

between internal-external programmes in the problem definition. On that basis the report should clarify and sharpen the objectives with a view to clearly linking them with the underlying problems and their drivers.

(2) Better demonstrate the necessity and value added of EU action. The report should better demonstrate the need for EU action by including examples e.g. as to why the EU has greater critical weight, why joint action is important and why a greater accountability would exist compared to action by Member States only. In this context, the report should also discuss why bilateral agreements are not capable of delivering the same results and why EU coordination is necessary.

(3) Clarify the baseline scenario and the content of the options. The report should clearly indicate which of the options will serve as a baseline scenario. Furthermore, the report should better explain the content of the options especially for the sub-options of option 2.

(4) Improve the analysis of impacts and comparison of options. The report currently assesses impacts at a rather general level. The impact analysis should rather reflect the concrete nature of the proposal and it should provide a detailed assessment of the various (sub-) options, clearly differentiating economic, social and environmental impacts. Impacts should be assessed for neighbourhood countries and also for the EU (where applicable). The report should in this context distinguish clearly between the description of the options and their impact analysis. It should better explain why option 2 scores as best compared to the other options and the expected developments under the baseline scenario. The report should include an analysis of administrative costs.

(5) Better explain the "more-for-more" principle and conditionality. The report should provide more details on the "more-for-more" principle and how it will be applied in practice, including how to encourage neighbouring countries to further engage in reforms. It should also explain to what extent aid differentiation among the neighbouring countries is a key issue, given the EU's strategic interest in continued progress and support for all countries. In this context the report should also explain in more detail how the policy objectives of conditionality will be implemented through the new instrument and to what extent it will represent a strengthening of existing conditionality provisions.

(D) Procedure and presentation

The executive summary should be revised according to changes to be made in the report, be extended to an adequate length and provide an appropriate level of detail.

(E) IAB scrutiny process

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External expertise used	No
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