have to take all these agreements into account coherently and at scale.

Several key characteristics of urbanization are important trends, and also critical factors to address.

Characteristics of Cities: 95 % of all the urban population growth occurred in developing countries and was concentrated in the lowest income groups calling for direct implications for the EU Development Policy. Many countries continue to be unprepared and unable to meet the growing needs of urban residents, and are often unable to keep pace with the housing, services, education, health and transport needs of ever larger communities crystalizing in and on the borders of cities. Urbanisation is linked to other vulnerabilities and gaps: often in hazard prone areas, with population concentration that increases the risk of human and material loss in disasters, often the destination for migration and displacement due to conflict or humanitarian crises, with increased insecurity and organised crime. Urban sprawl often results in less effective services and increased urban vulnerabilities and ecological footprint.

Inequality: The continued growth of inequality is an overarching and critical global trend as well (in both urban and rural areas), with far ranging implications, including causes and consequences of urbanisation. Inequalities are frequent in cities globally, having caused an "urbanisation of poverty", especially for women and youth. Social and spatial segregation often leads inequality' concentration, and large differentials in public services (worse in slums with a near total lack of water, sanitation, waste management, transport and security). Cities attract and worsen inequalities and vulnerabilities (e.g. migration, gender, assets, land, disabilities), with an unequal burden of risk (economic, environmental, and security) leading to vicious cycles of vulnerability, need and disregard for rights. Many urban poor suffer from multiple vulnerabilities (woman, urban, poor, minority, in a slum, etc.), worsening inequality, making it more difficult to overcome, and requiring more complex integrated solutions.

Slums: The absolute number of people living in slums continues to grow (130 million more in 20 years, or about 1 in 7 persons now), with the vast majority under 24 years old. By 2030, nearly 1 in 4 people will live in a slum. Their growth is due to weak urban planning, poor urban management, land regulation crises, real estate speculation and other factors. They are known for their lack of public services, and multiple social, economic, political, and environmental challenges.

Housing and Land tenure: Around 880 million people live now in inadequate housing in cities and more in rural areas. At least two billion more people will require housing in urban and rural areas in 2030, due to the existing housing deficit and the expected global population increase. This unprecedented housing challenge will only grow. Every country will need more

options for affordable, adequate, and safe housing. Housing solutions are diverse, but many answers are related to land tenure. Land tenure is a critical issue for food security, but it also has many implications for housing. Currently, 75% of the land worldwide is not legally documented, with negative repercussions for the poor and a loss of opportunities for development, particularly for women. This challenge is more complex in urban contexts. At least 1 billion lack secure land rights in cities globally, the majority women. In many countries, there is no formal land administration system or framework available or coverage is under 30%. The process of establishing a right to land is complicated with lengthy delays or high fees (up to 20% of property value) and typically worse for women, who bear additional barriers, for example due to lack of funds, time limitations and safety concerns.

3.2 How should EU policies, and development policy in particular, better harness the opportunities and minimise the negative aspects of the trend you identified in the previous question?

A. External Development: a) Bold and rapid action is needed, Political will and Priority, with concrete, ambitious, results-oriented and time bound actions. The current response is far from the level needed for the global trend for the external EU agenda. The EU must have an urban sector, tracking the funding and its effects, and prioritised by the EU and other actors.

b) Funding increase and better tracking of all EU urban investment, must reach the level of importance and urgency of the trend. Urban solutions currently receive between 1% and 4% of EuropeAid and EDF (1% for Long Term development), and slum upgrades less than 0,1% yet they will include up to ¼ of all vulnerable. Conclusions on SDG call to adequately mobilise ODA and other funds for cities.

c) Data support, tracking, research, monitoring, follow-up and review with disaggregated data are crucial and urgent. Measurable time bound result targets, peer global accountability and review systems and inclusive, transparent national monitoring systems, with multi-stakeholder participation, will help to ensure the agenda stays on track.

d) Ensuring Aid Effectiveness principles, Good governance, participatory and inclusive planning and management is key, including LA, CSO and citizens, even the most marginalized. People-centred, community based responses and multi-stakeholder partnerships are most effective, with mutual accountability, transparency, and capacity building. Countries need appropriate allocations, taxation and procurement, and decrease in corruption.

e) Upgrading Slums must be a priority, taking the view of the positive contributions of informal settlements and governments' responsibilities, and context-based approaches, upgrading neighbourhoods, preventing evictions, and

facilitating housing, tenure, services, security, social protection, access to economic opportunities, and social inclusion.

f) Housing: We call on the EU to reaffirm the commitment by UN MS to the right to housing, ensuring it is high on agendas with institutional capacity. It is essential in fostering safe, resilient and sustainable cities. Informal and formal housing conditions play a huge role in well-being (e.g. health, jobs, income, education, safety). Inclusive approaches must be supported (fair housing policies, increasing quality and quality of affordable housing, water and sanitation, including for special needs groups, better housing management).

g) Land tenure: Secure land leads to investment in homes, communities and families, and full citizenship (e.g. access to ID cards, municipal services, credit, collateral and a home based business, inheritance). Often high costs, illiteracy, bureaucratic barriers, lack of knowledge of procedures, prevent the poor from tenure. Solutions include strengthening the customary system, supporting community mapping, planning and solutions, clarifying and negotiating claims, filling system gaps or helping transition from informal to formal systems and reforming tenure regulations or laws. Forced evictions and land speculation must be prevented. A variety of forms of tenure must be allowed, with context-specific and age and gender-responsive solutions. Support is needed for strong inclusive management frameworks and accountable institutions that deal with land registration and governance.

h) Comprehensive management of risk and resilience are essential, as nearly 200 million people per year are affected by natural disasters. Secure land rights are often an obstacle to reconstruction. The complete cycle from risk prevention to response is key, with integrated age and gender responsive policies and plans in line with the Sendai Framework.

i) Urban frameworks, policy and pro-active planning and management: are needed to harness the benefits, linking housing, social, environmental and economic systems, within a legal framework, with the appropriate distribution of roles and resources between levels, an integrated approach, full coordination among sectors and levels. Housing must be embedded in urban plans and sector policies (e.g., for housing near social networks and jobs, for services, land use, transportation, limiting forced evictions and speculation). It must ensure non-discrimination and decreasing inequalities, mainstreaming a Human Rights-based approach (HRBA) and gender equality (e.g. equity in access to services, security, economic and environmental, rights).

B. EU internal. The EU must address its cities and pockets of poverty, making them productive, green, resource efficient, resilient, inclusive, safe, and with good governance. The EU has strong urban policies (e.g. for housing or social cohesion) and has begun the EU Urban Agenda, as a "key delivery instrument" of the SDG and NUA. This enables alignment, progress. The EU should also learn from global successes, even from LDC (e.g. participatory governance, and people-centred innovations).

(4) Priorities for our future action: what we need to do

Implementation of the 2030 Agenda will require sustained EU efforts to promote a more just world, including a strong focus on the need to address gender equality and women's empowerment. Peace, inclusiveness, equality and good governance including democracy, accountability, rule of law, human rights and non-discrimination will need particular emphasis. The 2030 Agenda also requires recognition of the close interconnectedness between poverty, social issues, economic transformation, climate change and environmental issues.

To achieve poverty eradication, EU development policy will need to take into account key demographic and environmental trends, including challenges related to climate change, and concentrate effort on least developed countries and fragile states. The EU will also need to strengthen our approach to fragility and conflict, fostering resilience and security (as an increasing proportion of the world's poor are expected to live in fragile and conflict affected states) and to protect global public goods and to maintain our resource base as the prerequisite for sustainable growth. Peace and security, including security sector reform, will have to be addressed also through our development policy, as will the risks and opportunities related to migration flows. Tackling social and economic inequalities (both within and between countries) is a crucial element of the 2030 Agenda as is addressing environmental degradation and climate change. Job creation will be an important challenge in which the private sector has to play an active role. Finishing the job of the Millennium Development Goals requires identifying and reaching those people throughout the world who are still not benefitting from progress to ensure that no one is left behind.

To achieve lasting results, EU development policy will need to foster transformation and promote inclusive and sustainable growth. Drivers of inclusive sustainable growth, such as human development, renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and healthy and resilient oceans should be an important part of our efforts to implement the new Agenda as will efforts aimed at tackling hunger and under-nutrition. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda will require a multi-dimensional, integrated approach to human development. Implementation will also require us to address vectors of change, such as sustainable urban development and relevant use of information and communication technology. Our development policy will have to engage and identify new ways of partnering with the business in order to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth, industrialisation and innovation. Implementation of the 2030 Agenda will also require cooperation with partner countries and regions on science, technology and innovation. In all aspects of our external action, the EU will need to ensure that our approaches, including development cooperation, are conducive to achieving the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals and that the EU intensifies efforts to promote pursue coherence between our policies and our internal and external action.

4.1 How can the EU better address the links between achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on climate change and addressing other global sustainable development challenges?

An integrated approach to the current global trends and challenges is critical. There should be strong links between the Agenda 2030, and Paris

Agreements, which must also be coherent with the EU's internal commitments for SDG and development. EU policy must be aligned with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which has implications for various SDG and EU policies. The EU must also continue the process of engagement in Habitat III and the NUA, (directly related to SDG11 but also strongly to all other SDG), a unique opportunity to propose how cities should be managed to fulfil their role as drivers of sustainable development. The very recent EU Discussion Paper and Council Conclusions affirm the NUA, to be the "cornerstone" in the EU implementation of all new global agreements. Links must also be drawn with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development, and critical global commitments in the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, and the New Deal for Fragile States. The EU has been active in negotiating all these agreements, and should continue and strengthen its role, leading by example, agreeing to and implementing ambitious review mechanisms, aligning its funding, with priority attention and explicit commitments about its own implementation and PCD. The EU should also provide support and incentives for their full implementation among its partners. To enhance the integration and links between all commitments, there should be increased attention, research and monitoring, and funding for the nexus between all these global commitments. A fully integrated perspective is not easy and will require transitions in EU mechanisms, priorities and capacities.

Specifically, the EU should promote ecological and resilient cities, resource efficient and innovative, protecting the environment, minimizing environmental impact, and providing green spaces. A territorial approach will be most useful given mutual influence of rural and urban areas (see 4.2). This implies attention to economic development (foreign investment and procurement), accountability systems, the strong capacity of LA, and their work within partnerships. The lack of an integrated housing framework has worked against density and has, instead, contributed to urban sprawl and segregation. The lack of attention to transit-oriented housing development contributes to high carbon footprint for transportation, accounting for 23% of total energy related CO2 emissions. The urban poor have poorly constructed shelters in unsafe locations, highly vulnerable to environmental degradation and lack financial resources to improve their housing or adapt them to be energy-efficient. The World Bank argues that increasing the availability of appropriate, affordable housing to slum dwellers would be the most important and potentially impactful way to prepare cities for climate change.

To draw links with the Sendai agreements, strong emphasis should be put on the comprehensive management of risks (including all elements as describe previously). This is most urgent for least developed and fragile contexts. The EU can encourage resilience building to ensure that negative coping mechanisms do not thwart these efforts, and that policy coherence at all levels decreases, prevents or mitigates the risks of all types and increases the potential for "building back better". Natural disasters tend to disproportionately affect the poorest and most marginalized groups, slum dwellers, those who lack secure tenure and especially women, who often cannot make housing improvements to protect against natural disasters such as mudslides, flooding or droughts. To avoid future eviction or permanent

displacement, unregistered residents may refuse to evacuate during disasters, risking their lives in the attempt to hold on to their land. Those with home-based businesses and living in poorly constructed housing can be severely set back by disasters. Because the poor often lack documented tenure rights to land and housing, disasters often bring new threats to their underlying claims. Land may be lost through post-disaster land-grabbing and rural-urban migration. In many countries, by custom or law, property is not jointly owned by husband and wife so when the husband dies, women and their children lose assets, inheritance or relief compensation. Security of tenure and a legal process for purchasing property improves shelter assistance and the potential for long-term development after crises. In order to mitigate these compounded challenges, it is important to prioritise the scaled improvement of housing conditions, protection from natural elements, hazards and disease, access to basic services (including garbage disposal), secure tenure, gender-equal land rights, and prohibition of housing discrimination and forced eviction; and the upgrade of slums, including with incremental housing.

4.2 How should the EU strengthen the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in its internal and external policies, and in particular in its development policy?

Especially for the poorest and most vulnerable, development is most effective with the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions. Development policy, priorities, funding and programming must intentionally seek this balance with intentional PCD, capacity (of EU staff and partners) and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Some of the implications have been described in the previous question. There are also catalysing factors in linking the economic aspect. Cities can promote growth and economic strength. Ensuring equal rights can also be smart economic policy (women spend more on family food, medicine, and education). Housing is at the nexus, connected with the local economy, and also social cohesion, equity, urban ecology and governance. Effective and efficient housing policies can expand and increase employment (e.g. in the building sector). Improved construction skills enable participation in the formal and informal market, and improvements on one's own home (with effects for disaster mitigation, ecology and home businesses). Housing programs and slum upgrades can foster local economic development and neighbourhood revitalization. The proper location of housing programs and slum improvements can improve the urban economy and labour markets, housing, land tenure and disaster prevention and economic development (e.g. social enterprises for habitat production).

A territorial approach is useful, where cities and human settlements "act as hubs and drivers for balanced sustainable and integrated urban and territorial development", recognising the strong mutual influence and strengthening economic, social, resilience and environmental links between

urban, peri-urban and rural areas. It will require coherence between rural and urban development policies (such as pollution, water use, waste, agriculture value chains, etc.).

But the economic benefits of development are not automatic and caution is needed to ensure a healthy balance, and to prevent or mitigate economic barriers or factors that worsen the situation of the poor. This is needed at all levels (EU, MS, partner country authorities, and locally) and still lacking. The spatial inequality produced by uncoordinated housing policies and poor and weak urban planning systems produces new poverty traps and more challenges (severe job restrictions, high rates of gender disparities, deteriorated living conditions, social exclusion and marginalization, and high incidence of crime). Isolated slum areas mean that residents endure longer commuting times and higher transportation costs. Yet, only 1/3 of the countries under UN review had taken actions to reduce social-spatial disparities in 2011. On the family level, nearly ½ of the urban housing deficit is due to the high cost of homes, the lack of access to financing and eligibility requirements that exclude a large portion of the poor. In LDC, most renters are in the informal housing sector, with no written contract, or legal mechanisms to protect their rights and landlords' rights are at times not secured, preventing their economic viability. The needs of both must be addressed in policy improvements.

The Private Sector can support development, create jobs, and invest in the communities. But their role must be carefully monitored and balanced, by national and LA, with the principle of "Do no Harm". Some have taken resources, affected the environment, or cause damage without reparation, have not paid their fair share of taxes and/or evicted people for commercial development and redevelopment of urban areas, and for large-scale infrastructural and export agriculture in rural areas most often with little to no compensation (still common). Security of tenure will help with increased bargaining power. Other community organization and advocacy support will help locals to negotiate better outcomes, when authorities play an appropriate role to ensure the common good.

Internally, in the EU, the social, economic and environmental aspects must also be balanced, although with different challenges. Housing still remains a great challenge to prioritize. Housing inequality between generations and homelessness has increased since the financial crisis, repossessions and mortgage debt have become critical, with constrained mortgage lending. This has disproportionately affected minority households and first-time homeowners, who have been unable to take advantage of the subsequent low prices and interest rates. The mortgage debt (as a % of GDP) rose dramatically. As governments have invested less in social housing, there is a shortage of affordable housing for new households, particularly acute in major city centres. Multi-stakeholder solutions have been effective (see question 6.1). The close alignment of the European Urban Agenda and the NUA will be helpful.

4.3 What are the main changes you would like to see in the EU's development policy framework?

High level elements

Some EU development policy elements should remain, strengthened and more consistently implemented. The EU must continue and increase the place of external development and its role of global leader in development funding and global agreements. While also addressing those left behind in the EU, a strong EU external action must be further reinforced as a highest priority in the new policy framework. The EU must speed up the implementation of ODA promises made repeatedly. Some elements of the previous Consensus on Development should be kept but improved, such as PCD, aid effectiveness, good governance, and the role of all stakeholders.

Cross-cutting issues (3.3 of Consensus) must remain, with issues/trends and vulnerable groups that must not be left behind (adding the ones previously disregarded: disabled, refugees and slum dwellers), with specific principles for modalities. These issues should be both mainstreamed in all EU actions, and with specific action plans for the critical groups and to address major global trends.

With the SDG, other global agreements must be emphasised as has been outlined in the introduction and including the full range of global agendas, as answered in 4.1, as well as International Law and all the Human Rights and conventions, as per EU previous agreement. In addition, some of the recent EU development policy is critical and has moved EU external policy forward, and must therefore be fully integrated, most importantly the EU policy on Human Rights, on CSO and on Local Authorities (LA), on Resilience, and the Communications and Council Conclusions for the SDG. In particular, the Human Right's mainstreaming is non-negotiable as the EU has affirmed at the highest level its "commitment to promote all human rights, whether civil and political, or economic, social and cultural, in all areas of its external action without exception" and commits to promote the integration of Human Right issues in EU policy and global agendas.

Some of these elements are in The Agenda for Change (e.g. governance, role of CSO and LA), but it does not fully reflect latest policies or trends, and promotes a much too narrow focus, geographically and in each country context. Going forward, the priority areas in each country should always include important cross-cutting areas (e.g. governance, gender, and priority sectors for inclusivity), and responses to major global changes (urbanisation especially), in addition to the 3 priority sectors of focus to ensure that these receive the necessary investment and attention.

Country priorities must be based more on evidence and on genuine, comprehensive, participatory processes for country strategies, which must be up to date. These strategies must include the work on the Country Road Maps with broad CSO participation.

Specific changes, for more prominence and financial allocations to key areas of focus: The EU must:

- speed up its use of aggregated research and results, in order to make evidence-based decisions on its priorities and funding allocations.
- The role of CSO has been demonstrated and agreed. The proportion of funding for CSO of the entire EU budget is abysmally small. This must change. As said in 3.2, there must be an urban sector, clear tracking of funding and results, and significant increase in its funding, with a boost to urban system strengthening and governance, and long term investments for urban social issues, inequality and resilience (slum upgrades, housing, land tenure, disaster management), and territorial approaches (e.g. for the key links between cities and their rural surroundings). The Council Conclusions for the SDGs recognise the need “to adequately mobilise the flow of ODA and other sources of financing which go to cities and other local and sub-national authorities...”. Clearer tracking of investment and results, disaggregated and analysed across contexts, will help ensure this promise.
- continue and increase its focus on partnerships, with a wider and more innovative view of multi-sector partnerships, including those led by CSO, with a view of the diverse nature of the private sector. The EU must incentivise and catalyse the funding by the diaspora, who invest much more than many governments and the corporate private sector, strengthening their impact, including the support of partnerships, and for remittances, moving swiftly to help lower costs and protection of fund transfers.
- provide more support to micro-credit (enabling fair and accessible interest rates and support for the poor and the groups that serve them), bottom of the pyramid social entrepreneurship and global south entrepreneurs, given the many strong findings on the return on investment and impact.
- revise and complete its Land policy, including urban contexts, slums and land for housing (adding to rural and agriculture perspectives).
- promote and support the nexus of environment/climate change, economy and social areas.

4.4 In which areas highlighted above would you expect to see greater consistency between development policy and other areas of the EU external action in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

As mentioned in the answer to question 3.2 (section B) and 4.2, and clearly stated in the introduction, the Universality principle of the SDG implies internal action, which must be in coherence and consistency with external action. In the areas of urbanisation, housing, and land tenure, this is well addressed by DG REGIO, and this attention must continue to be strengthened. In particular going forward, there should be more lessons learned, best practices, research and capacity building shared from internal social affairs, especially social cohesion, to external affairs.

All EU external policies must mainstream the attention to global public goods and rights. Other areas of EU external action that must have greater consistency with development policy are especially the trade policies, given the importance of economic development, and of an integrated perspective (with mutual influence of different sectors). In particular, the EU must ensure that the private sector does no harm, contributes positively to development, and meets all the principles of effective development (including paying fair taxes, avoiding corruption, transparency and accountability, and ownership where all local stakeholders, including the most vulnerable, have a voice and know what is being decided).

In general, the entire staff of the EEAS and local delegations must have much more competency in the EU development policy and its key principles and cross-cutting priorities. There should be intensive capacity building at all levels. All EU representatives play a role in soft diplomacy, incentives, or showing the example. They also make day to day decisions about EU investment and promotion. It is imperative that they understand the implications of their decisions, and can explain and promote key elements of development policy such as the HRBA, the role of CSO and LA, good governance, and aid effectiveness, and the main global challenges and agreements.

4.5 In which areas does the EU have greatest value-added as a development partner (e.g. which aspects of its development policy, dialogue or implementation arrangements or in which category of countries)?

1) Development policy and dialog:

a) Development Effectiveness, good governance, HRBA & participatory accountability: should be prioritised by all actors and donors. The EU adds most value in strengthening them, given the resulting efficiency, the more effective use of resources from all sources and levels, and thus the sustainable impact. Citizen and CSO participation is key. In planning, it increases ownership, inclusivity, voice and understanding of their needs and the willingness to commit their additional resources and energies. Ongoing dialog with a range of actors enhances coordination, ownership and improves policies and results. Accountability processes lead to reduced waste and

loss, more appropriate use of resources and higher impact. In many countries corruption and discriminatory legal and regulatory systems hinder the proper management of public goods and the implementation of policy, laws and global agreements. Transparency and public reviews keep governing bodies accountable and reduce corruption, bribes and fees that further burden the poor. Participatory social auditing, budget monitoring, advocacy and other forms of citizen engagement have shown great success and require priority support. The EU must promote and strengthen these actions even more, proportional to their influence on impact. The EU must ensure that governance commitments are concrete, time-bound, comprehensive, and tracked (e.g. transparency should be immediate, for all actors). EU investments must also be based on local and national ownership (e.g. with inclusive Country Strategies).

b) Policy reform and advocacy support, especially for women and those left out, will help meet the SDG and ensure Rights, equality, and needs such as housing, land tenure and resilience. Policy reform requires education about rights and how to access them, how to advocate effectively, and monitoring systems, which all require capacity and investment. Institutional building and public accountability must be strengthened with dialog, incentives and support. Governments and public institutions need increased capacity and resources for improved management, governance, systems, data and statistics, transparency, evidence-based decision-making and partnership collaboration. Particular attention must be paid to the capacity needs of cities, for urban policy, planning, implementation and accountability, given large capacity gaps.

c) Urbanisation, slum upgrades, land tenure, housing, disaster risk management and resilience, are sectors of sustainable added value, as described in 3.2, 4.1 and 4.2. Now a very minor portion of EU investment, it must reach the level of influence of the global trend, the global commitments, and the potential for development impact. The EU should adopt an inclusive approach, for “people-centred, age and gender responsive urban development, ...empowering... communities, while enabling their full and meaningful participation”, with co-operation between all relevant actors. Communities know their needs and should be able to define their future. The priorities of citizens and communities must be included, especially women, the poor, and vulnerable, and the groups supporting them. CSO should be included in decision making processes and have a formal part of the implementation (e.g. fair participatory housing and land tenure policies and systems, formal and customary, and disaster risk management).

2) Implementation arrangements.

a) CSO must be prioritised and receive increased investment, as they fill many roles, reaching the most vulnerable and ensuring inclusion in the most difficult places. In complex and fragile contexts, CSO have taken on roles that States and LA were not able or willing to cover. They have helped navigate public services, and provided viable affordable alternatives to the private sector. CSO are increasingly involved in promoting and ensuring good governance, accountability, policy reform and public institution reform. CSO catalyse financing, even from the private sector. CSO are required to rigorously document impact, efficiency and aid effectiveness. The EU must now

recognise this value added, and increase its funding allocations accordingly.

b) Multi-stakeholder partnerships: must now be scaled up, with a variety of modalities, including CSO-led alliances with private sector, LA, and CSO roles in public institution building. They are effective. See 6.1

c) Support for innovations with Micro-credit and Social Enterprises, can have huge impact, high financial returns, and be vectors of change, catalysing new sources of funding and actors, including the private sector. Currently, there is little EU support and the modalities are a barrier.

3) Category of countries: The EU adds value in a variety of countries, disadvantaged, MIC and emerging (promoting State responsibility, policy reform, accountability). The EU should not limit its remit to categories of countries based on GDP. See 5.4.

4.6 How can the EU refine its development policy to better address inequalities – including gender inequality – in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

Inequality must be prioritised explicitly in all sectors and regions, taking into account major trends (urbanisation, slums, gender, disability), using the investment, diplomatic pressure, incentives and support that have the most effect on those who have been left out, mainstreaming cross-cutting issues and with concrete action plans for each type of inequality. The EU has committed to promote all human rights, “in all areas of its external action without exception” and to a HRBA, requiring focus on inclusion, non-discrimination and on women’s rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The EU rightfully called for “sustainable strategies to promote non-discrimination and break down the barriers that exclude various groups from access to resources and opportunities offered by urban development” for social inclusion and territorial cohesion, with as “prerequisites”, giving “special attention” to land access, upgrading, services and citizenship for slum dwellers, affordable housing, tenure and safety (EC Com LA). This now must be implemented fully. “Cities for All” (i.e. the equal use of cities, as a common public good) must be promoted, and operationalized, ensuring that urbanisation creates opportunities for all, enabling inclusivity and equal access. Actions for governance HRBA and gender equality are foundational. Gender equality, rights, empowerment are very important to fully address inequality. Globally, systemic issues such as inadequate laws and their inequitable implementation, social stigma, cultural attitudes and the lack of resources, result in women being denied their rights to and benefits of their land. Many more men than women own land, and women’s rights are limited, so their ability to use their land for economic or social gain is limited (losing the many benefits of land, see 3.1 and 3.2, with also influence on household spending, and avoiding or reducing family violence). Minorities and indigenous people also face discrimination (e.g. exposed to

harm when cities expand to engulf their ancestral lands, or in forced evictions). Most Refugees, displaced, migrants and special needs groups (e.g. with disabilities, youth, orphaned, affected by HIV) lack affordable and adequate housing and public services (water, sanitation), live in precarious conditions or slums, and have few economic opportunities and increased risks. The lack of secure tenure hampers their opportunities to overcome poverty and to thrive economically, and denies them the right to adequate housing. Holistic, integrated approaches are best to overcome inequality. As their status is systematically undermined in many ways, changing one aspect of the systems accomplishes little. Strong, fair and appropriate institutions (formal and customary) are needed to develop, implement and enforce policies. Strong coordination also is needed among organizations (e.g. land administration, land use, infrastructure investments). Gender-specific strategies must be included in all development by all actors (e.g. lending, legal assistance, access to the legal system, advocacy for sound policies and institutions). The marginalised (even from slums) must have a role in decision-making, planning and governance and be in institutions that address their rights (e.g. land tenure, housing, water and sanitation, disaster risk management). Women have the greatest understanding of their own needs and their communities, and have solved issues of daily life, and thus are uniquely positioned to craft local solutions.

Inclusive cities, also imply access to services, primary health, education, social protection, right of assembly, security and economic rights, resilient cities, territorial cohesion, positive urban-rural links (e.g. ecology, economic value chains, the holistic management of risks), prosperity and economic opportunities for all. Cities must foster economic growth with permanent local platforms to increase the creation of decent jobs, protect livelihoods and sustainable consumption, with a focus on job opportunities for women and the most vulnerable. The private sector must play a role to enhance economic opportunities for the poor, addressing transparency, labour conditions, health and safety at work, access to social protection, environment, efficiency and upholding the rule of law. Authorities must ensure fair resource generation and access to services that stimulate economic benefits for all.

Most government decision-making bodies lack a sense of urgency. Some laws and regulations discriminate against the vulnerable and there are often underlying deeply-rooted discrimination systems (e.g. based on gender). So decision-makers are often unwilling to take serious action. Thus women, indigenous communities, and migrants often lack access to property and may be unable to assert legal rights. Legal frameworks must be changed intentionally to embed equity of access to crucial resources. The EU must now promote all these priorities.

4.7 How can the EU development policy make a stronger contribution to the security of people? How can EU development policy contribute to addressing the root causes of conflict and fragility and contribute to security and resilience in all the countries where we work?

In the answer to question 3.2 and 4.6 we have described the particular elements of security either increased or mitigated in slums and informal settlements. For example, in many slums, major safety issues stem from limited mobility within the slum communities. With tightly woven pathways with few signs and distinguishing landmarks, emergency and law enforcement vehicles have difficulty navigating through slum areas. In some countries, law enforcement refuses to engage in slums. In other countries there have been high levels of corruption or their practices are not conducive to mutual trust. Other factors have worsened the security situation of women (such as the lack or inaccessible water and sanitation, social segregation and distance to employment, and inadequate transport). As a result, crime and violence are hard to monitor and control. UN-Habitat's "Strategic Plan for Safer Cities" explicitly mentions slum upgrading as an integral element for promoting urban safety. Poor community planning and structurally unsound construction also create hazards for inhabitants, which are exacerbated in many unplanned settlements by floods, fires and landslides. By 2030, 1 in 4 persons are expected to be living in slum type conditions. The EU can make a stronger contribution to the security of people around the world by having a clear strategy for urbanisation, a distinct sector with priority, visibility and tracking, and by investing significantly in slum upgrades.

In fragile countries, conflict zones, refugee camps and long term temporary resettlement areas, studies show that unrest and conflict are fed by economic interest, inequalities, and a lack of provision of basic services and rights (typically demands made of the State or of customary or other authorities). Addressing inequalities will only have a positive effect. In earlier answers we have given evidence of the widespread positive repercussions and impact of land tenure and housing, including in decreasing violence and increasing safety and wellbeing in a wide range of areas. Equal access to public goods and services, such as water and sanitation also can have a strong effect. The EU has recognised in its recent policy, as also in international agreements such as the New Deal for Fragile Contexts and the SDG, that citizen and CSO participation and engagement (including of slum dwellers and the most vulnerable and marginalised), good governance, policy reform, healthy institution building, decreasing corruption and ensuring strong and effective participatory accountability mechanisms all help to mitigate or reduce conflict and build peace. The New Deal has shown some success, based on multi-stakeholder partnerships, evidence gathering assessment, and monitoring regularly. The EU should ensure strong support for these solutions and increase support for inclusive participation of all stakeholders, including local CSO, in the monitoring and decision-making, since multi-stakeholder processes are effective, "...particularly in LDCs and in fragile states, where it is essential to prepare conditions for transition and build the resilience of the most vulnerable populations".

4.8 How can a revised Consensus on Development better harness the opportunities presented by migration, minimise the negative aspects of irregular migration on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and better address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement?

The root causes of migration and forced displacement include inequality, discrimination and the lack of opportunities, as evidenced for example in the conditions of slums, inadequate housing, and the lack of land tenure, as well as the effects of disasters and conflict. As described in the 4.6 and 4.7, addressing inequalities, and improving citizen participation, governance and accountability will help.

To ensure the rights and protection of migrants and refugees, and minimise negative aspects of migration, the range of services in camps should always include housing and sanitation, with particular considerations for women and those with disabilities. This should be adapted if they are on the move, providing adequate temporary options while traveling.

In frequent situations where the camps or resettlement areas become protracted, sometimes for decades, the EU must consider adequate, safe, secure and decent housing, that enables economic activities, social integration, and provides some form of tenure security. This will decrease risks of trafficking or radicalization, and enable long term family investment in education, jobs, and disaster risk prevention or mitigation. Local processes such as community organisation and planning, social auditing and advocacy for system and policy reform, vocational training (for example in construction related techniques), micro-credit and the support of micro and social enterprises, all will help build cohesion, meet needs, ensure rights, and decrease tension. Infrastructure such as water, sanitation, and economic support (e.g. markets, transportation and access) are also important. In those cases, urban planning principles should apply. Recent studies show that migrants often settle in urban areas and they are disproportionately represented among the urban poor in many informal settlements. Since approximately half of the 72 million displaced persons - refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) - in the world live in urban areas, expanding housing options to this population and ensuring slum upgrades will yield significant benefits. Currently, the rights of migrants, refugees and displaced people remain unrealized, for example for adequate housing, water and sanitation and for security of tenure.

(5) Means of implementation: how do we get there?

The principle of universality underpinning the 2030 Agenda will require a differentiated approach to engagement with countries at all levels of development. Official Development Assistance will continue to play an important role in the overall financing mix for those countries most in need (particularly the Least Developed Countries). The EU and its Member States should continue to progress towards achieving their commitments. However, in all countries our development cooperation will need to take account of other sources of finance, including by leveraging other (non-Official Development Assistance) sources of finance for poverty eradication and sustainable development. The delivery of the 2030 Agenda means that our work helping countries raise their own resources (domestic resource mobilisation), the provision of aid for trade, blending* and partnering with the private sector should be priority areas of focus. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda, an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, provides a framework for our efforts, including for our work supporting the right enabling policy environment for sustainable development in our partner countries. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change should be closely coordinated given the strong interlinkages. Engagement with middle income countries, notably the emerging economies, will be important to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, considering the role they can play in promoting global public goods, what they can achieve within their respective countries on poverty eradication and sustainable development, and the example they can set within their regions as well as their role in regional processes. Here differentiated partnerships can play an important role (examples include different forms of political, economic, and financial investment as well as cooperation in science, technology and innovation). Specific attention and focus should also be given to Least Developed Countries, as acknowledged by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

The EU's implementation of the 2030 Agenda provides an opportunity for enhancing consistency between the different areas of the EU's external action and between these and other EU policies (as outlined in the Lisbon Treaty and in [EU's Comprehensive Approach to external conflict and crises](#)). The EU will continue to pursue [Policy Coherence for Development](#) as a key contribution to the collective effort towards broader policy coherence for sustainable development. In our external action, the EU needs to consider how we can use all policies, tools, instruments at our disposal coherently in line with the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda.

* Combining EU grants with loans or with equity from other public and private financiers with a view to leveraging additional resources.

5.1 How can EU policies, and EU development policy in particular, help to mobilise and maximise the impact of the increasing variety of sustainable development finance, including in particular from the private sector?

It is clear that the EU will have to continue and scale up the mobilisation of a variety of sources of finance in order to maximise impact. For example, an estimated \$929 billion is needed to improve the housing of those currently living in inadequate housing in cities, without counting the additional gap to cover in the future. Currently available global resources are woefully insufficient to realize only the SDG Housing Target. Combining multiple

solutions –land, finance, and construction– with multiple partnerships – governments, private sector, civil society and donors – will close the affordable housing gap and enable funding for other critical priorities.

Private Sector financing: A much larger contribution of the private sector to international and country development budgets is possible. The EU should consider partnerships to catalyse this engagement. CSO, LA and the diaspora have proven to be very effective in mobilising private sector contributions. See also answer to question 6.2

The private sector also can contribute in other ways than financing. Experts could provide useful time and knowledge for innovations, research, and solutions to difficult challenges. Private Sector and Foundations should donate incentives for research and innovation, or help directly in researching best practices and innovations and pulling together best thinking.

Aid Effectiveness: If there is to be any support or incentives from the EU to mobilise the Private Sector, then for all contributions of the private sector, it is critical that principles and commitments of Effective Development Cooperation apply to them to their furthest extend, including transparency, accountability, local ownership, and results-based programing or value for money (with external independent verification). The Private Sector should only be engaged with the support of EU contributions (loans or subsidies) if they are demonstrably providing impact, for the most needed issues or processes, filling gaps, for example inequality, and working in partnerships.

The EU provides some support through blending, with a view to leveraging additional resources. In such a case, the EU should ensure that the Private Sector adds value, that the final results enable access to the vulnerable and non-discrimination, and that the Private Sector bears part of the risk. Loans should not add undue burden, hurt the most vulnerable (e.g. resulting in cuts in services), or the environment. In addition, partnerships with CSO should be considered for value added loans or blending, for example to increase support of micro-credit and social enterprises with a high return potential.

The Private Sector can also act as a development actor directly. This calls for a broader understanding of who or what comprises the Private Sector, including a wide range of entities or initiatives, not only corporate or international, but also social enterprises, informal businesses, cooperatives and small businesses. As one positive example, that should be encouraged, we support the strong link between housing, economic development and the addition of “social habitat production”, and the contribution of the sector in stimulating productivity in other economic sectors, “recognizing that housing enhances capital formation, labour productivity, income, employment generation and savings, and can contribute to driving inclusive economic transformation at the national, sub-national and local levels ” (NUA).

Caution should be taken when the Private Sector is an actor within the development contexts (both local and international). They must also be

coherent, contribute to development and poverty alleviation within the principles and definitions of the SDG and international rights and agreements, and “Do no Harm” in each context. In some cases, they could set development back. In less critical but much more frequent cases, the private sector has less efficient responses and its efforts lack sustainability or impact or scope than would be hoped or could be done by other actors. That is why partnerships are critical as well, whether with local and national governments, CSO, IO or academia. The private sector will have to take responsibility “to engage in responsible investment, sustainable trade, inclusive business models and other strategies as part of its core business to enhance economic opportunities for the poor and thereby achieve development aims”. It will require addressing issues of transparency, labour conditions, health and safety at work, access to social protection, environment, efficiency” and upholding the rule of law. Ensuring economic opportunity for all will again require the reinforcement of all Authorities, so that they can play a catalytic role and ensure the healthy balance between growth and inclusion and rights. A territorial approach is important for adequate links between the urban and rural areas, and attention to value chains and mutual market opportunities.

5.2 Given the evolving availability of other sources of finance and bearing in mind the EU's commitments on Official Development Assistance (e.g. [Council Conclusions from 26 May 2015 on "A New Global Partnership for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development after 2015"](#), and *inter alia*, paragraphs 32 and 33), how and where should the EU use its Official Development Assistance strategically and to maximise its impact?

First and foremost, the EU must remain a global leader in ODA commitments and also disbursements. Furthermore, the EU and MS must speed up their efforts to meet their ODA commitments, which have been repeatedly endorsed by Councils. MS should provide timetables for the full implementation of their commitments. ODA should be strictly used for SDG, development and poverty alleviation. ODA should still prioritize Least Developed Countries, fragile and vulnerable countries, as acknowledged by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

The EU can use ODA more strategically. As described previously, the EU must ensure, first of all, that key long term investments should be made for urban social issues, inequality and resilience. The Council Conclusions for the SDGs state that “the EU and its MS recognise the need in particular, to adequately mobilise the flow of ODA and other sources of financing which go to cities and other local and sub-national authorities...”. Currently, EU funding for urbanisation could be as high as 4%, but if considering long term development funding, might be lower than 1%, with less than 1/10 of that for slum upgrades.

More ODA should be dedicated to territorial approaches (such as for decentralisation and for the key links between cities and their rural surroundings), where appropriate, in a variety of sectors (such as value

chains for agriculture and economic exchanges, local procurement, adequate consumption circles, ecological chains, protecting the environment, using alternative renewable resources, and ensuring global public goods, including water).

Additional ODA should also prioritise integrated approaches, at the nexus, for example, of environment, social and economic sectors, to help overcome silos, enable innovations, and address complex challenges of current global trends such as urbanisation and inequality.

As described earlier in question 4.3, the EU should dedicate a greater proportion of ODA to CSO directly or to partnerships led by CSO, enabling block grants and re-grants, financial contributions and capacity building for smaller CSO or those with less capacity, experience or matching funds. CSO catalyse financing, including sizeable engagement by the private sector. CSO are required to document impact, efficiency and aid effectiveness. The role of CSO has been recognised and emphasized, and its impact can be researched. The EU should now recognise this value added, and to adjust its funding and support allocations accordingly, with much more priority for CSO.

The EU should provide much more support to CSO for social enterprises and micro-credit (enabling fair and accessible interest rates and support for the poor and the organisations that serve them), bottom of the pyramid social entrepreneurship and global south entrepreneurs, given the many strong findings on the return on investment and impact.

The EU must continue and increase its focus on partnerships, with a wider and more innovative view of multi-sector partnerships, including those led by CSO and including a diverse understanding of private sector actors, CSO/LA alliances, and CSO roles in public institution building. The EU has already committed to broadening its funding and partnership modalities, this must now be scaled up, with openness to a variety of modalities.

Finally, any ODA being used for the private sector or IO should also meet the full requirements for Aid Effectiveness, as well as prove results, and document efficient use of funding with as much rigor as required of CSO. In all these contributions of ODA, the strategic focus should be on what is most needed in light of the SDG and other global commitments, and to overcome inequality.

While not always the most strategic contributions of ODA, the following must be addressed and changed. Current strong priorities of EU ODA include Budget Support as direct assistance to partner governments, this increases national ownership. The Communication on Budget Support has been helpful, but requires further strengthening. There should be strong conditionality for Budget Support in terms of meeting development cooperation effectiveness principles, including transparency and accountability (to parliaments, government oversight bodies, and also to social auditing), as well as documented progress on governance issues (including decreasing corruption and providing an Enabling Environment for CSO), as those factors reflect global

commitments of donors and partners. There should be a distinct sector for urban, slum and territorial support for EU national Sector Support.

5.3 How can the EU better support partner countries in mobilising their own resources for poverty eradication and sustainable development?

Domestic resource mobilisation must be supported at national and local levels. This will require institution building for taxation and other related modalities. It will require capacity building, better data management, and strong oversight. In addition, efforts must be made to increase transparency, decrease corruption, and diminish capital flight and tax evasion. Tax administration, audit and oversight organisations must be effective, transparent and just, with sufficient capacities and means. Land registries must be well managed, as this is also a source for local taxation.

In urban administration, management and among LA there are large capacity gaps: human, institutional and technical capacity; abilities for cross-departmental coordination and stakeholder involvement, the abilities to unlock local financial resources, to ensure fair and legal domestic taxation, and to access and manage external financing. A transition time will be necessary to build the capacity and gradually access the local resources.

Even Least Developed Countries include some wealthy families and corporations who can be mobilised to contribute to development as well as encourage diaspora contributions. Furthermore, as outlined in the answer to question 5.1, social enterprise, bottom of the pyramid solutions and partnerships can generate development contributions. In this respect, land titles and affordable housing, have been shown to have positive effects on local resource mobilisation and investment in community development.

5.4 Given the importance of middle income countries to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, what form could differentiated partnerships take?

As rightfully addressed in the EU introduction to this section of the questionnaire, Middle Income Countries (MIC) have a role to play and engagement with them is important. The EU should not limit its support or investment to GDP criteria. MIC can further the impact on SDG, especially inequality, provide an example, and partner with other countries for mutual learning and impact.

In particular, it will be critical in MIC to ensure overcoming inequality, strong Disaster Risk Management, effective governance, accountability and advocacy for the best and most appropriate use of investment and for the State's and LA's responsibilities towards the citizens. In some cases, there will also be a need for institution building.

In each type of country, there should be attention to differentiated actors, the role they can play and the impact they can reach, to partnerships, and to the wisest proportions of investment for each. In all countries, governance and effectiveness elements should be prioritised as described earlier, with a focus on inclusivity.

In most cases the EU should pull away from direct Budget Support in MIC, and concentrate on other modalities, except for a temporary transition in order to meet rapid global trends such as urbanisation. Any direct or sector support of governments and LA should be thoroughly monitored for development cooperation principles, impact and sustainability and considered in a well-planned transition phase, building up local resources and management capacity. For the strengthening of institutions, local procurement is paramount, benefiting from context-specific expertise and cost-effectiveness, and ensuring more local spread of knowledge.

The EU should prioritise funding through CSO, LA and other key actors in the MIC, such as the diaspora, foundations, and the media. In particular, there should be very strong support for the role of CSO (and all actors), in policy change and social accountability, such as occurred in successful examples in MIC and emerging economies to address inequality and make broad regulatory system changes for land tenure and other social rights, which have sustainable repercussions in addressing the development of previously marginalised as well as helping the country make significant strides and be able to wean from ODA. The EU should ensure the active and effective participation of the private sector as well as its development cooperation effectiveness (transparency, accountability, ownership, results and partnerships).

The EU should use a variety of instruments to incentivise change and Development Effectiveness, including soft diplomacy, diplomatic pressure, global or regional public review systems, and peer exchange and learning, whilst still making stronger efforts to ensure global commitments and PDC. The EU should increase incentives of all types for MIC and emerging economies to engage in Sout/South support and the spread of best practices, when it is documented that this has strong impact, meets development cooperation principles, and focusses on the SDGs, rights, gaps and trends that are most needed. In particular this support should be provided when breakthrough innovations, or institutional, policy or justice changes are promoted and implemented.

5.5 Given experience so far in taking into account the objectives of development cooperation in the implementation of EU policies which are likely to affect developing countries (e.g. [Policy Coherence for Development: 2015 EU Report](#)), how should the EU step up its efforts to achieve Policy Coherence for Development, as a key contribution to the collective effort towards policy coherence for sustainable development? How can we help ensure that policies in developing countries, and internationally contribute coherently to sustainable development priorities?

Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) is a critical principle, mandated by the Lisbon treaty, which must be fully included in the new development framework. Furthermore, it must be well defined for full clarity on its meaning, given that EU staff and officials have often been heard to understand the Policy Coherence, without realising that policies must be coherent with development, and to not understand the implications of the principle. EU and MS officials must also receive more capacity building around PCD.

The EU must strongly increase its efforts and its results in PCD. For the EU to step up and achieve more PCD, it is important to monitor and report on all dimensions of development, especially poverty eradication, the SDG, Human Rights and conventions, and the other global agreements (Paris, Addis, Sendai, Busan, and the NUA). The EU must be transparent about its findings regarding PCD and the areas where progress is needed, so that it can be held accountable.

In order to increase PC for sustainable development priorities in partner countries, the EU can use a variety of mechanisms, from diplomacy and incentives, to knowledge exchange (showing its own example transparently), and capacity building. Most importantly, the priority investment in governance, advocacy and accountability which we have proposed for the future EU development framework (with citizen engagement and wide participation of all stakeholders), can only help governments, and all actors in development (LA, CSO, the private sector and IO), to improve their PCD, as their citizens and other key actors hold them accountable. In this regard, EU support for the Enabling Environment of CSO is important, so that they can play their role in society and be free from fear of reprisal. This is another strong reason for such governance and accountability activities and CSO in particular to receive a greater proportion of the EU budget than currently assigned.

(6) The actors: making it work together

An important feature of the new Agenda is that all governments, developed and developing, will need to work with a wide range of stakeholders (including the private sector, civil society and research institutions) to improve the transparency and inclusivity of decision-making, planning, service delivery, and monitoring and to ensure synergy and complementarity.

The EU must continue to work collaboratively with others and contribute to a coordinated approach. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda puts national plans for implementation (including associated financing and policy frameworks) at the centre. To maximise our impact, EU development policy should be based on a strategic and comprehensive strategy for each country, which also responds to the country-specific context.

Our partner countries' implementation of the 2030 Agenda will inform our overall engagement and our development cooperation dialogue with them and will help shape our support for their national efforts. The EU should also help partner countries put in place the necessary enabling policy frameworks to eradicate poverty, tackle sustainable development challenges and enhance their policy coherence.

There is a need for a renewed emphasis on the quality of development cooperation, including existing commitments on aid and development effectiveness made in Paris, Accra and Busan* and through work with the [Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation](#).

An updated EU development policy should also provide a shared vision that guides the action of the EU and Member States in development cooperation, putting forward proposals on how to further enhance coordination, complementarity and coherence between EU and Member States. Strengthening [Joint Programming](#) will be an important part of this. Improving the division of labour between the EU and its Member States in order to reduce aid fragmentation will also contribute to increased development effectiveness.

* See [Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action](#) and the [Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation](#)

6.1 How should the EU strengthen its partnerships with civil society, foundations, the business community, parliaments and local authorities and academia to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda (including the integral Addis Ababa Action Agenda) and the Paris Agreement on climate change?

The participation and partnership of CSO is a key part of the development process, as emphasised in the HRBA. CSO include a wide range of actors in society. For participatory processes, most importantly for development, these must include citizens, the most vulnerable and marginalised themselves, for development to benefit from local knowledge and solutions, and to empower them to have a voice and be active citizens. Citizen engagement in governance, accountability and policy change is of utmost importance for sustainable impact.

LA play an important and legitimate role. They should look out for the wellbeing of their residents, ensure their protection and rights, facilitate multi-stakeholder coordination and dialog, the inclusion of CSO and especially the most vulnerable. In many countries, decentralisation steps have strengthened LA and municipal autonomy, and increased support. But LA face several barriers. They often lack the legal, regulatory and procedural mandates and resources (with subsidiarity and decentralisation), to enable them to play their role. They also often lack the capacity or the will for development, or to facilitate dialog with local and international actors. They must be given the mandate, policy framework and resources for their role, their capacity must be built, and they must be held accountable for their role in development.

The success of global agreements and EU development policy, will depend on collaboration by all stakeholders and on multi-stakeholder partnerships, because of the complex multiple dimensions of the challenges and trends, the need for integrated responses and for the mobilisation of the resources and capacities of all actors. The donor community is needed to elevate visibility and mobilise support for housing in the international development agenda, and provide incentives for policy reform and accountability. Multi-sector and actor partnerships also add value for the consultations (to prepare global agreements, ensuring more ownership, as for the preparation of the SDG) and monitoring (as for the MDG). All stakeholders should have a place in the final decision-making of commitments, targets, and implementation coordination and monitoring system, as for the Busan Partnership. Partnerships increase financial and capacity building support, involvement in implementation, and improve coordination, thus raising effectiveness (as with the Scale Up Nutrition initiative). For healthy governance and policy coherence, multi-stakeholder participation in ongoing policy dialog and accountability processes is needed. It is most effective if this participation is structured and regular, especially between national governments, regional bodies, LA, CSO of different types and donors, such as with the EU Structured Dialog and Policy Forum for Development. The active involvement of a wide range of stakeholders in dialog, to monitor the implementation of commitments and the effective use of resources (cf the Busan PEDC), “demonstrates the transformational potential of an inclusive monitoring process on behaviour and levels of ambition”. Participatory social audits and monitoring of services (often with strong CSO participation) have proven to be useful in ensuring the best use of all resources and financing, track progress on commitments and find innovations and solutions. Finally, they are important for capacity building, networks and systems for knowledge exchange, to which the EU is strongly committed, in all its forms (such as N/S, S/S, triangular, public/private and through IO).

The EU joint position for the SDG rightfully calls for going “beyond traditional channels of cooperation, ... to promote more effective and inclusive forms of multi-stakeholder partnerships, operating at all levels”. The Addis Agenda has a similar call. These partnerships must now be scaled up, with a variety of modalities, including CSO-led alliances with private sector, LA, and CSO roles in public institution building.

The EU has advanced in ensuring the participation of CSO and LA building on the Structured Dialog, developing the strong Communications and Council Conclusion, with capacity building for EU delegations, promoting the role of CSO and LA with partner governments, with CSO Country mapping and Road Maps, encouraging national structured dialogs, with the Policy Forum for Development. These steps are important and must continue and be further strengthened.

But stronger change must happen for the EU to strengthen links with other actors. Despite the policy and promotion regarding the role of CSO and LA, and some increase in financing in recent years, the proportion of EU funding for these actors is minuscule in comparison to the entire EU budget. Support for multi-stakeholder processes is even smaller. There must be a renewed demonstration with action coherent with the level of the commitments on paper and the importance of roles that are played by CSO and LA.

6.2 How can the EU promote private sector investment for sustainable development?

Please see part of the response in question 5.1

Private Sector financing: A much larger contribution of the private sector contributions to international and country development budgets is possible. The EU should consider partnerships to catalyse this engagement. CSO, LA and the diaspora have proven to be very effective in mobilising private sector contributions, with concrete projects that are relevant to their sector or employees, and ways for them to engage directly (some companies send their employees as volunteers for a week for team building and direct contributions in house construction for the poor). For example, the various Habitat for Humanity network organisations worldwide have succeeded in mobilising a strong proportion of its annual budgets from the private sector, including from numerous businesses based in poor countries. The range of actors include cement, construction and construction material businesses, household appliances and furniture businesses, hotels, banks, property developers, tourist operators, insurance companies, and money transfer and investment companies, ranging from small and local to corporate, multi-national and Fortune 500. Their contributions have been in funding, loans (for micro-credit), collateral, gifts in kind to the NGOs, and to beneficiaries, and material and tools for construction, vocational training, construction material production, and social enterprises. In addition, many private sector Foundations have become involved. Much more could be done if the EU forms partnerships with CSO to mobilise the private sector.

6.3 How can the EU strengthen relations on sustainable development with other countries, international financing institutions, multilateral development banks, emerging donors and the UN system?

In recent years the EU and MS have a track record of playing a lead, proactive and constructive role in the global arena, helping to reach consensus on strong and forward looking global agreements. The EU has shown effort to reach some level of political will, implementation and monitoring of agreements. Nevertheless, the EU could promote stronger ambition and stronger, more useful, tracking and review mechanisms. The EU engagement should continue and be further strengthened. Since Accra and Busan, and the EU Structured Dialog, the EU has increasingly been open to and promote multi-stakeholder participation, ensuring a place in negotiations for CSO, LAs, parliaments, and other actors and interacting in partnership with the range of International Organisations (IO). This promotion and effective collaboration is useful and should continue, whilst also promoting the equal accountability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of each of those actors. In regards to programming, the EU has worked through IO to implement its priorities. This can be useful, but should be further evaluated to ensure that the investment is the best for the strongest and most sustainable impact. In some cases, other actors or innovative partnerships can achieve more. Evidence-based decision-making is important.

The recent initiatives with multi-stakeholder partnerships for programming, including governments, IO, and various actors, such as the SUN and Sahel programmes, have been very promising and should be evaluated, and further strengthened with increased support and investment.

6.4 How can the EU best support partner countries to develop comprehensive and inclusive national plans for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?

The EU should use the range of instruments at its disposal to provide the strongest possible support for partner countries to engage in comprehensive and inclusive national plans. First the EU should demonstrate this by example, in the EU and in each country, seeking the most evidence-based, inclusive and representative processes for its own Country Strategies, with a broad participation of all key actors.

Currently, the EU country strategy papers still do not benefit from genuine and representative multi-stakeholder participation, as announcements often come on very short notice (disregarding that CSO must travel from other regions of the countries and consult their constituencies), to restricted mailing lists. When there is participation in consultations, there is often a lack of inclusion of the views or feedback about the result of dialog. The most affected, and vulnerable are often excluded. The EU must ensure full participation of CSO in country strategy papers, and ensure that the CSO Road Map results be taken into account.

For the national processes of SDG commitments and reviews, the EU can use diplomatic encouragement and pressure, various incentives, direct and project support. The EU should help ensure that in each Agenda 2030 national planning process key elements have their place in the planning and are embedded in the strategic national goals: governance, inclusivity (with the particular marginalised groups and issues of each country context), gender, and cross-cutting issues, and attention to major global trends such as urbanisation. Then the EU must help ensure data collection, appropriate monitoring (with multi-stakeholder participation), accountability processes, and full implementation of the commitments.

6.5 What are the best ways to strengthen and improve coherence, complementarity and coordination between the EU and the Member States in their support to help partner countries achieve poverty eradication and sustainable development?

A strong, comprehensive, integrated and forward looking new Consensus on Development would be an important tool to ensure aligned coherence and coordination among the EU and the MS. It should also keep development as one of the highest EU priorities. In countries, coordination is best served by good and comprehensive data, and inclusive processes. The EU and MS must also continue to be transparent and to be held accountable to their commitments and priorities.

Coordination among DG, and between different sectors or roles in delegations, still often needs improvement (especially for PCD, but also for specific sectors like Urbanisation, or Environment), although coordination was strong for the NUA and SDG, for the most part. Coordination between EU institutions is improving but still needs considerable strengthening. Further capacity building and joint understanding of the values, vision, priorities and policies will help.

Joint programming is useful. However, the EU and MS must be very cautious to overcome donor orphans and donor darlings. It has seemed that in the intend of coordination, the EU and MS may have fallen in the trap of extreme alignment and focus, thereby concentrating on very few areas of intervention and disregarding key areas. The idea should have been to enable different MS to have their own priorities within a coordinated total, so that there are no gaps.

In the past years, as joint programming was starting and being perfected, the time and effort needed for EU actors to coordinate among themselves has, at times, meant that there was much less openness and coordination with other actors in each context, a problem which should be avoided in the future.

There should be caution to ensure that the prioritization of areas does not arbitrarily result in an issue being left out, or in reduction country ownership, or CSO right of initiative. To be effective, joint programming must be based on local research, consolidated evaluation findings, analysis of important trends and inclusive participatory processes of local ownership with all key stakeholders.

6.6 How can EU development cooperation be as effective as possible, and how can we work with all partners to achieve this?

Throughout this response to the consultation questions, it was emphasized the importance of development cooperation effectiveness. Various initiatives were presented to ensure a significant strengthening of effectiveness in line with the Paris Declaration, Accra Agenda and Busan Partnership agreements, their monitoring, and the EU policy related to those global agreements. They are summarised again here with a few additional key recommendations:

- The EU must lead by example, adhering to the highest standards, monitoring comprehensively, being transparent and sharing lessons learned.
- Continuous capacity building about development effectiveness is necessary, among all the different EU actors, partner countries at all levels, and all other stakeholders.
- For Development Cooperation Effectiveness indicators, as well as for the monitoring and review mechanism for the latest agreements (Agenda 2030 especially, but also Paris, Sendai, the NUA, and Addis) the EU should agree to, promote, and implement meaningful, time-bound, action oriented commitments, indicators and review mechanisms and global governance and review systems so that advances can be tracked, gaps remedied rapidly, and all actors can be held accountable to their commitments.
- The EU should promote, support, build capacity and fund data gathering, evaluation and monitoring mechanisms for all actors.
- The EU should strongly support all initiatives and programmes to increase CSO and citizen participation, their role in accountability and social auditing processes.
- The EU must hold all of its partners to meet the Development Effectiveness commitments. Partner governments receiving Budget Support must demonstrate their monitoring and progress on the commitments, including creating an Enabling Environment for CSO, transparency, efforts to reduce corruption and enable accountability, as well as on their efforts for good governance. The Private Sector, LA, IO and other donor or emerging economy partners, benefiting from EU incentives or support (even if the support is to catalyse their contributions), should also have to demonstrate concretely the level of Development Cooperation Effectiveness, as well as their own result effectiveness and cost-efficiency.
- In order to further ownership, transparency, the Enabling environment, and enhanced results, the EU should promote :
 - o decentralized urban management by building the capacity both technically and financially of LA to address the challenge of rapid urbanization at the local level
 - o inclusive multi-sector models along a people, public, private partnership approach
 - o the voice of citizens in policy making through strong mobilised communities
 - o innovation and creative thinking through strengthened partnerships with institutions of learning

6.7 What further progress could be made in EU Joint Programming, and how could this experience be linked with other EU joined-up actions in supporting countries' delivery of the 2030 Agenda?

See answer to question 6.5

(7) Keeping track of progress

The EU will need to contribute to the global follow-up and review process for the 2030 Agenda. Keeping track of progress in a systematic and transparent way is essential for delivering the 2030 Agenda. The EU is actively contributing to the setting up of a Sustainable Development Goal monitoring system at global, regional and national level. Demonstrating results and impact from our efforts and the promotion of transparency will be important priorities for EU development policy, as part of a wider move to strengthen accountability, follow-up and review at all levels.

7.1 How can the EU strengthen its own use of evidence and analysis, including in the development field, to feed into its regular review on the Sustainable Development Goals to the UN?

The EU should step up its use of evaluation findings for decision-making and reporting. There should be an aggregation and analysis of results of EU support, across countries, global regions, sectors, instruments and modalities, in order to compare the findings adequately, provide full transparency on the effect of various modalities, and learn lessons about factors influencing or deterring impact. This analysis and reporting should include EDF support, funding for Technical Assistance, blending and loans, as well as Aid for Trade or support of the Private Sector.

Such analysis and reporting should disaggregate data, at minimum by gender, as non-negotiable, given the EU's various commitments to that effect over the past 10 years, and the EU's promotion of disaggregated data in international Forums. Ideally, it should be disaggregated by age category, and major vulnerability factor (persons with disabilities, living in slums, refugees or displaced, etc.)

This analysis and reporting should include tracking according to SDG targets. The findings should be transparent and used for future Country Strategies, and for the prioritisation of allocation to various modalities and sectors.

As previously committed by the EU, there should be strong support and financing, for partner country data collection, statistics, analysis and reporting, as well as for evaluations, which should be targeted to a range of countries including some MIC, if this is a known gap. As the EU and UN Secretary General have recommended, without considerable strengthening of the data collection and analysis abilities world-wide, it will be difficult to track and effectively implement the SDG, and even more difficult to analyse innovations and complex solutions to strong trends or challenges. In addition, Global and regional data repositories should be further developed.

Finally, in the development of the SDG monitoring system, as well as the system for the NUA and other recent global agreements, the EU should promote the most useful and meaningful indicators and means of data collection, instead of the easiest.

7.2 How can the EU help to ensure the accountability of all actors involved in implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the private sector? How can the EU encourage a strong and robust approach to the Follow Up and Review of the 2030 Agenda from all actors?

International processes:

As the systems are being formalised (for the SDG and also the NUA), we must ensure the most strategic monitoring tools, targets and indicators. The EU must ensure concrete, specific action-oriented and time-bound result targets.

In addition to being measurable, they must be ambitious, useful and meaningful, addressing key commitments and gaps to ensure that the global agenda stays on track. We must learn from past experiences; the positive spur of the MDG data collection, and the gaps in progress when important elements were not included in the definition of the indicators or measurement, or standards were too simple and attainable and left out vulnerable groups. They must include common international standards and benchmarks, to ensure the comparison between countries. Flexibility and voluntary commitments should not enable some countries to avoid measurement and accountability. Disaggregated data measurement should be universal. Whilst it is important to ensure practicality and coherence, using systems that exist, the lack of ambition in the monitoring system can be the downfall of the entire agreements. The EU can show the example and use every possible means to incentivise the use of these ambitious targets, indicators and reporting.

The EU must promote transparent international and country monitoring systems for all global agreements with global mechanisms of monitoring for all key indicators. Systems must be well funded and supported by strong capacity building. There must be global timetables, regular reports and reviews, which carry political weight and enable comparison, tracking and peer encouragement between countries and cities.

The systems must be inclusive, with ownership and participation of all actors (citizens, CSO, LA, parliaments, knowledge institutions and audit or oversight institutions, and donors and other IO), for learning, to increase political will, and to enable focus on the most needed actions and policies, and the best use of resources, ensuring more impact. It provides incentives for and belief in monitoring and enables mutual accountability. There should also be representative participation in multi-stakeholder panels to consolidate knowledge and comparisons. Global governance mechanisms are needed (for all agreements), and must be operationalized with well-financed and well defined inclusive participatory accountability measures. The EU should provide support, incentives and capacity development efforts for all levels of the monitoring and review system to ensure its functioning and use for decision-making.

Accountability Processes are key and urgent.

All actors partnering with the EU must be accountable for the resources received (from EDF/Budget support, Private Sector and IO (for all modalities), with the same level of scrutiny, including for cost and development effectiveness, and impact, with results used for meta-analyses, comparisons and decision-making.

The EU must provide support to increase Monitoring, Evaluation, data collection, analysis, reporting and comparison capacities, especially for governments, parliaments, LA and public oversight organisations, but also for smaller and local CSO and for diaspora initiatives. Incentives and requirements should encourage these functions from the private sector for any initiatives with EU support, to document their role in development and hold them accountable. EU support is also needed for innovations, micro-enterprises and social enterprises who do not have financial or

organisational capacity.

The EU must facilitate meta-analyses to make meaningful comparisons of approaches, modalities and actors (on impact and on mobilisation of resources), also comparing disaggregated data across different contexts and instruments. The findings should be used for decision-making, including renewal of financial support, and focus, for all EU partners.

Citizen, CSO and LA participation in participatory accountability is key for impact, efficiency, to decrease loss and corruption, for creative solutions, and is a useful part of the development process. The EU should provide incentives for this at the global, EU, national partner and local levels (by supporting the Enabling Environment, accountability capacity and processes, and by giving incentives to LA and governments to enable and use the results of accountability). To facilitate this, the EU will need to increase its support to all evidence gathering, evidence using, policy-making and accountability processes (including data management capacities and tools, efforts to include more stakeholders especially the most excluded and vulnerable beneficiaries, and to increase their capacity participatory accountability, social auditing, budget monitoring, monitoring global commitments and international review and reporting mechanisms).

7.3 How should EU development cooperation respond to the regular reviews on progress of the partner countries towards the 2030 Agenda goals?

The EU must take an active role in ensuring that partner countries carry out complete, rigorous and timely regular reviews, including by supporting their capacities. The EU must consider the results for dialog and decision-making, thereby also legitimising their use and incentivising the effort to collect data and carry out serious analysis.

The EU should provide its own country analysis of progress on the SDG within EU initiatives and programmes, in order to produce a shadow report that can be of benefit to country authorities and to the various actors in development in each context. Such a report must be transparent.

The EU must use the results of its shadow report, of the partner countries' regular reviews, and on data and shadow reviews of all other stakeholders in each country, in order to establish its next Country Strategy Papers. Therefore, the calendar of the Country Strategy Papers should take the calendar of reviews into consideration.

Findings of the SDG results (of all stakeholders) must influence funding and decision-making at the country level, to ensure to address gaps and overcome inequality, and to consider incentives to catalyse successful change in difficult areas. The EU should also use the progress findings to feed into all of its interactions with partner governments, using all available instruments of encouragement and incentive to facilitate progress and address serious gaps or failures (such as development funding, diplomatic tools, and other tools, policies, agreements and relations the EU may have with each country (including those out of the development field, in the perspective of PCD) and regional or global review mechanisms or forums.

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