EU support to water partnerships for developing countries

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EU Approach

The universal access to water and sanitation is well recognised under EU’s development policy as well as the value of partnerships and multi-stakeholder approach in meeting this challenge.

The EU is the largest donor in the water sector.
Policy Framework
The Agenda for Change

REDUCING POVERTY IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD
More action is needed to tackle global challenges and to deliver global public goods, such as access to water and sanitation.

Business environment, regional integration, world markets
The Agenda for Change put among its priorities:

- To support "support regional and continental integration efforts through partners' policies in areas such as (...) cross-border cooperation on water, energy and security"
- To make "the private sector as a key partner in development"

Sustainable agriculture and energy

- "The EU should (...) tackle inequalities, in particular to give poor people better access to land, food, water and energy without harming the environment."
EU Water Cooperation

Achievements and Future Actions
Key figures 2004-2013

- From 2004 to date, an average of nearly **€400 million per year** have been committed to the water sector.

- Under the programming period (2007-2013), more than **€2.5 billion** have been committed in the water sector, which was a focal sector in **28 countries** mainly for **WASH actions**. Water projects have been implemented in more than **62 countries**.

- More than **70 million people** connected to improved drinking water and more than **24 million people** connected to sanitation facilities since 2004.

**Major initiatives:**
ACP-EU Water Facility (9th & 10th EDF): **€712 million**
MDG Initiative for water and sanitation: **€266 million**
Activities 2014-2020

- **WASH is a focal sector in 20 National Indicative Programmes** and agricultural water will be addressed by 14 NIPs having food security as a focal sector.

- In the **Regional programming**, water has been chosen as focal sector for certain RIPs (Neighbourhood, Central Asia, Central and Latin America and West and East Africa).

- Additionally, water could also be addressed through **infrastructure programmes** and through its linkages with nutrition and energy aspects in the **water/energy/food security nexus** as well as through **biodiversity environment and climate change actions**.

Water and sanitation should be seen not only as an independent sector but also as a horizontal element crucial in many others sectorial policies.
Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) Water

• 2014-2020 DCI budget €19,6 billion → GPGC €4,9 billion → Water €81 million.

• Objective is to highlight the water's leverage effect on economic sectors e.g. environment, cross-border cooperation etc.

• Support is foreseen to:
  ➢ Regional "Nexus" dialogues and plan of action
  ➢ Cooperation on international waters in Africa
  ➢ Water Centres of Excellence in Africa
EU Water Partnerships
Water Facility

TWINNING PARTNERSHIPS PROJECTS

- February 2010: launch of the **call for proposal** "Partnerships for Capacity Development in the ACP Water & Sanitation Sector"

- **32 projects** financed for a total EU contribution of **EUR 22.8M**

- **21 concerned countries**: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, Cameroun, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, Santa Lucia, Suriname, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia
Ongoing projects: a successful example

**Title** → Capacity Building in Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management in Mozambique Northern Region through a FIPAG - VIE Partnership

**Total cost** → 1.243.320  
**EC contribution** → € 885.000

**Implementing partner** → VITENS Evides International

**Objective** → To develop water supply capacity (water governance and sustainable water asset management) with FIPAG Northern Region Office and two Water Supply Units (in the towns of Nampula and Angoches) and replication of the approach by four other towns in the northern region.

**Results**

- Trainings are on-going in the fields of change management, laboratory skills, maintenance, etc.
- A pilot project for NRW is on-going in a peri-urban neighbourhood, which has already led to a reduction from 56% to 39%.
- Awareness campaigns and training for the kiosks/standpipe points management are ongoing.
ECI – Right2Water

The European Commission reacted to the European Citizen Initiative “Right2Water” with a Communication held on 19/03/2014

Development cooperation issues:

• Advocate universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation as a priority area for future SDGs

• Stimulate **innovative approaches for development assistance** (e.g. support to partnerships between water operators and to public-public partnerships)

• Promote sharing of best practices between Member States (e.g. on solidarity instruments and identify new opportunities for cooperation)
Follow-up to the ECI

The European Commission recently organised in collaboration with EPC a one-day workshop on "Innovative partnerships and financing mechanisms: a means to deliver better access to drinking water and sanitation in developing countries"

Main objectives:

• To enhance discussion on innovative partnerships and financing mechanisms, as ways to promote access to drinking water and sanitation in the developing countries
• To explore the potential role of EU actors and institutions in encouraging water cooperation and the sharing of best practices

Main findings:

• Importance of building capacities of developing countries in terms of governance and management
• Importance of twinning and South-South partnerships
The challenge of Public Private Partnerships in developing countries

The May 2014 Communication "A stronger Role of the Private Sector in Achieving Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Countries" suggested to facilitate Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), multi-stakeholder alliances and other partnerships in the water sector (amongst others).

Advantages of PPPs in the water sector:

- To provide additional capital
- To provide alternative management and implementation skills
- To provide value added to the consumer and the public at large
- To provide better identification of needs and optimal use of resources

But to do so a strong regulatory framework is needed
Thank you for your attention