

**European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
(ENPI)**

Regional Indicative Programme (2011-2013)

for

the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

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1. Executive Summary

This Regional Indicative Programme is the programming document of the regional Mediterranean allocation of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). This Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) 2011-2013 covers the Southern Mediterranean, i.e. the countries that are members of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership established by the Barcelona Declaration (1995) and which are also participants to the Union for the Mediterranean (2008)¹.

The 2007-2013 Regional Strategy Paper continues to be valid since the challenges facing the region and the policy responses are broadly the same than those analysed in 2007.² This Indicative Programme, therefore, has to be read in the context of 2007-2013 Regional Strategy Paper³. These challenges can be summarized as follows:

- a) political challenges in a region where conflicts continue to hamper development and regional cooperation, where security is threatened by radicalization and terrorism and where the democratic transition is still unfinished in most countries;
- b) economic challenges in a region that needs to create 22 million jobs in the next 10 years, where labour productivity is still low, and where south-south economic integration is insufficient and only 5% of international trade of southern Mediterranean partners is intra-regional trade;
- c) social challenges linked to the need to confront poverty, improve income distribution, fight exclusion, cope with the migratory flows and promote gender equality, inter-cultural dialogue, cultural development and better education;
- d) the global challenge of sustainable development and the need to face the threats of climate change, environment degradation and scarcity of water.

As in 2007, the EU general policy response to the challenges and needs facing the various countries of the region is guided by two coherent and complementary strategies:

- a) One at bilateral level guiding EU relations with EU neighbours: the European Neighbourhood Policy; and

¹ The countries concerned are: Algeria; Egypt; Israel; Jordan; Lebanon; Mauritania; Monaco; Morocco; Palestinian Authority; Syria; Tunisia. Croatia and Turkey, negotiating candidate countries to the EU. Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro, potential candidates to the EU.

² For further reference Annex V includes the budget allocation table of the Regional Indicative Programme approved in 2007.

³ The budget allocation of the Regional Indicative 2011-2013 is in annex I. The Regional Indicative 2011-2013 can be found in: http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/pdf/country/enpi_EuroMed_rsp_en.pdf

- b) One at regional level: the Barcelona process or Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (1995), further developed by the Union for the Mediterranean (2008)⁴.

At continental level, five of the countries concerned by the programme also have their relationships with the EU framed in the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and its successive Action Plans. Section 4 outlines that regional cooperation instruments have positively contributed to the progress made by Partner countries in the area of economic stabilisation and liberalization, as well as, in establishing collaboration practices, common networks and institutions. The impact of past cooperation programmes, in spite of a number of prevailing conflicts in the region, has been positive and highly valued by most governments and civil society stake-holders.⁵

2. Why the EU should support regional cooperation and what areas it should cover

Regional programmes account for approximately 10% of the EU funds devoted to the region. EU bilateral cooperation –through the national indicative programmes in support of the Association Agreements and the Neighbourhood Policy national action plans- represents the bulk of our financial cooperation with Mediterranean partner countries. Regional cooperation should focus on areas where it can provide sufficient added value compared to the bilateral programmes, in particular:

- a) Where there is a transnational dimension involving various partner countries, like in the promotion of infrastructure interconnections;
- b) Where a number of countries share the same objective, notably in the field of approximation and convergence towards EU policies, regulations and standards. Economies of scale can be made by having common activities –training, technical assistance, seminars on policy approaches- with the countries involved;
- c) Where programmes or projects are designed to promote regional integration, especially, south-south integration, which is one of the main objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership since its inception in 1995.

Regional programmes, therefore, are appropriate to respond to common challenges provided there is a regional or transnational dimension. This means that major issues such as poverty reduction, good governance, education, health, rural development and housing are dealt with in the national indicative programmes where the greater part of resources are available.

⁴ The policy framework of Euro-Mediterranean regional cooperation is provided by the Barcelona Declaration (1995), and since 2008, the Paris Summit Declaration establishing the Union for the Mediterranean (13 July 2008), and the conclusions of the Foreign Affairs Ministers' meetings and sectoral meetings in a broad variety of areas since 1995.

⁵ See in this respect the survey "Assesment of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership: Perceptions and realities" made by the Instituto Europeo del Mediterraneo (IEMED- Barcelona 2010) which concludes that Euro-Mediterranean cooperation has been successful in improving the business climate, developing multilateral programmes in the economic field, increasing awareness and understanding between cultures, developing cultural, research and youth exchanges, and developing the role of women in economic life through specific programmes.

It is also important to note that this Regional Indicative Programme continues and complements the previous Regional Indicative Programme 2007-2010. This means that a number of priorities –included in programmes committed during the period 2007-2010 and whose implementation will go beyond 2010- do not need to be covered by programmes during the period 2011-2013. There are also close links with priorities identified in the framework of the ENPI Inter-Regional Programme (Revised Strategy Paper 2007-2013 & Indicative Programme 2011-2013). This Regional Indicative Programme is also complementary to the Cross Border Cooperation (CBC) Programme for the Mediterranean Sea basin.

3. Major regional developments since 2007

This section summarises the overall regional situation in a number of relevant selected areas, including the Euro-Mediterranean policy developments since 2007 and the cooperation activities⁶ conducted within the regional dimension of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in these areas.

A number of developments since 2007 confirmed the vulnerability of the region in a variety of areas:

- a) The food price crisis in 2007-2008 and its impact on the social stability of various countries in the Mediterranean. At EU level policy responses and recommendations were set out in Council Regulation 1337/2008 establishing a facility for rapid response to soaring food prices in developing countries.
- b) The global economic crisis that started to affect the region in 2009 and its likely impact on foreign investment, remittances from emigrants and tourist receipts;
- c) The recrudescence of the Middle East conflict in early 2009 with the operation Cast Lead in Gaza and its general impact in regional cooperation including in the new political initiative “Union for the Mediterranean”. This conflict and its severe consequences in terms of loss of human lives and material destruction confirmed that without peace, cooperation in the Middle East will remain problematic.

3.1. Policy developments: the creation of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)

After more than 12 years of regional cooperation under the Barcelona Process, on 13 July 2008 Euro-Mediterranean Heads of State and Government set out the Union for the Mediterranean. This has been the main regional policy development since the adoption of the Regional Strategy Paper 2007-2011.

The Union for the Mediterranean is a high level political initiative. The initiative was discussed by the European Council in March 2008 which asked the Commission to make specific proposals. The Commission adopted a communication⁷ in May 2008 that

⁶ For a more thorough information on Euro-Mediterranean cooperation activities please refer to EuropeAid Cooperation Office and in particular the EuroMed Infocentre : www.EuroMedinfo.eu

⁷ COM (2008) 321 Final.

served as a basis of the Paris summit declaration adopted by Euro-Mediterranean Heads of State and Government on 13 July 2008 establishing the Union for the Mediterranean.

Heads of State and Government in Paris declared that the Union for the Mediterranean was built on the *acquis* and reinforced the achievements and successful elements of the Barcelona Process. The Barcelona Declaration, its goals and its cooperation areas remained valid and its three chapters of cooperation (Political Dialogue, Economic Cooperation and Free Trade, and Human, Social and Cultural Dialogue) would continue to be central in Euro-Mediterranean relations.

In the Paris Summit, Heads of State and Government gave a new impulse to the Barcelona Process in at least three very important ways:

- a) by upgrading the political level of the EU's relationship with its Mediterranean partners; from now on a summit will be organised every second year.
- b) by providing for further co-ownership of our multilateral relations with a system of co-presidency (one from the EU and one from the Mediterranean partner side – currently Egypt), by the setting up of a Secretariat, and by setting up a Joint Permanent Committee based in Brussels.
- c) by making these relations more concrete and visible through additional regional and sub-regional projects, relevant for the citizens of the region.

Heads of State and Government underlined that the “Union for the Mediterranean” will be complementary to EU bilateral relations with these countries⁸ which will continue under existing policy frameworks such as the Association Agreements, the European Neighbourhood Policy action plans, and, in the case of Mauritania, the African Caribbean Pacific framework. It will also be coherent and complementary with the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES). When they ensure the coherence of EU external action and full benefits of complementary actions, the regional programme's resources may, contribute to ensuring the participation of Neighbourhood countries in regional cooperation activities with other partners notably in the context of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and its components.

In addition to these policy developments affecting the region, and to the European Neighbourhood policy which constitutes the major policy framework for EU relations with Mediterranean partner countries, other global policy initiatives have an impact in EU relations with the Mediterranean region, in particular:

- The development of the UN climate treaties and the December 2009 Copenhagen Accord for a global deal and its implementation in the Mediterranean that is ambitious comprehensive and legally binding.
- The development of the 2009 Stockholm Programme to promote a global approach in the external dimension of the EU's migration policy that will focus on dialogue and partnerships with third countries, based on mutual interests.

- The implementation of the EU Drugs Action Plan and the effectiveness of the international cooperation in the fight against drugs and in the struggle for more sustainable solutions to drug cultivation.
- The implementation of the aid for trade policy to promote the successful integration of countries into world trade with more than better market access and strengthened international trade rules.

3.2. Political developments: stability but not stagnation

a. Political developments

The political challenges facing the region and the options for addressing them have been extensively analysed in several EU and other documents⁹ in recent years.

Overall, the region is characterized by political stability and most of the countries which held elections since the adoption of the Regional Strategy Paper 2007-2013, have confirmed the leadership or the parliamentary majorities in place. However, in many countries, neither the legislative framework for elections nor their conduct, comply with international standards. Extensive debate on political reform has taken place in most partner countries. The role of Islamic political parties in the political reform process has been a subject of intense debate too.

According to the 2005 UNDP report and to a number of independent NGOs there is a “freedom deficit” in the region and the situation of human rights is unsatisfactory in many countries. While constitutions in the region often provide for freedom of thought, opinion and association, legal provisions in a number of countries in the southern Mediterranean do not allow free participation in the political process. The score of Mediterranean countries in indicators of voice and accountability, political process, civil liberties, political rights and independence of the media is quite variable. Some countries, however, have made significant progress in recent years to open up the political process and grant more liberties to the media and to civil society.

b. Political dialogue

The political dialogue with the Mediterranean partners has been taken up at both bilateral and regional level, in the Association Council and Committee meetings, (Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Justice and Home Affairs, Euro-Med Senior Officials). A dialogue on human rights and democracy has been continued with several partners in the context of sub-committees of the Association Committees.

⁹ Commission communication of May 2008 on the preparation of the Paris Summit of the Union for the Mediterranean (COM (2008) 319 final). The Regional Strategy paper on Euro-Mediterranean cooperation (2007-2013). The Commission communication of April 2005 on the preparation of the Barcelona Summit (COM (2005) 1039 final); Commission/Council Secretariat document on strengthening the EU’s relations with the Arab world (December 2003); Commission Strategy Paper on the European Neighbourhood Policy (May 2004); Commission communication “Wider Europe - Neighbourhood: a new framework for relations with our Eastern and Southern Neighbours” (COM (2003) 109 final); Commission communication on the promotion of human rights in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (COM (2003) 294 final).

3.3. Economic developments: Sustained growth but insufficient market integration

Mediterranean partner countries have experienced a considerable improvement of their economies since the launching of the Barcelona Process. This improvement is the result of sustained economic growth, more exports and more foreign investments. By and large, poverty has been reduced in most countries although unemployment, in part due to the demographic trends, continues to be high, ranging from almost 9% and 15%¹⁰. With the entry into force of the Association Agreements and the policy reforms enshrined in the European Neighbourhood Policy action plans, most regional governments have pursued an ambitious agenda of economic reforms in the areas of trade, taxation, the financial system and general economic liberalisation. These reforms have led to increased foreign investment and growing exports, resulting in GDP growth figures between 5% and 7% in most countries in recent years.

a. *The global economic crisis*¹¹

Although most of the countries have continued to grow in spite of the financial crisis, there is a risk that the global economic crisis affects negatively the region with a decrease in the exports of goods to EU markets, a reduction of tourism flows and of transfers from migrants, and a decline of foreign direct investments. Economic growth is expected to fall to around 4% in both 2009 and 2010 as a result of the 2008/2009 global financial crisis. Nevertheless, most economic analysis underline that the risk of an externally-induced balance of payments crisis remains low, due to diversified sources of foreign capital and low external borrowing needs, as well as relatively high international reserves.

b. *The 2007-2008 price food crisis*

During the period since the adoption of the Regional Strategy Paper (2007-2013) most Governments in the region introduced measures to offset the increase of food prices and the social unrest that followed in some countries. The Commission Communication on tackling the challenges of rising food prices¹² concludes that the crisis produced an immediate and dramatic impact on the world's poorest populations, putting years of progress towards the MDGs at risk. In the longer term, however, rising prices could turn into an opportunity to help rural communities in some developing countries out of poverty. Closer analysis shows that the impact varied significantly across countries in the southern Mediterranean but also within each country, although food importer countries which are also energy importers were the most vulnerable to price increases.

At the European level, in addition to the allocations made available in 2008 and 2009 through a variety of instruments, the EU adopted a regulation establishing a new facility - worth € 1 billion - to support agriculture in developing countries. The Palestinian

¹⁰ Not including Occupied Palestinian Territories

¹¹ For an extensive analysis of the impact of the economic crisis in the region see the FEMISE study "Les partenaires Méditerranéens face à la crise" (August 2009).

¹² COM (2008) 321, of 20 May 2008

population has benefit from this facility. At the international level, the EU has been at the frontline to promote a more coordinated and longer-term international response to the food crisis, in particular in the UN, in international financial institutions and in the context of the G8.

c. Trade

Trade growth has been strengthened by the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership launched in 1995. One important objective was the creation of a Mediterranean free trade area by 2010, with substantially liberalised trade both between the EU and the Mediterranean region, and between the Southern Mediterranean countries themselves. The launch of the European Neighbourhood Policy in 2004 moved this process a step forward. The creation of a Euro-Mediterranean free trade area has two major dimensions: North-south and south-south trade integration.

- North-South regional trade integration

All Mediterranean partner countries have signed or initialled Association Agreements (which include free trade) with the EU:

Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements [Situation September 2010]

Country	Status	Date signed	Entry into Force
Algeria	Signed	April 2002	September 2005
Egypt	Signed	June 2001	June 2004
Israel	Signed	Nov 1995	June 2000
Jordan	Signed	Nov 1997	May 2002
Lebanon	Signed	June 2002	Interim Agreement March 2003
Morocco	Signed	Feb 1996	March 2000
Palestinian Autho.	Signed	Feb 1997	Interim Agreement July 1997
Syria	Initialled	Dec 2008	
Tunisia	Signed	July 1995	March 1998
Turkey	Customs Union	Jan 1996	Customs Union

Total exports to the EU have grown by an average of 10% a year since 2000. Imports from the EU have increased by 4% since 2000. Total trade with the EU was €127bn in 2007 – some 5% of total EU external trade.

Mediterranean partner countries enjoy duty free access to the EU market for manufactured goods and preferential treatment for exports of agricultural, processed agricultural and fisheries products. Tariffs will gradually be dismantled for EU exports to the Mediterranean region – the process has already been completed in Tunisia.

In the area of services, regional negotiations on the liberalisation of trade in services and the right of establishment were launched at the Marrakech Trade Ministerial conference in 2006. Following the Lisbon Trade Ministerial conference, bilateral negotiations on the liberalisation of trade in services and the right of establishment were launched in

2008 with Egypt, Israel, Morocco and Tunisia and they should be concluded in the course of 2010.

In agriculture, bilateral agreements on the further liberalization with Egypt and Israel have been concluded, an agreement with Morocco is within reach and negotiations with Tunisia are on-going. In December 2009 Trade Ministers stressed the importance of launching negotiations on further liberalisation of agricultural, processed agricultural and fisheries products with the rest of Mediterranean partners, including on tariff and non tariff obstacles to trade. Alignment of sanitary and phytosanitary standards is a key element to further strengthening trade in livestock products, agricultural goods and processed products of the food industry.

Negotiations are on-going on the single convention Pan-Euro-Med rules of origin to replace the current network of origin protocols.

- South-South trade integration

A key goal of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership since its inception in 1995 is regional economic integration between Mediterranean countries. These countries have one of the lowest levels of regional integration in the world: only 5% of trade is with neighbouring economies.

In recent years three main negative political developments have hindered the prospects for south-south regional cooperation: the military conflict between Israel and Hezbollah in summer 2006, the military conflict involving Israel and the Gaza Strip and, more generally, the lack of progress in the Middle East Peace process. At the other side of the Mediterranean basin, the Western Sahara conflict still prevents closer cooperation between the two largest Maghreb countries.

In spite of these set-backs, the Mediterranean region is steadily making progress to facilitate trade relations:

- In 2007 the Agadir Free Trade Agreement was concluded between Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan, and Egypt. The Commission helps this agreement through an assistance support programme.
- Israel and Jordan have signed a Free Trade Agreement.
- Egypt, Israel, Morocco, the Palestinian Territories, Syria and Tunisia have signed bilateral agreements with Turkey.
- Negotiations are underway between other Mediterranean countries to establish similar agreements.
- Within the MEDSTAT programme of statistical cooperation in the region, asymmetries in Trade data have been addressed, removing some of the major inconsistencies in trade statistics (see Eurostat working paper 'MEDSTAT II: Asymmetry in foreign trade statistics in Mediterranean partner countries').

The prospects for the realization of the free trade area will depend on the political will of Mediterranean partner country to enter into free trade relations among themselves. This will be essential to complement the North-South dimension which is on track and should in principle be completed when the transition periods of the various Euro-Mediterranean agreements are finished.

d. Industrial cooperation, investment and private sector development

The EU and Mediterranean partner countries are increasingly networking and sharing cross-sector and sector-specific policies and good practice to spur entrepreneurship, improve the business climate, and promote Euro-Mediterranean and South-South business partnerships. Industrial cooperation activities focus on trade facilitation for industrial products, innovation and technology transfer, dialogue on the future of the textile and clothing sector, sustainable enterprise development and energy efficiency, and the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise. The Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise that was adopted at ministerial level in 2004 has become a key reference document for conducting business reforms across the region according to the latest progress report on the European Neighbourhood Policy¹³. The Commission will continue promoting the Charter through regional capacity-building, monitoring and policy-making activities, in cooperation with the OECD, the European Training Foundation and the European Investment Bank. Concerning investment promotion, the Commission and the ANIMA network with the regional "Invest in MED" programme, as well as the European Investment Bank through risk-capital operations financed by the EU Budget, continue to actively work in this area.

3.4 Social and cultural developments: social needs and gender equality at the centre of the regional agenda

Social protection, health, education and cultural development are central concerns in countries undergoing profound and rapid social and demographic changes. There has been a sustained positive evolution of the human development index in all countries of the region in spite of the combination of fast (though decelerating) expansion of the working population and a still insufficient economic growth rates.

a. Women's empowerment

Even though some encouraging developments are to be noticed, in the Mediterranean region women are still heavily underrepresented in political life and in public decision-making bodies. Women's rate of participation in economic activity remains among the lowest in the world, the main barriers appearing to be laws regulating marriage, divorce, custody and inheritance. In some countries there appear to be contradictions between constitutional rights, which provide for equality and non discrimination, and regulations and practices that prohibit women from fully exercising their equal rights. The Euro-Mediterranean Ministers' meeting on the role of women in society held in Istanbul in 2006 agreed a framework of action that was confirmed by the 2nd meeting held in Marrakech in November 2009.

¹³ COM(2010) 207, Taking stock of the European Neighbourhood Policy http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/pdf/progress2010/com10_207_en.pdf page 8

b. Access to knowledge and education

Most countries in the region have made tangible progress in improving literacy. Literacy rates among young adults aged 15-24 exceed 78% in all countries and are above 95% in six of the nine countries. Female literacy has tripled since 1980. Yet many remain illiterate and, as a result, have limited access to knowledge. The region spends a higher percentage of GDP on education than many other developing countries.

In promoting regional cooperation in the area of higher education, the EU encourages partner countries to make full use of possibilities offered by cooperation instruments such as Tempus and Erasmus Mundus and Jean Monnet.

The Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI) in Slovenia, one of the six key initiatives of the Union for the Mediterranean, was established in 2008 as a network of universities, with 118 institutions from 32 partner countries having signed the founding charter. In its first year EMUNI developed and implemented pilot projects in relation to the priority areas of the Union for the Mediterranean, which will advance the Euro-Mediterranean Higher Education, Science and Research Area.

c. Health

Over the last couple of years important progress has been made on health issues in the Mediterranean region. Life expectancy increased by one to two years in the 2000-2006 period and currently more than 90 percent of births are attended by skilled health staff in most countries of the region. But much work remains to be done. Mediterranean countries need to modernize their social protection systems to widen coverage of the population for basic needs, even more so because insufficient coverage worsens the impact of the current global economic crisis. Further investments should take into account the particularity of the Mediterranean demographic situation and focus on women and children, as they are the most vulnerable groups in society.

The 2nd Euro-Med Ministerial Conference on Health took place in Cairo in November 2008. Participants agreed to strengthen the health dimension of the Union for the Mediterranean. The declaration highlighted the need to strengthen health systems, the training of health professionals and to increase cooperation to address the growing burden of non-communicable and chronic diseases, and to improve surveillance and disease control before the common threat of communicable diseases (The Episuouth project: Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean countries).

d. Social affairs

There is high unemployment in many countries, which particularly affects young people and women; a vast informal economy, which is absorbing a high number of job-seekers, deprived of labour rights and social protection; a mismatch between education and labour market needs; poor social protection coverage, and challenges in developing social dialogue. High economic growth rates in the region are an essential condition to create jobs. There is a need to enhance the investment in human capital, training and employability as well as concrete job creation measures, and to improve the policy

environment for investments. Quality of work and decent work is also beneficial for the productivity and competitiveness of enterprises. It is widely recognized that there is a strong interdependence between employment, education and training, social cohesion, economic development and growth.

At the first Euro-Mediterranean Employment and Labour Ministers Conference in Marrakesh in November 2008, partner countries agreed on working together at regional level on the challenges that they are facing in the fields of employment, employability and decent work. The Ministers committed to a comprehensive Framework of Actions that sets out the policy objectives for these three areas, namely employment policies – more jobs; enhancing employability – human capital, and creating decent employment opportunities – better jobs. Particular emphasis was put on cross-cutting issues in this context, notably the promotion of equal opportunities between men and women; the integration of youth; the transformation of informal employment into formal employment, and labour migration management. Ministers agreed on a reporting and follow-up mechanism and reaffirmed the crucial importance of further developing an effective social dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

3.5 Environmental developments: climate change, water scarcity and pollution are the main concerns

The wealth of natural resources and the wide variety of landscapes of the Mediterranean basin make it an outstanding eco-region. Yet this environmental heritage is deteriorating. The impact of climate change, the risks for the bio-diversity, soil erosion, desertification and emissions of pollutants are threatening the sustainability of the region's development. In 2008 the Mediterranean basin countries and territories accounted for 12% of world GDP, 5.7% of the planet's land mass and 7 % of the world's population with two thirds of its 460 million inhabitants living in urban areas concentrated along the coastal zones.

The Euro-Mediterranean Process has placed environmental issues at its heart. From the selection of "the de-pollution of the Mediterranean" as one of the key priorities of the Union for the Mediterranean to the environmental cooperation encouraged under the Association Agreements, the framework is in place to pursue cross border cooperation across the Mediterranean.

There are periodic meetings of Euro-Mediterranean Environment Ministers. The last meeting in Cairo in November 2006 endorsed the Horizon 2020 "de-pollution of the Mediterranean" initiative and a timetable of concrete actions (Cairo Road-map) covering the period until 2013 to achieve a cleaner Mediterranean.

In addition, the Barcelona Convention is a regional multilateral agreement signed by the 21 Mediterranean coastal states and the European Union (EU), with the aim of eliminating pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and promoting sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. Seven specific protocols (5 of which have been signed by the European Community) cover subjects such as land-based sources of pollution, dumping at sea, biodiversity, marine emergencies and the most recent protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management.

a. *Climate change*

During the next century experts predict increased air temperatures, decreased rainfall and increases in drought periods across the Mediterranean coupled with a rise in Sea level that could be around 35 centimetres by the end of the century. For North Africa and the Middle East Region over this century, the 2008 IPCC report anticipates declining rainfall (-10 to -25%), declining water runoff (-10 to -40%), declining soils moisture (-5 to -10%), but increasing evaporation (+5 to +20%).¹⁴ Climate change will impact the Mediterranean through water shortages, soil degradation, displacement of certain species and increased threats to forests through fires and parasite risk. There will be impacts on sectors such as agriculture and fisheries (reduced yields), tourism (heat waves, water scarcity), coastal areas and infrastructures (extreme events, sea level rise), human health and the energy sector (water needs, increased consumption).

b. *Water*

Water resources are both limited and unequally distributed. Over half of the Mediterranean population is considered “water-poor” (having less than 1000m³ per capita per annum). Water demand has doubled over the past 50 years with agriculture being the main consumer (64%). To meet this growing demand countries are increasingly overusing non-renewable resources. The traditional response of increasing supply has now reached its limits in the region and demand based management is emerging as the way forward. A further sign of water stress is the fact that half of the Mediterranean wetlands have disappeared.

Union for the Mediterranean water ministers decided in December 2008 to prepare a Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean that aims at tackling the main challenges in the field of water in the Mediterranean region. This strategy has not yet been adopted.

c. *Pollution*

A large range of different industrial activities (from mining, heavy industry complexes, manufacturing, waste management, and commercial harbours) are situated all around the Mediterranean and are often the cause of environmental hotspots from the release of polluted effluent and atmospheric emissions. These affect the most productive areas of the Mediterranean marine environment. Discharges of household waste water to the marine environment constitute a major risk for public health. Poor management of solid waste is responsible for significant pressures on the environment and threats to public health.

3.6 Major developments in other areas of cooperation

a. *Justice, freedom and security*

One major objective of the Partnership is to fully respect and promote the rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms and respect for international conventions.

¹⁴ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) data according to: World Bank, 2009, "Water in the Arab World"

The implementation of the regional Programme on Justice and Home Affairs is carried out through the implementation of three projects, namely: EuroMed Migration II project, Justice EuroMed Justice II project, and Police EuroMed Police II project. These projects will be succeeded by three new projects (EuroMed Migration III, EuroMed Justice III, and EuroMed Police III).

Furthermore, practitioners, universities and legal actors are working to facilitate best practices and ensure, in the interests of the rule of law, the proper execution of conventions and judicial decisions and awards, including their participation in a network on a national level and Euro-Mediterranean level.

b. Civil protection

Civil protection has traditionally been an area of work under the Barcelona Process as a confidence building measure. Civil protection was earmarked as one of the priority initiatives in the UfM at the Paris summit and the Marseille (France) ministerial meeting. Activities of the Euro-Med Programme for the Prevention, Preparedness and Response to Natural and Man-Made disasters (PPRD South, 2009-2012) started in 2009 and aim at strengthening prevention, preparedness and response capacities in civil protection of Mediterranean Partner countries in order to ensure more effective protection of people, infrastructures, cultural heritage and the natural environment in the event of major disasters.

c. Energy

Creating a more integrated Mediterranean energy market is of primary importance for coping with the fast growing energy demand in the Southern Mediterranean Countries, while favouring low-carbon and renewable energy sources and energy efficiency. At the Paris summit, the Heads of states and government launched the Mediterranean Solar Plan as one of the flagship projects of the Union for the Mediterranean.

A series of programmes supported by the European Union directly aim at integrating the Maghreb and Mashrek energy markets (e.g. MED-EMIP, MEDREG projects) and at cooperation in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy (Med-ENEC project). These projects also closely collaborate with the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE) based in Cairo.

d. Transport

Improving the functioning of an efficient, safe, secure and sustainable multimodal Mediterranean transport system and introduce the necessary policy reforms is essential for a more integrated Euro-Mediterranean region. This regional approach is also instrumental in developing regional infrastructure projects and building local capacity for the preparation and implementation of related projects.

The need to set up an integrated Euro-Mediterranean transport system and to improve connections with the trans-European Transport network is at the core of the Regional Transport Action Plan (RTAP).

e. Cultural dialogue

Intercultural coexistence remains one of the major priorities in the XXI century, a priority in the Mediterranean is essential to bridging the gap in perceptions existing between people and communities. Following the approval of its new statutes and the appointment of its new leadership, the Anna Lindh Foundation for Dialogue between cultures –inaugurated in 2005- has been further strengthened. The Foundation has consolidated its capacity to promote intercultural dialogue, diversity, and mutual understanding and raise its profile as a bridge between Euro-Mediterranean cultures, religions and beliefs. Following the 3rd meeting of EuroMed Culture Ministers (Athens, 29-30 May 2008) -which decided to launch a process leading to the elaboration of a EuroMed Strategy on Culture by 2010 – the European Commission has been engaged in a consultation process during 2009 addressing public entities and civil society organisations in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean partner countries of the Union for the Mediterranean.

Concerning audiovisual activities, the new EuroMed Audiovisual III Programme recently adopted by the Commission will contribute to the strengthening and further development of the Mediterranean audiovisual sector.

The IV phase of the EuroMed Heritage Programme, centered on the appropriation of cultural heritage by local populations, access to knowledge of cultural heritage, and institutional and legislative strengthening, has been fully put into place by the total selection and contracting of 12 specific projects.

Euro-Med cooperation in the field of youth has been enhanced by the approval by the Commission of the Euro Med Youth IV Programme which will continue to run in conjunction with the Youth in Action Programme, both of which share similar objectives, such as promoting mobility, active citizenship, non-formal learning and mutual understanding among young people as well as supporting youth organisations.

f. Media

Under the 2nd EuroMed Regional Information and Communication Programme 2009 witnessed an increasing number of media activities aimed at raising public awareness of the partnership; outreach events that involved and engaged the public and civil society and training and networking exercises for journalists that contributed towards media development in the region.

12 projects under the collective banner "Maximising EU presence in the region's media" allowed several of the region's audiovisual and printed media highlight different elements of cooperation and the Partnership. The EuroMed and the Media Task Force participated in the UN Alliance of Civilisations forum in Istanbul where the joint (ALF, AoC, EU) Rapid Reaction Media Mechanism was launched. Two Task Force meetings took place in Sofia and Stockholm as well as a preparatory meeting for an international conference in Morocco on press freedom.

4. Lessons learned

The evaluation report of the MEDA II Regulation¹⁵ (June 2009) constitutes the latest comprehensive analysis of the performance of Commission's cooperation with Mediterranean Partner countries, both at bilateral and regional level. The evaluation draws a number of important conclusions for the identification and implementation of activities at regional level, some of which have already been put into practice.

The evaluation points to the difficult context of cooperation in a region affected by severe conflicts. The evaluation considers that in such a context, cooperation activities have been oriented not only to simulating but also to maintaining dialogue and networks of contacts between Mediterranean Partner countries and the EU. The evaluation report indicates that the programming exercise 2007-2013 already introduced a more strategic approach in our cooperation with Mediterranean Partners and it recognises that regional programmes are positively used as platforms for dialogue between all partners.

The evaluation report coincides with the independent economic analysis such as the one made by the FEMISE, in that the overall strategy of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and its cooperation instruments have positively contributed to the progress made by Partner countries in the area of economic stabilisation and liberalisation.

On the issue of ownership, the reports points out that identification and preparation of regional activities were discussed and endorsed at political level but their implementation at country level had limited visibility. In view of this, the report recommends:

- to promote joint analysis,
- build on achievements in terms of networks and dialogue to increasingly develop a regional response to crucial regional issues,
- favour increased ownership of regional interventions at the implementation stage,
- foster complementarity between bilateral and regional interventions,
- ensure that sufficient resources are made available for awareness rising.

It would be highly advisable that these recommendations are taken into consideration, in particular, during the implementation phase of the programme.

5. Risk analysis

Euro-Mediterranean cooperation implies the participation of regional partners. The continued risk of confrontation and of the recrudescence of some conflicts, particularly the Middle East, implies a risk of suspension of cooperation activities. The introduction

¹⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/evaluation/evaluation_reports/reports/2009/1264_vol1_en.pdf

of a new governance of the partnership brought by the Union for the Mediterranean with a system of co-presidency may also result in an increased risk of postponement of some activities. This issue needs to be addressed by reaffirming the leadership role of the Commission in the implementation of cooperation programmes. This leadership should go hand-in-hand with proper consultation and involvement of Mediterranean partner countries in the design and preparation of the regional programmes.

6. Consultation of stakeholders

The consultation process in Euro-Mediterranean regional cooperation is pursued at both official and civil society level. At official level since 2007 more than 18 Ministerial level meetings have been held in a variety of sectors; including 2 Foreign Affairs Ministers' meetings and one summit (2008). These meetings, as well as the senior officials meetings, constitute the fora of dialogue where cooperation proposals are put forward and priorities established. Areas of cooperation and regional programmes are the result of this continued dialogue with Mediterranean partner countries in fields such as trade, economy, sustainable development, gender, water, environment, energy, tourism, industry, maritime affairs, migration and social affairs. Civil society consultation takes place at sector level and at global level with the Euro-Med civil society platform. The Civil forum that normally is held before the Foreign Affairs Ministers' meeting is the main opportunity for discussion and exchange of views with civil society organisations.

7. Main policy objectives responses

The main policy objectives of Euro-Mediterranean regional cooperation are related to the regional challenges referred to in the summary.

- Concerning political challenges, the objective is to help regional cooperation, including the promotion of common institutions and confidence building programmes with the participation of all partners. While recognising that the sheer political and social dimension of the conflicts (in particular the Middle East conflict), require comprehensive political efforts to achieve an agreed settlement, the creation of common institutions and networks and the development of regional programmes can be essential instruments for future peace and stability. Also as an objective is to help developing media, information and communication which not only constitutes fields where confidence building and mutual knowledge are important but also area where there is a significant human rights promotion dimension.

In this area the Commission intends to contribute to the creation of a sustainable, transparent and project-oriented Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean. It will also continue its support to the civil protection programme (one of the priorities of the UfM), the partnership for peace programme, the seminars for Euro-Mediterranean diplomats and to carry on the activities in the area of media, information and communication and continue a specific programme in this field.

- In the area of economic relations, the objective is to help investment and regional integration initiatives; to support modernisation and convergence towards EU policies, regulations and standards (including to build up an

effective competition regime); and to promote major transnational infrastructures. The promotion of investment, market integration, regulatory approximation and infrastructures and the improvement of the availability of robust, comparable statistics aim at constituting a coherent agenda for regional economic cooperation. In the long term the EU should seek the consolidation of a Euro-Mediterranean free trade area.

In this area the Commission will support investment, notably through the FEMIP (approximately 30% of the total funds of the regional allocation), transport (as a major catalysts for regional integration and the completion of the Euro-Med free trade area), statistics (continuing and consolidating the work of capacity building and convergence towards EU standards and practices developed in recent years and maintaining the regional dialogue and networks on statistics), and information society networks, also continuing the current programme in this area.

- In the area of sustainable development, the objective is to strengthen links in two areas of major global importance: water and energy. Both are of strategic significance for the Mediterranean and for the EU to confront the challenges of climate change, carbon emissions and water scarcity and with a strong regional dimension.

Programmes in these two inter-related priorities of water and energy are strategically important for the region and, in the case of energy, will focus on renewable energies and the Mediterranean solar plan.

- Finally, in the social area, the objective is to promote gender equality (a particularly relevant issue for the region), culture and intercultural dialogue (with the Anna Lindh Foundation at the centre of EU efforts), and youth (especially youth exchanges). The priority in these areas is to work in the fields with a greater regional added-value while considering that the variety and depth of the challenges faced by the region (very much of a national nature) require regional cooperation to focus on a limited number of areas.

8. Regional Indicative Programme (2011-2013)

As indicated in the executive summary, to address regional challenges the Commission intends to give support to regional programmes and activities in 4 priority areas. In addition, as in previous indicative programmes, the 2011-2013 indicative programme will continue to provide for a global allocation. In the implementation of this regional cooperation strategy the European Commission will pay special attention to cross-cutting issues such as creation of jobs, gender, youth and environment including the support to the introduction of the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

Priority area 1: Supporting common regional institutions, confidence building measures and media development

A. Supporting the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat

Context and justification

On 13 July 2008 Euro-Mediterranean Heads of State and Government launched the Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean (later called “Union for the Mediterranean”). Heads of State and Government decided to set up a joint Secretariat. As a follow up to the Summit in Paris, at the Foreign Affairs Ministers’ conference in Marseille (3-4 November 2008), Ministers agreed on the location of the new Secretariat in Barcelona. The Secretariat should start its activities in 2010.

Objectives

The key objective is to set in motion and support the joint secretariat. The mandate of the Secretariat will be of a technical nature with a focus on the projects. The programme will support the Secretariat that will:

- a. Work in operational liaison with all structures of the process, particularly with the co-presidencies, including by preparing working documents for the Senior Officials, and through them for the other decision making bodies.
- b. Give an impulse to this process in terms of follow-up, promotion of new projects and the search for funding and for implementation partners in accordance with article VII;
- c. Work as the focal point for multi-source funding of projects in the framework of the UfM;
- d. Inform the Joint Permanent Committee and report to the Senior Officials concerning the above mentioned activities.

Expected results

- The setting-up of an effective and efficient secretariat for the promotion of joint projects of regional and sub-regional character in the Euro-Mediterranean region.
- Full implementation of the work programme of the Secretariat with the involvement and financial participation of a maximum number of Mediterranean partner countries and EU Member States.
- The functioning of the Secretariat in liaison with the structures of the Union for the Mediterranean, in coordination with EU institutions and bodies promoting projects consistent with EU policies and priorities, in particular, the Union for the Mediterranean, the European Neighbourhood Policy and the external dimension of EU policies such as environment, energy, transport, civil protection, small and medium enterprises, higher education, research or food safety.
- Increase visibility and knowledge of the Union for the Mediterranean and the role of the EU in promoting a peaceful, more integrated and open Euro-Mediterranean area.

Performance indicators

- Setting up of the Secretariat
- Promotion and launching of concrete project initiatives by the Secretariat with the identification of partners for the co-financing of projects.
- Participation of the Secretariat in the Union for the Mediterranean fora and its recognition as a central institution in the promotion of projects.
- Number of contributors to the Secretariat's budget.

Brief description of the programme

EU financial support, following the provisions and conditions of the Financial Regulation, must be complemented by Euro-Mediterranean partners.

Senior Officials of the Union for the Mediterranean, meeting on 12 November 2010, fixed the forecast expenditure for the Secretariat for 2011 at €6.2 million with the understanding that Member States of the Union for the Mediterranean will contribute at least 50%. Co-financing from EU and partner countries will be “conditio sine qua non” for European Commission involvement.

B. Civil Protection

Context and justification

The Mediterranean region is particularly exposed to the risks of natural and man-made disasters, which can have a significant negative and cross-border impact on populations, the environment, resources and infrastructures, and could undermine the region's sustainable development. Therefore, civil protection cooperation in the Mediterranean has been an important dimension of the political and security pillar of the Barcelona Process and its political importance has been reaffirmed by several EuroMed ministerial meetings in recent years. Moreover, it has been identified as one of the flagship initiatives within the Union for the Mediterranean at the Paris summit and Marseilles ministerial meeting in 2008.

Overarching objective

To develop and reinforce civil protection capacities in Mediterranean Partner countries, to further reinforce the institutional cooperation between the EU and Mediterranean Partner countries and to bring the Partner Countries progressively closer to the Community Civil Protection Mechanism (MIC), building on the *acquis* and lessons learned of ongoing and previous Programmes (PPRD South - Programme for the prevention, preparedness and response to natural and man-made disasters, Bridge Programme and the Pilot Programme).

Specific objectives

- Based on the achievements of the PPRD South, an in-depth knowledge of the exposure of the Mediterranean region to natural and man-made disasters, and of the existing capacities for prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response.
- Reinforce the existing measures of risk prevention and preparedness at regional, national and local level.
- Improve the deployment of existing warning systems, the coordinated action of the relevant operational centres, and the mobilisation of populations at risk;
- Based on the work already undertaken under the PPRD South, raise awareness for targeted sections of the population; sensitise stakeholders (such as volunteers, NGOs, specific population groups, etc.) involved in disaster response actions.

Expected results

- Reinforced existing prevention mechanisms at regional, national and local level (training workshops and technical assistance missions).
- Enhanced capacities for a coordinated, effective and efficient disaster response (maintenance of the PPRD South operational contact points, coordinate with the

MIC, a database of Mediterranean partner's resources shall be completed with a view to integrating it in the existing database of the Community Mechanism, awareness-raising of the Mechanism, training workshops, full-scale/table-top simulation exercises).

- Improved information and awareness of populations on risk exposure, prevention and response (information and awareness-raising activities, web portal).

Indicators

- Civil protection capacities at regional, national and local levels.
- Number of people trained (directly and through multiplier effect) during the various prevention, preparedness and response activities (using previous results as a baseline) with the active participation of an adequate number of relevant stakeholders.
- Number of people trained on disaster response with the active participation of an adequate number of relevant stakeholders.
- Progress in convergence with the Community Civil Protection Mechanism.
- Impact of awareness raising campaigns measured through surveys, tests and other appropriate means.

Brief description of the programme

The programme will be based on the achievements of the predecessor programmes in Euro-Mediterranean civil protection cooperation, and in particular on the PPRD South. It will be designed to further develop and reinforce the level of civil protection in the Euro-Mediterranean region, which would in turn ensure more effective protection of people, infrastructures, cultural heritage, and the natural environment in the event of major disasters; and ensure the continuation of institutional cooperation in this field - both between the EU and the Partner Countries and among the Partner Countries themselves, thereby promoting political and social stability. Activities of the Programme will include technical assistance, information exchange, training workshops, and exchange of experts, including the possibility of short-term expert secondments to the Community Mechanism.

C. Partnership for peace

Context and Justification

Civil society activities are considered as an important tool to broaden the base of support for the Middle East Peace Process in both Israeli and Arab societies and could help underpin official negotiations. Projects supported under the Partnership for Peace programme have received significant media coverage, and have successfully exposed Israelis and Palestinians to messages of peace, cooperation, and mutual understanding.

There is also a need to promote cooperation between official bodies in Israel, West Bank –Gaza, Jordan on themes of interest to the peace process such as environmental, commercial and other topics which can be dealt by experts in these fields.

Objective

The **global objective** is to help support the conditions for a negotiated solution and provide a solid foundation at civil society and intergovernmental level for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East by strengthening and increasing direct civil society relationships and inter-agency/intergovernmental co-operation based on equality and reciprocity between Palestinians and Israelis (including the Palestinian minority in Israel) and people in neighbouring Arab countries. The **specific objective** is to strengthen civil society capacity and carry out actions to promote peace building and conflict transformation. The programme intends to support practical actions aimed at building mutual trust through reconciliation, building capacity for conflict resolution, empowering marginalized groups, launching joint development policies and strategies and undertaking research activities.

Priorities

To help support the conditions for the peace process and provide a solid foundation at civil society and intergovernmental level for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East by strengthening and increasing direct civil society relationships and interagency/intergovernmental co-operation based on equality and reciprocity between Arabs/Palestinians and Israelis, including the Arab Palestinian minority in Israel.

Expected outcomes

The initiatives supported under the programme should contribute to the rebuilding of confidence within each society and between societies by strengthening civil society and other transnational links. Particular attention should be paid to public opinion with a view to broadening support for the peace process. The results of the projects are expected to provide factual/technical information and assistance to politicians and negotiators in developing solutions and strategies both on the European side and the parties in the region, as well as concrete cooperation between the parties on issues of common interest, in particular those in the ENP Action Plans.

Performance indicators

- Increase in the number of new applicants and the quality of applications received (as measured by evaluation reports).
- Increase in the number of balanced partnerships involving Israeli and Palestinian or other Arab projects.
- Increase in the number of co-operation projects between Israeli and Arab public or private bodies, focusing on priorities in the ENP Action plans.
- Increase of the awareness in general public on work done by Peace & advocacy NGOs leading to a greater support for the peace process on all sides (as measured by opinion polls).

Description of the programme

Until 1998, a number of People to People projects had received Community support under different budget headings.

In order to focus and increase its support to civil society in the region acting in support of peace, the European Commission decided to set up a specific People to People Programme. The EU Partnership for Peace programme (PfP), established in 2002 as the successor to the “people-to-people programme”, aims at promoting initiatives in areas which are likely to have an impact on people’s everyday lives and welfare, including practical activities which will promote communication and understanding by demonstrating the advantages of working together for mutual benefit and tangible results. The Commission will also promote sub-regional cooperation through the ENP Action Plans with Israel, the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Jordan.

D. Information and Training Seminars for Euro-Mediterranean Diplomats

Context and justification

In the course of the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership the necessity for shaping a culture of dialogue and cooperation among European Union Member States and their Mediterranean Partners has continually been emphasised. Dialogue, intercultural understanding and moves towards consensus in partnership building demand that leading protagonists in Euro-Mediterranean relations are properly trained in the procedures and etiquette of diplomacy and negotiation. Investments in the art of diplomacy and dialogue now will pay important returns in the debates and negotiations of tomorrow.

In an area where networks contribute towards the confidence and capacity building of Euro-Mediterranean relations (political think tanks, economic entities, civil society groups, academic alumni) the creation of a network of young Euro-Mediterranean diplomats that has been fostered by the Malta seminars has contributed to the cohesion and consensus in Euro-Mediterranean negotiations.

Also, in the ever changing worlds of international relations with shifting political, institutional and constitutional backdrops in the EU, in the Mediterranean and Middle East, and with the refining of the EU’s cooperation agreements in its external relations it is vital to keep stakeholders up to date and informed about these changes. This will become ever more critical now that the Lisbon Treaty is in force. The Information and Training seminars, already officially recognised by Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers as a successful confidence building activity of the partnership, are an essential asset in the world of Euro-Mediterranean diplomacy and dialogue.

Objectives

- Inform selected young Euro-Mediterranean diplomats on the policies, programmes and procedures of the European Union, particularly on its external relations and, more specifically, in its cooperation agreements with its southern partners.
- Train the diplomats in the etiquette of negotiation, dialogue and working together towards a consensus in decision making.

- Develop further the network of over 1,400 alumni from previous seminars.

Expected results

- Over the course of the implementation of the programme, over 300 Euro-Mediterranean diplomats to have ‘graduated’ from the information and training seminars.
- The same students to be part of the alumni network, actively contributing to its (electronic) activities.

Performance indicators

- § Organise biannual information and training seminars for Euro-Mediterranean diplomats.
- § Number of Euro-Mediterranean diplomats trained.
- § Number of articles published in newsletter.
- § Increase in number of alumni.

Brief description of the programme

A series of information and training seminars for Euro-Mediterranean diplomats will be organised on a biannual basis. Leading political, academic, institutional and civil society figures will be invited to make presentations on the various aspects of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, encouraging dialogue and interaction among the trainees. As well as the traditional presentations, there will be working groups and simulation exercises to familiarise participants with the necessary skills of negotiations and working in different intercultural settings.

Participants will also be invited to write for a newsletter and to take part in the activities of the Alumni group.

E. Regional Media, Information and Communication Programme II

Context and justification

Visibility continues to be a priority appended to cooperation programmes as public awareness of the EU’s programmes and policies brings viability, credibility and accountability. This is particularly relevant in times of increasing press, parliamentary and public scrutiny of EU policies and procedures.

The advance in information and communication technology such as increased internet use as well as changing political and cooperation backgrounds in Europe and the South

require that evolving information programmes contain the necessary flexibility to adapt to emergent events.

Professional shortcomings and political interference are contributory factors to the slow burn of media development in the region. The region's media is characterised by an excess of untrained journalists, a repression on freedom of expression and a dearth of independent media.

The Information and Communication programme should boost the involvement of the population through its comprehension of the EU cooperation and its understanding of the challenges foreseen. This is particularly pertinent when, according to a recent UNDP report¹⁶, 60% of the population in Arab countries is under 25 years old and will have to face the double challenge: economy and environment (water, desertification, pollution).

Objectives

- Consolidate and improve the work already done in the 2003-2007 and 2007-2010 Regional Information and Communication Programmes by building on its successes, while also learning from its shortcomings.
- Improve the visibility and knowledge of the European Union, its policies and programmes particularly in the area of external relations and cooperation. Endeavour to make the Partnership visible at all levels of society.
- Continue with our efforts to actively engage with the media in its totality – press, audiovisual, new technology media, etc. as well as media associations, journalism schools and other appropriate sectors of civil society.
- Improve the quality of media reporting - audiovisual and press - with more targeted and focused training initiatives in the region.
- Encourage the further development of media dialogues and networks within the region and with their peers in Europe.
- Work with the full spectrum of actors to advance efforts towards a more independent media and broader freedom of expression.
- Assist in the creation of safer and more secure working environments for journalists.
- Work with the media, other institutions and international organisations and agencies to develop media and information tools to assist in the areas of conflict prevention/resolution, prevent radicalisation, contribute towards the reduction of xenophobic and racist journalism and promote intercultural dialogue.

¹⁶ Arab human development report 2009 – page 34

Expected results

- A wider and deeper awareness of the European Union, particularly its policies, programmes and cooperation agreements with third countries and regions, throughout the Euro-Mediterranean region, and by all sectors of society.
- More extensive and inclusive Euro-Med media networks, continued dialogue and consultations between media, information and communication professionals and improved working relations.
- Enhanced development of the media sector with more and better trained journalists, actively working networks and improved working environments.
- Through the development of appropriate media mechanisms, work towards an increased awareness of ‘the other’ in order to bring about a reduction in tensions that can contribute to ‘cultural crises’.
- Easing of restrictions on press freedoms and an increased number of independent media outlets.
- A safer and more secure working environment for journalists.
- Broader access to more senior positions for female journalists.

Performance indicators

- Number of articles in press and magazines;
- Drafting of a region-wide communication strategy and work programme;
- Number of hours of radio and television transmission.
- Audience ratings for audiovisual shows.
- Improvement in the number of ‘hits’ in Delegations’ and HQ websites.
- Joint activities with other international organizations.
- Development of a media mechanism for use in cultural crises.
- Number of conferences/seminars/workshops between northern and southern journalists.
- Media networks created;

- Number of journalists trained, particularly female journalists;
- Number of awareness activities realised concerning the safety and security of journalists.
- Advances in regulatory and reform situations concerning freedom of expression and independent media.

Brief description of the programme

The programme will benefit from the lessons learnt - both successes and shortcomings - from recent exercises and will develop and adapt projects accordingly. Given the shifting backdrops at political, institutional and geographical level of our cooperation agreements with the region, programmes and projects will reflect this by a flexible approach to activities. They will continue to incorporate, where appropriate, recommendations made during past and future consultations with the 'EuroMed and the Media' taskforce, and other suggestions emerging from EuroMed media dialogue sand consultations and other workshops and working groups in the EuroMed region.

Priority area 2: Promoting regional economic integration, investment and regulatory convergence

A. Enhancing investment promotion, business development and industrial cooperation

Background

The region needs to attract more foreign investment and to develop better and more adapted economic research. Currently two main projects (Invest in Med and FEMISE) cover this area of activities to support investment promotion, business development and economic analysis at regional level. These projects are producing positive results and are widely appreciated by beneficiaries (investment promotion agencies, economic research institutes, private sector). Support to this priority area could also include the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise. The Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise that was adopted at ministerial level in 2004 has become an overarching key reference document for conducting business reforms across the region according to the latest progress report on the European Neighbourhood Policy (COM(2010) 207). The political steering provided by the Commission through the Charter and in other Euro-Mediterranean industrial cooperation areas (e.g. textiles dialogue) will be complemented by economic research and concrete activities entrusted to two main programmes (FEMISE and Invest in MED). These two programmes are producing positive results and are widely appreciated by beneficiaries. Together with the Charter process, they will receive financial support. In addition, all policy, research and concrete activities will be closely interlinked and coordinated with ENPI bilateral programmes, with activities supported by TAIEX and with those conducted by FEMIP.

Objective

The overall objective of the programme would be to identify barriers to foreign direct investment (FDI) and promote mechanisms to increase FDI flows; to enhance SME growth and competitiveness; to promote trade and trade diversification in the region; as well as greater convergence of the regulatory systems in fields such as financial services, auditing and accounting, public procurement, IPR, customs, competition, SPS etc, and increase research-based intelligence of regional economic prospects and evolution.

The specific objectives of the project are:

- To develop FDI and trade flows into the Mediterranean region by strengthening intermediary institutions and making the Mediterranean an attractive and safe destination for business (including through the promotion of greater regulatory convergence and an effective competition regime).
- To develop sustainable partnerships on the north and south rims of the Mediterranean.
- To implement a new model of co-operative economic networking between:
 - EU and Mediterranean public or private organizations;
 - Stakeholders concerned by business development.
- Strengthen the public-private and private-private dialogue and facilitate exchanges between EU and Mediterranean companies in order to favour business cooperation agreements, and more innovative developments in the Med region.
- To improve the business climate.
- Develop, in partnership with the private sector, the capacity of the Mediterranean organisations to support investment and investors and facilitate the networking between EuroMed organisations committed to trade promotion and investment attraction to the Mediterranean area.

Expected results

- Increased foreign investment in the region. Increased number of business partnerships. Identify investment barriers and address them.
- Better business environment.
- Economic research studies carried out on priority themes, with active and significant contribution from southern actors in their elaboration (which implies

inter alia enhancing south/north and south/south links in trade and economic research and support research networks).

- Economies of scale, synergies, and better integration of the national administrations, presently represented within the working group on industrial cooperation.

Indicators

- Implementation of a common multiannual research, exchange and communication programme (research, sector strategies and studies made, adequacy to priorities defined in common, organisation of workshops and conferences).
- Number of short-term technical assistance missions, events, training activities, reports, guidelines for investors and surveys on the regional situation.
- Dissemination of information, research studies and overall results (including publicity).

Brief description of the programme

The programme will be implemented through the promotion of regional events for investment and industrial cooperation, the promotion of networking, the assistance to the private sector with long term and short term staff exchanges, instructor workshops and training activities, and the production of guide books, surveys, reports, investment scoreboards and guidelines.

Concerning Euro-Mediterranean industrial cooperation, there will be further exchange of knowledge and experience in the following areas: trade facilitation for industrial products, innovation and technology transfer, dialogue on the future of the textile and clothing sector, sustainable enterprise development and energy efficiency, and in all areas covered by the Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise. Progress under the Charter will be evaluated and benchmarked again across the region in 2012 and the Charter will be revised.

Concerning the area of studies and economic research the activities should be those carried out by the FEMISE network (Forum Euro-méditerranéen des Instituts de Science Economique):

- policy research including making recommendations with respect to economic relations between Europe and their Mediterranean partners;
- publication and dissemination of this research for the benefit of public and private, national and multilateral institutions.

B. Transport Infrastructure

Background

The Commission Communication of January 2007 on *Guidelines for transport in Europe and neighbouring regions*¹⁷ outlined the first steps of a comprehensive policy for closer integration of the EU transport system with the neighbouring countries. The need to develop a transport network establishing a connection between the TEN-T and the non European networks, especially the trans-Mediterranean one, has been further underlined by the Ministerial Conference on the future of *Trans-European Transport Networks: Bringing Europe closer to its neighbours* which took place in Naples in October 2009.

The Euro Mediterranean Transport Forum presently oversees the implementation of the Regional Transport Action Plan (RTAP) for the Mediterranean 2007-2013, adopted in 2007 (by Euro Mediterranean Transport Forum), which implements those political guidelines. It will remain the decision making body for the Euro-Mediterranean transport sector, and prepare future Union for the Mediterranean Transport Ministerial Conferences. Following the expected adoption of the Trans-Mediterranean Transport (TMT) network by the next Ministerial meeting, a more coordinated and regional approach of directing investments to infrastructure projects on this network should be guaranteed. This would facilitate the implementation of regional and cross-border land and maritime highways in the Mediterranean region.

Objective

Mobilize additional investment to establish a well-integrated intermodal and sustainable transport system which supports the physical and economic integration of the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Specific objectives

- Adopt the Trans Mediterranean Transport network as extension of the TEN-T to the ENP South countries with a view on increasing further regional integration, cohesion and socio-economic development.
- Facilitate the promotion and the mobilisation of appropriate European and international financial aid for the priority infrastructure projects preferably situated on the TMT network.
- Increase free trade of transport services and successful transport integration through coherent regulatory frameworks that foster, inter alia, competitive port services and air traffic, the development of professional road haulage, and efficient freight forwarding as well as successful railway reforms to encourage an optimal use of the

¹⁷ Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the extension of the major trans-European transport axes to the neighbouring countries. Guidelines for transport in Europe and neighbouring regions. COM (2007) 32, of 31.1.2007.

TMT network which facilitates the unimpeded flow of goods and people in the Mediterranean region.

- Establish a sustainable TMT network with safety and security aspects integrated in the design, construction and operation, and addressing both in the planning and operation our common environment including climate change air pollution, biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.

Expected results

- Better transport infrastructure and increased intermodality, notably through interconnections.
- Faster transit of people and goods on the main corridors of the TMT linking EU and its neighbours as well as the neighbours among themselves.
- Better and more efficient transport services both for passengers and for goods by having better logistics processes for lower prices.
- More data about transport flows on the TMT network so as to have better traffic forecasts which would enhance improved network planning and would attract further investments in transport infrastructure.
- Cleaner environment and reduced environmental impact of transport, notably in urban areas, through more sustainable transport planning, integrating environmental considerations in transport operations and enhanced intermodality.
- Less (fatal) accidents and pollution through enhanced transport safety and reduced risks of unlawful acts through increased security also supported through enhanced cooperation with EU transport agencies in these fields (European Maritime Safety Agency, European Aviation Safety Agency, European Railway Safety Agency).

Indicators

- Amount of additional grant funding mobilized and loans leveraged from Development Finance Institutions (as evidenced by provided grants by the EIB or other IFI's, involvement of the Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF) as well as potentially the Secretariat of the UfM).
- Transport infrastructure links on the TMT network.
- Implementation of the ENP related thematic policies on transport (as evidenced by ENP Sector Reports).
- Implementation of the actions in the Regional Transport Action Plan (RTAP) for the Mediterranean 2007-2013 (as evidenced in the RTAP monitoring report).

- Implementation of the regional initiatives in the area of transport under the Union for the Mediterranean.
- Approximation of legislation to international and EU transport *acquis* especially for transport safety and security (as evidenced by ratification of international treaties and/or regulatory reform).
- Enhanced sustainable transport (as evidenced by more public transport, better integration of environmental considerations in transport planning and less emissions).

Brief Description of the programme

This priority will be pursued through various regional technical assistance programmes headed under the umbrella of the EuroMed Transport Programme. In addition, where possible, the NIF should be involved in the financing of priority transport infrastructure projects preferably situated on the TMT network.

The first purpose of the programme should be to accompany the TMT network specifically by regional technical assistance sub-programmes for the different transport sectors. These sub-programmes could focus on increasing the interoperability between the transport systems in the region and facilitating further flow of goods and persons along the TMT network. In that way the Trans Mediterranean Transport network could also further promote the gradual opening of the different transport markets which needs to be further supported by increased attention for better logistics processes both in ports (through the development of Motorways of the Seas) and in the hinterland (through logistic platforms).

The second main challenge of the programme should be to stimulate further regulatory reforms in the transport sector, especially aiming at creating a sustainable, safe and secure Euro-Mediterranean transport system. The common agreement to do so is laid down in the abovementioned RTAP. Although progress in this sector has been made (e.g. regarding aviation, maritime safety and security, road and rail sectors) through earlier regional programmes, additional efforts are needed. More involvement and cooperation with the dedicated EU transport safety agencies should be envisaged for all these domains. Increased efforts are also still needed in the field of environment and making transport more sustainable (e.g., improving energy efficiency in the transport sector, or promoting more efficient and accessible public transport).

C. Supporting the information society

Context and justification

Information Society is among the priorities of the Action Plan of the European Neighbourhood Policy with each Partner country, and has been identified as a priority in the Regional Strategy Paper (2007-2013) and in the Regional Indicative Programme (2007-2010). Cooperation in the Information Society field is essential in order to contribute to the sustainable economic and social development in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The Dundalk Ministerial Conference on the Information Society

in May 2005 adopted a series of recommendations in order to promote sector reform and development of the Euro-Mediterranean Information Society. These recommendations were followed by the Cairo Second EuroMed Ministerial Conference in 2008 where a new chapter on Information Society was introduced.

Finally, the Ministerial Marseille declaration in 2008 stressed the fundamental need to ensure interconnection of research and education networks to support, inter alia, the creation of grid-enabled scientific e-infrastructures able to make ICT research and development cooperation between Europe and the Mediterranean countries more efficient.

Objectives

To support and further improve the mutually beneficial Information Society cooperation between Europe and the Mediterranean Partner Countries and building on the achievements of the EUMEDIS and other Regional initiatives in the field (e.g. EUMEDCONNECT 2 /EUMEDIS and NATP III.).

The project specific objectives are to:

- 1.) Facilitate the creation of a harmonized and investment friendly environment in the electronic communications sector to enable the development of the Euro-Med Information Society.
- 2.) Ensure long-term sustainability of the research networking infrastructure in order to maximise the synergies of bilateral and regional Information Society projects.

New cooperation possibilities on regulatory convergence on ICT applications such as platforms for mobile communications and emergency services should be assessed.

Expected results

- A harmonized regulatory framework for the development of the Euro-Mediterranean Information Society, in particular a more comprehensive regulatory framework in the electronic communications sector which is harmonised with the EU framework principles.
- A regional self-sustained and self-managed organization providing R&D support network to enable interconnection with GEANT and greater level of collaborative research activities. In particular:
 - Increased and improved provision of dedicated connectivity for collaborative R&D applications (in particular for EU Framework Programme projects), with technical assistance provided locally;
 - A local interlocutor in the region vis-à-vis national governments and potential donors providing sustainable funding.

Performance indicators

- § Increased trade, public and private investments in the information society sector between EU and Mediterranean countries.

- § Improvement of national regulatory frameworks.
- § Increase in public and private research projects in the information society area overall, in particular in the number of collaborative research projects using EUMEDCONNECT, and in the number of different institutions participating in such projects.
- § Secured alternative funding to cover 100% network operations costs, capacity building and promotion activities.
- § A regional organisation assuming the technical management of the network interconnections.

Brief description of the programme

The programme will continue and further develop research and education networking in the Mediterranean region successfully established by the EUMEDCONNECT and EUMEDCONNECT 2 projects and strongly supported by the European and the Mediterranean research and education communities. The EUMEDCONNECT3 network will serve these communities by continuing to link the National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) in the region to the pan-European GÉANT and next generations of this network. EUMEDCONNECT3 will provide essential support to projects in the Mediterranean region, in particular in the fields of e-science and e-learning. Through its connections between the regional NRENs, it will also connect all organisations that are users of those NRENs (universities, researchers, academic education, public and private R&D organisation etc.).

Maintaining connectivity requires the rationalization of use and an increased share of national funding. In the short term, connectivity has still to be co-supported, while long term sustainability and effective impact of the networking infrastructure on R&D should be ensured at the end of the action.

D. Supporting the FEMIP

Background

The FEMIP is the largest lender in the Mediterranean region, and committed €1.6 billion in 2009 which represents the highest amount committed since its creation. This had an obvious impact on regional development and regional integration, with special focus on private sector development. This would not be possible without the technical assistance support provided by the European Commission. In parallel, the EIB is not allowed to propose risk capital operations if not covered by grants originating from the EU budget. The EIB external mandate mid-term review (February 2010) found that the effectiveness of the EIB operations is significantly enhanced when technical assistance funds have been provided. It also found that in case of Mediterranean region, the joint bilateral instruments set-up by the Commission and the EIB are found to promote closer collaboration and efficient use of EU and EIB resources, with clear synergy between the contributions of the two institutions. Current discussions concerning the possible

amendment of the ENPI regulation to allow for FEMIP to become a "revolving fund" would make more capital available and allow expanding risk capital operations.

Objective

Allow the FEMIP to continue its contribution to the economic and sectoral development of the region.

Expected results

More investment and more growth in the Mediterranean region, which induces more employment and economical convergence towards EU development standards.

Indicators

- Commitments and disbursements made under the FEMIP instrument.
- Consistency of the FEMIP activities with the regional programming.

Brief description of the programme

The Commission will support the technical assistance provided in parallel to a number of lending operations as well as the necessary funding for a number of risk-capital operations. With the current international economic crisis, lending (and thus the attached needed technical assistance) as well as risk capital is more necessary than ever.

E. Statistics

Background

The general mission of statistics is to provide all categories of domestic and international users with statistical information. While making efforts to satisfy those needs, the national statistical systems increasingly need to take into account international standards in order to make their data comparable at international level. The countries of the Mediterranean region are more and more committed to following international and European statistical principles and requirements, such as the *UN fundamental principles of official statistics* and the *European Statistics Code of Practice*, to ensure comparability of statistics across different regions to improve the quality and availability of reliable statistics.

Financed under the MEDA programme, and since 2007 by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument, the MEDSTAT regional statistical co-operation programme aims to improve comparability and harmonisation of statistics in different statistical sectors, to ensure a regional dialogue on technical issues and to build long-term regional networks in statistics.

Special attention is paid to coherence, harmonisation with EU and international standards, timeliness and dissemination of data in the following statistical sectors

(priority sectors): Trade in goods and services, Transport, Migration, Tourism, Environment, National accounts, Social statistics, Energy and Agriculture.

Objectives

MEDSTAT's **overall objective** is to improve governance by providing the data necessary for evidence-based decision making, and to improve the quality of statistical services and data in order to meet the economic and social information requirements as stated in the Barcelona Declaration. One of the objectives, in particular, is to supply the data required to implement and monitor the Association Agreements between the EU and the Mediterranean partner countries and the Neighbourhood National Action Plans.

A second objective is to encourage a regular regional dialogue and to create a formal network to tackle emerging statistical issues, including covering new domains, and to maintain the momentum for change in the regions statistical systems.

Expected results

- The institutional and inter-institutional strengthening of the statistical systems of the Mediterranean partners.
- The harmonisation of statistics in line with EU and international standards in order to improve the comparability of data for the Mediterranean partners with those of the EU Member States and EFTA countries.
- Increased availability and visibility of data on the economy, society and the environment, together with the metadata needed to fully understand and use the data.
- The constitution of databases and to the exchange of relevant data between the Euro-Mediterranean statistical institutes and Eurostat in particular.
- Development and implementation of a long term strategy and forum for cooperation in the field of statistics in the Mediterranean region.

Indicators

- Reliability and availability of better harmonized statistics for Mediterranean partners.
- Number of officials and personnel trained in the statistical offices.
- Number of regional seminars, training sessions, technical assistance missions and common documents or guidelines adopted or issued.
- More harmonized statistics.

- .Long term strategy and forum for cooperation in the field of statistics in the Mediterranean adopted.

Brief description of the programme

The programme should address a number of different areas including:

- Providing regional and sub-regional training on cross-cutting statistical topics and on specific domains.
- Improvement in the visibility and use of the data and the development of metadata, leading to increased publication and dissemination of statistics for priority statistical sectors.
- Consolidating and extending previous work, by making available expertise to advise and assist on the development, validation and harmonisation of statistics in the priority sectors.
- Developing programmes for new sectors such as Health statistics and Business statistics which have not yet been addressed.
- Supporting the development and implementation of a long-term strategy for cooperation in the field of statistics in the region.

Priority area 3: A Sustainable Development for the Mediterranean

If economic development is to be sustainable, environmental protection needs to be treated as a priority. In the Mediterranean this protection can only be assured by an element of regional cooperation. This priority area covers programmes on environment, water and energy.

A. Environment and Water

Overarching objective

Improve the quality of the environment in the Mediterranean partner countries and address the environmental challenges and threats.

Specific objectives

- Reduce or slow down the increase of pollution levels across the Mediterranean.
- Develop more efficient use of water resources and integrated water resource management.
- Support promotion of the ecosystem approach in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols to achieve 'good ecological status' of the

Mediterranean Sea (in line with the goal of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive).

- Capacity building on climate proofing to take into account the particular vulnerability of the Mediterranean to the effects of climate change.
- Promote greater awareness amongst all stakeholders of the environmental threats facing the Mediterranean, encourage wider involvement of civil society in facing these threats and use tools available through i.a. Integrated Maritime Policy to address these threats.

Expected results

- Implementation of the Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM) with integrated water resource management developed across the region and extension of the key principles of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive to the Mediterranean.
- Improved Implementation of the Barcelona Convention in a manner coherent with EU policy.
- Completion of measures in the Horizon 2020 road map for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean, adopted in Cairo on 20 November 2006. Investment finance mobilized for projects addressing regional environmental threats.
- Improved protection of biodiversity and terrestrial and marine ecosystems.
- European Environmental Agency in collaboration with UNEP MAP and other actors develop regular monitoring with mutually coherent data monitoring and indicators.
- Regional NGOs better equipped to participate in and influence environmental decision making and policy development.
- Increased awareness about the importance of an integrated maritime policy for the Mediterranean and increased deployment of relevant tools.
- Climate change adaptation measures are promoted.
- Environmental protection measures that contribute to an integrated approach to maritime policy.

Indicators

- IFI financing of a number of priority projects identified through instruments such as the Mediterranean Hot-Spot Identification Programme (MeHSIP) and MWS.
- Horizon 2020 road-map measures completed.

- Environmental data availability across the region in formats compatible with EU standards.
- Progress in the implementation of the successive steps of the Ecosystem approach (environmental assessment, setting of ecological and operational objectives and targets, conception and execution of corresponding monitoring programmes) in a manner coherent with EU policy.
- Number of environmental indicators that are monitored on a regular basis. Measured improvements in at least some of these environmental indicators.
- Reduction in the growth of the number of threatened species and habitats.

Brief description of the programme

The Horizon 2020 progress report (SEC(2009) 1118) notes that whilst there has been progress with Horizon 2020 during the period of the previous RIP, there is a need for continuity in this second period. Actions will be primarily focussed on a continuation of the de-pollution efforts undertaken under Horizon 2020 coupled with implementation of the SWM once it is adopted and to strengthening collaboration with the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP). Particular emphasis should be given to supporting measures that will lead to the implementation of environmental infrastructure projects of regional importance and to the ENPI's contribution to achieving EU environmental policy goals, including implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. The infrastructure projects of regional importance can be identified through the development of strategic approaches with clear selection criteria such as the SWM or the Mediterranean Hot-Spot Identification Programme (MeHSIP) undertaken through Horizon 2020. Actions could include project preparation measures, complimentary capacity building etc. These measures can encourage countries to pursue national projects of regional benefit that would not necessarily be picked up through national programmes. Once the SWM is adopted then supporting measures should be formulated according to its final structure.

Steps to monitor the state of the environment through development of a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) begun with the EEA under the previous RIP will need to be pursued in collaboration with other key organisations such as the institutions of the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP). Measures to support implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols, including the ecosystem approach, will help to arrive at 'good ecological status' of the Mediterranean Sea.

Activities will be developed to ensure that civil society can play a relevant role in the implementation of sustainable development related activities linked to this programme and other relevant actions.

With the Mediterranean being particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change capacity building on adaptation measures will need to be envisaged. This would be achieved through the implementation of actions of clear added regional value. With

biodiversity being particularly under threat¹⁸ from climate change and other pressures this should be a priority field of regional action.

These objectives should be complemented by the further promotion of an integrated approach to policy-making for all sectors and activities having an impact on the sea, and support for related capacity-building actions having a clear added-value at regional level. Improvement of coastal and marine observation capacities building on existing institutions could be a first step in this direction.

B. Energy

Context and justification

The EuroMed energy Ministerial conferences of May 2003 in Athens and of December 2003 in Rome laid the basis for the development of a common EuroMed energy policy based on the security of energy supply and on a full integrated energy market.

In December 2007 in Limassol, EuroMed Ministers of energy recognised the growing concern over energy security of supply and demand, the link between energy, development and climate change, and the access of the poor to modern energy services. They also adopted a “Priority Action Plan” covering the period 2008-2013 which includes an agreed list of priority infrastructure projects, as well as important provisions for the development of sustainable energy systems.

At the Union for the Mediterranean Paris summit meeting on July 13th 2008, the Heads of state and government of the European and Mediterranean countries agreed on a list of priorities for projects including energy, especially the development of a Mediterranean Solar Plan.

The European Commission has four priorities relevant for the EuroMed energy cooperation:

- Creation of an integrated and interconnected EuroMed energy market that should result in a stable legislative and regulatory framework in the EuroMed region based on the body of the EU law. EU funded projects are already ongoing in this area (support cooperation between EuroMed energy regulators, MEDREG.)
- Reaching an overall 20% renewable energy target in EU’s overall consumption by 2020. EU energy packet enables the EU countries to import renewable energy from third countries into the EU.

¹⁸ A mid-term assessment of implementing the EC Biodiversity Action Plan COM(2008) 864 16 December 2008

- The EU is well placed to facilitate the development and deployment of modern technologies by the EU's partner countries. This should include support to research and development.
- Reaching the 20% Energy Efficiency Objective.

A series of programmes supported by the European Commission directly aim at integrating the Maghreb and Mashrek energy markets (e.g. MED-EMIP, MEDREG projects) and at co-operation in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy (MED-ENEC project) continue their implementation.

Objectives

The main objectives of the programme should include the integration of energy markets, promotion of energy projects of common interest and sustainable energy development.

In particular:

- Speed up reforms and harmonise legislation and regulatory frame, rules and standards with a view of the gradual integration of the energy markets.
- Develop South-South and North-South interconnections.
- Promote the potential of renewable energy sources including marine renewables.
- Promote more efficient energy demand management.
- Promote research and development in this field in the region.

Expected results

More integrated energy markets, increasingly secure, safe and environmentally sustainable energy supplies, developed interconnections and renewable energy sources around the region.

Indicators

- Enhanced regional cooperation in the energy sector;
- Gradual integration of energy markets.
- Reform of energy markets.

Brief description of the programme

This programme should build up on the previous experiences and taking into account past lessons learnt, should concentrate inter alia on the following:

- Provide interdisciplinary inputs and cross-fertilization to several energy-related projects launched under bilateral funding in a number of Mediterranean Partner Countries.
- Provide demand driven support on the implementation of the Limassol conference's objectives.
- Support partners in the development of a stable legislative and regulatory framework in the EuroMed region
- Support actions and policies on energy efficiency in different sectors of the economy and with local authorities.
- Support gas and electricity market integration at regional or sub regional level.
- Support the use of renewable energies.
- Support the regulators.

Priority area 4: promoting social inclusion and cultural dialogue

The complementarity of these programmes with actions implemented in bilateral programmes and under thematic instruments and programmes will have to be ensured".

A. Gender equality

Context and justification

The Arab human development report identified women's empowerment as one of the three deficits which pose a serious threat to human development in the Arab world.

The EU gender Roadmap¹⁹ has as priority 6, the promotion of gender equality in external and development policies. As one objective, the Road Map includes the Promotion of gender equality in the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), external and development policies.

¹⁹ "A Roadmap for equality between women and men: 2006-2010". COM (2006)92 final " A Roadmap for equality between women and men: 2006-2010 Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions" adopted on 1 March 2006.

The Barcelona Work plan adopted in 2005 states that partners would adopt "measures to achieve gender equality, preventing all forms of discrimination and ensuring the protection of the rights of women". In November 2006 in Istanbul at the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on "Strengthening the Role of Women in Society", partners agreed to work within a common framework of action. The process as established by the Istanbul Conference is a novelty and a pioneer method.

As part of the follow up to the Istanbul Ministerial Conference held in 2006 on 'Strengthening the role of women in society', a second Ministerial conference took place on 11 and 12th November 2009 in Marrakesh. This meeting took stock of the actions undertaken by the partner countries on implementing the Istanbul Framework of Action agreed in 2006 and centred the priorities for the next two years in implanting the Istanbul framework and supported the development of joint activities within the partner countries. In addition, the EuroMed Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour (Marrakesh, November 2008) emphasised women's participation in economic and social life and concrete measures were included in the Framework for Actions on equal opportunities, enhancement of the employment rate of women and, in particular, the encouragement of their access to decent job opportunities.

The European Commission has, up to now, supported equality and gender issues mainly by programmes implemented directly with civil society. The current programme "Enhancing gender equality between men and women in the EuroMed region" (EGEP), to be implemented until 2011, introduces a governmental dimension by granting capacity building and training to governmental and paragonmental bodies on gender equality, fight against violence and the follow-up of the Istanbul process.

Objectives

The key objective is the promotion of women in all spheres of economic, political and cultural life and to enhance equality between men and women.

More specifically, the programme should:

- Reinforce the capacities of all actors involved, governmental and non governmental, at initiating and facilitating the implementation of reforms aiming at promoting gender equality.
- Support partner countries in the full implementation of international conventions regarding women's rights, namely CEDAW.
- Support actions regarding the fight against gender violence and stereotyping and promoting positive images of women in the region.
- Support the full and effective implementation of all Euro-Mediterranean policies and framework of actions agreed at Ministerial level regarding gender equality, in particular the framework of action agreed at the Ministerial meeting on "strengthening the role of women in society" held in Istanbul in 2006.

- Support civil society organisations, especially women’s organisations in their actions and programmes.

Expected results

- Reinforced dynamics at national, sub-regional and regional level regarding promotion of women’s rights and gender equality.
- Full implementation of the CEDAW convention accelerated.
- Increased awareness on gender violence and stereotyping throughout the region and when possible the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of action plans regarding the fight against gender violence and stereotyping of women.
- Exchange of information and practices on research, prevention and injunction of gender violence.
- Increase visibility and knowledge of the so-called “Istanbul process”.
- Civil society participation on actions and policies on gender equality increased.

Performance indicators

- Quantity and quality of following up reports on the Conclusions on the Ministerial meeting on “strengthening the role of women in society in the EuroMed region”.
- Quantity and quality of appearances of gender issues, including the Istanbul Process in the media.
- Number governmental and non governmental actions on promoting women’s rights and gender equality.

Brief description of the programme

This programme should build upon the previous experiences and taking into account pass lessons learn, should concentrate inter alia on the following:

Regional supporting mechanism that will provide specific technical assistance to public institutions and the civil society organisations working on women’s rights of the partner countries. To this end, support will be provided in all targeted countries – taking into account the country specific needs - to ensure local ownership and long-term impact. Some actions can include:

- providing technical assistance to the governments to formulate, implement and reform (if needed) gender oriented policies, and to improve/develop a legal and regulatory framework.

- providing capacity-building and training to address the skills shortages of the civil society working on supporting women's rights and gender equality.
- Ensuring awareness and supporting the full implementation of the Istanbul Plan of Action.

B. Dialogue between cultures and cooperation on culture

Context and justification

With the advent of the Barcelona Process in 1995, cultural and human partnership was made one of the three central pillars of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in recognition of the central role that culture plays in relations between countries and people.

The cultural pillar has been put into action with several programmes ranging from cooperation in the field of audiovisual, heritage, youth exchanges and the establishment of the Anna Lindh Foundation.

These programmes have been framed by the political commitments made at several high-level meetings between Ministers of Culture (Bologna 1996, Rhodes 1998 and Athens 2008) and meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

In May 2008, the third Euro Med Conference of Ministers of Culture was held in Athens. The meeting was an opportunity to exchange views about the cultural dimension of the Partnership and Ministers agreed the elaboration of a fully-fledged Euro-Mediterranean Strategy on Culture, both on the issue of dialogue between cultures and on cultural policy.

The Athens meeting put forward a vision of culture as a strategic factor of political, economic and social development throughout the region. It represented a turning point in our approach towards cooperation in cultural issues in the region. The European Commission, in order to prepare the above mentioned strategy, commissioned a needs assessment study on the region. The main conclusions underline the need to work towards: reinforcing cultural policies and capacity of the cultural sector in the region at local and national level; access to culture and the social and economic dimension of culture; and, regional cooperation and intercultural dialogue.

In addition, a better understanding of the economic weight of creative industries has been reached not only for Europe but also for third countries.

Objectives

The objective of this programme should therefore be twofold, on one hand to further support the work of the Anna Lindh Foundation as the unique institution created by the EuroMed partnership to enhance mutual knowledge, mutual understanding and dialogue. On the other hand to develop instruments to support cooperation in the cultural sector concentrating on the main conclusions of the needs assessment report. The Programmes will target all cultural sectors, including cinema and audiovisual and

support heritage projects. The programmes will also strengthen the linkages between cultural actions/initiatives and the related cultural policies and their contribution to wider regional agendas.

Expected results

- Policy-making, project and resource generating capacities are strengthened both at the level of public sector and cultural operators.
- Dialogue and co-operation mechanisms are developed within the sector across the region.
- Technical assistance provided to address specific priority needs of both the public institutions and the region's cultural sector.
- Promotion and Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in line with the 2005 UNESCO Convention.
- Intercultural dialogue in the Mediterranean increased in terms of accessibility of civil society groups and local communities.
- Active EuroMed networks of cultural actors and intercultural dialogue partners created and/or consolidated.
- Reinforcement of the Anna Lindh Foundation for Dialogue between cultures.

Performance indicators

- Number of networks created and consolidated after the programme.
- Number of participants in the different programmes and actions.
- Visibility of the programmes in terms of appearances in the Media.
- Number of technical assistance missions provided to different countries and cultural actors.
- Conformity of the legal and regulatory frameworks with international standards.
- Number of countries where programmes had an impact on reform and how.

Brief description of the programme

This programme should build upon the previous experiences and taking into account past lessons learned, should concentrate inter alia on the following activities:

- Support of the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) on the implementation of its three years programme, taking into account the following principles:
 - The activities of the ALF are a joint endeavor combining the efforts of its 43 national networks and its Secretariat /Headquarters in Alexandria.
 - The ALF must incarnate the dialogue between cultures pillar of the future EuroMed cultural strategy and therefore complementarity and synergies should be sought with the activities of the other programmes in this field of action.
 - Networking and complementarity with existing activities in order to multiply its effects and to add value and visibility.
 - Use of information technology to reach civil society at large.
 - Going beyond intellectual exchanges towards cooperation, while culture is understood to include all aspects of life.
- Regional supporting mechanisms that will provide capacity building to public institutions and the cultural sector (including heritage, performing and plastic arts, audiovisual and other cultural industries) of the partner countries. To this end, activities will be implemented in all targeted countries – taking into account the country specific needs - to ensure local ownership and long-term impact. Some actions can include:
 - providing technical assistance to the national and local authorities to formulate, implement and reform (if need it) cultural policies, and to improve/develop legal and regulatory framework.
 - contributing to develop more linkages between cultural activities & policies and their contribution to other or wider regional agendas.
 - providing capacity-building and training to address the identified skills shortages in the cultural sector.
 - Enhancing cultural exchanges and strengthening cooperation between cultural operators and actors.

C. Civil Society including youth

Context and justification

The EuroMed work plan approved in Barcelona in 2005 strengthens the commitment of the EuroMed partnership in favour of civil society. This programme underlines the necessity of the partners to adopt measures to “foster the role of civil society and enhance its capability through improved interaction with governments and parliaments”.

Partners, will also “work to increase the involvement of civil society in the EuroMed partnership”.

Heads of State in Paris, 13 July and Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Marseille, 3 November reiterate the “importance of the active participation of civil society (...) in the implementation (...)” of the Union for the Mediterranean.

Civil society organizations in the region face problems of very different nature depending on the context in which they develop their activities. In very general terms: weak internal governance, limited technical capacity to do strategic planning and communication towards the outside, limited competence to elaborate and implement thematic projects, reduce capacity of establishing and working on networks, etc. Mostly, they work under a restrictive political environment in a climate of mistrust and sometimes risking illegality and restrictions of actions and movements.

An important part of the population of our Mediterranean partners are young (almost 50% of the population is under 30 years). The number of youth organizations is increasing but their capacities are very limited and there are isolated with few occasions to exchange views with other young people in their countries and outside. Governments are increasingly defining youth policies and national strategies underlining as a priority youth exchanges.

Youth and its place in the transforming Mediterranean societies are therefore one of the biggest challenge of these countries.

The European Commission has already financed IV phases of Euro-Med Youth programme based on: youth exchanges, voluntary services and supporting measures. Until 2004, the Euro-Med Youth Programme for the Mediterranean countries was centralised in Brussels. In order to improve ownership of the programme by Mediterranean Partner Countries and facilitate their participation, a significant change in the management of the Programme occurred during the third phase, i.e., the decentralisation of the programme. Thus, during Phase III national youth units were created and are responsible for the implementation of the programme.

During Phase III (2007-2008) 85 projects submitted in the Mediterranean partner countries have been granted, with the participation of 1.589 young people.

Parallel to the Euro-Med Youth Programme, the Youth in Action Programme also offers opportunities to enhance Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in the youth field. The Programme supports youth exchanges, transnational voluntary service as well as training and networking projects involving young people, youth workers and youth organisations from both the EU and Mediterranean Partner Countries. Since its launch in 2007, the Youth in Action Programme has funded over 350 projects involving young participants and youth organisations from Mediterranean Partner Countries.

Objectives

Support civil society and youth to contribute to a more democratic debate at the regional level by supporting networks and platforms and reinforcing their capacity to lobby in the different bodies and levels of the EuroMed partnership.

In particular:

- Increasing civil society participation in the EuroMed partnership.
- Strengthening civil society by reinforcing its technical capacities.
- Raising awareness concerning the legal frameworks under which civil society is compelled to work.
- Support the development of national youth policies and strategies in the partner countries.
- Encourage the application of a cross-sectoral policy approach in favour of youth, following the example of the EU Youth Strategy.
- Facilitating the debate between civil society and governmental bodies on regional issues.
- Support and reinforce youth and youth organisations participation in the development of their societies and of democracy.
- Strengthen mutual comprehension and knowledge among youth of the EuroMed region.

Expected results

- Developed training and exchanges of experiences and best practices between organisations of different countries.
- Reinforced technical capacities of civil society at national and regional level and support of networks and platforms in all priority areas of the partnership agenda.
- Dialogue within regional and national civil society and youth organisations and between civil society and all levels of governments including public national and regional bodies.
- Awareness raised on legal frameworks under which civil society is compelled to work.
- Increased civil society participation in the EuroMed partnership.

- Increased mutual knowledge and understanding among EuroMed youth.
- Increased participation of youth organisations in the political, social and cultural life of their countries.
- Increased number of youth exchanges, voluntary services and youth training and networking in the EuroMed region.
- Increased visibility of the EU policies and the EU programme amongst youth in the region.

Performance indicators

- Number of EuroMed meetings attended by civil society representatives.
- Number and quality of civil society proposals concerning the priority areas of the EuroMed agenda.
- Number of national and regional networks and platforms established that may play the role of interlocutors with their respective governments and regional bodies.
- Number of activities organised by civil society to exchanges experiences and best practices and to define regional positions regarding the EuroMed agenda.
- Number of projects presented to and approved in the frame of the youth programme compared to previous phases.
- Quality of the projects presented by youth organisations in the frame of the programme.
- Number of young people participating in exchange and voluntary activities.
- Impact and level of satisfaction of participants.
- Visibility of the programme through mentions in mass media.

Brief description of the programme

This programme should build up on the previous experiences and taking into account past lessons learn, should concentrate inter alia on the following activities:

- Support thematic platforms and networks at national, sub-regional and regional level.
- Support the developments of contacts at regional level between civil society representatives and the EuroMed partnership institutional mechanisms.

- Support dialogue between civil society and public bodies on the priority agenda items of the EuroMed partnership.
- Support training and meetings and exchanges at national, sub-regional and regional level to increase their technical capacity and knowledge of the partnership.
- Strengthen visibility and communication.

As far as youth is concerned, the programme should build upon the previous experiences and taking into account the past evaluations and lessons learned, should concentrate inter alia on the following activities:

- Youth exchanges organised around priority areas of the EuroMed agenda.
- Voluntary service: Short and long term, individual and group voluntary experiences.
- Training and supporting measures for youth trainers and people working in the youth sector, i.e. governmental officials responsible for youth policies

Global Allocation

In addition to the priorities and programmes set out below, and in accordance with Article 16 of the ENPI Regulation, the necessary funds will be provided to cover expenditure associated with the preparation, follow-up, monitoring, and evaluation activities directly necessary for the implementation of the Regional and National Indicative Programmes and for the achievement of its objectives, e.g. studies, meetings, information activities, networks, platforms, awareness-raising, publication and training activities. As during the period 2007-2010, the Global Allocation will continue to be an essential instrument to finance:

- a) the preparation and identification of regional and bilateral programmes,
- b) the participation of Mediterranean Partner countries in the regional Ministers' meetings and their senior officials' preparatory meetings,
- c) cultural and information activities in EU Delegations located in Mediterranean countries and territories, and
- d) a number of small-scale unforeseen activities which are not covered by specific Regional Programmes and are in line with the objectives of the Southern dimension of the ENPI programme and its operational and policy priorities.

Annex I: Regional Support Allocation – Financial Breakdown

For the period 2011-2013 a total of €288 million is allocated to the Regional South programme. The indicative allocation for priority area is as follows:

Priority area	Approx. %
1. Common regional institutions, confidence building measures and media development	16
2. Regional integration, investment, regulatory convergence (including approximately 30% of the total regional allocation for the FEMIP).	43
3. Sustainable development	15
4. Social inclusion and cultural dialogue	14
Global allocation	12
TOTAL	100

Annex II: Donor matrix and coordination with other donors

There are very few significant programmes being carried out by other donors at regional level in the Mediterranean. In fact, until very recently, the Commission was the only donor in the region providing a significant volume of aid for regional programmes. With the launching of the Union for the Mediterranean there have been a number of announcements concerning major regional or transnational projects. It is difficult to evaluate, at this stage, their level of implementation and the financial commitments made by the parties involved.

The OECD launched the MENA Governance for Development initiative, which seeks to promote good governance practices in the region through the typical OECD approach of peer-group policy reviews. This initiative is financed by OECD member states. A second OECD MENA initiative, (Promoting Investment), has been launched, with a similar approach.

None of the IFIs operating in the region (IMF, WB, AfDB, IsDB) has region-wide programmes; all their programmes are national. Similarly, the EIB has no regional programmes except for technical assistance envelope financed by the EU Budget to provide support for FEMIP lending operations. This operates on a regional ENPI budget but the projects are in fact national, without a cross-border component. Coordination with the most important IFIs in the region takes place in the context of the Strategic Partnership Agreement between the Commission, the European Investment Bank, the World Bank and the IMF. The WB and the EIB do collaborate on and co-finance some sub-regional projects, for instance the connection of the Israeli and Palestinian electricity and transport grids, and the creation of a gas pipeline in the Mashrek, albeit through separate national projects. The creation of the Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF) in 2008 has significantly enhanced the cooperation between the EIB, AFD and KfW who share their investment portfolio in the region and now co-finance together big infrastructure projects in the fields of transport, energy and environment.

No EU Member State (MS) directly finances significant regional projects in the Mediterranean, except for a few very small research projects or conference events. The regional allocation for the Euro-Mediterranean partnership is the only true rallying point for regional cooperation. It is worth mentioning though that voluntary MS contributions to the NIF Trust Fund amount to €54 million in total (for the whole Neighbourhood), to cofinance important infrastructure projects with often a regional impact.

Measured in average €per year per inhabitant, significant differences appear between countries in terms of final destination of regional activities per country. Mostly this is due to a scale effect: small countries (Jordan, Tunisia, and Lebanon) receive relatively more money per inhabitant. In Syria this effect is more limited though.

Differences also appear between MEDA I and MEDA II: whereas the average yearly allocations to Egypt and Lebanon decrease, Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan remain stable, whereas the regional activities in Algeria and, most of all, Syria significantly increase.

Annex III – Statistics

Land area	Population
6.849.667 km ²	287.508.073 (July 2009)

Table 1: GDP at current market prices (million EUR)

	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008 (1)	Average annual growth rate 2000-2008 (2)
EU-27	9 203 808	9 944 839	10 611 810	11 687 188	12 506 172	3.9%
DZ	59 378	60 062	68 644	93 312	116 408	8.8%
EG	107 065	94 489	66 042	88 762	111 424	0.5%
IL	134 991	119 567	102 076	116 207	138 075	0.3%
JO	9 198	10 197	9 203	11 388	:	3.6%
LB	18 070	19 790	17 267	17 862	18 282	0.2%
MA	40 194	42 871	45 823	52 286	54 851	4.5%
PS	4 542	3 630	3 375	3 679	3 409	-4.0%
SY	20 488	20 873	18 685	26 010	29 486	5.3%
TN	21 096	22 301	22 741	24 768	:	2.7%

DZ: Algeria, EG: Egypt, IL: Israel, JO: Jordan, LB: Lebanon, MA: Morocco, PS: occupied Palestinian Territories, SY: Syria, TN: Tunisia

(1) Lebanon, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory and Syria, 2007.

(2) Lebanon, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory and Syria, growth rate between 2000 and 2007; Jordan and Tunisia, growth rate between 2000 and 2006.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (nama_gdp_c); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ec1).

Table 2: GDP per capita at current market prices (EUR)

	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008 (1)
EU-27	19 100	20 500	21 700	23 700	25 100
DZ	1 952	1 915	2 121	2 787	3 350
EG	1 691	1 432	962	1 244	1 497
IL	21 464	18 199	14 991	16 475	18 892
JO	1 894	2 001	1 718	2 153	:
LB	:	:	4 598	:	4 863
MA	1 412	1 452	1 536	1 714	1 779
PS	1 599	1 206	1 059	1 086	976
SY	1 255	1 219	1 027	1 373	1 538
TN	2 206	2 280	2 288	2 446	:

(1) Lebanon, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory and Syria, 2007.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (nama_aux_gph); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ec1).

Table 3: Gross value added at basic prices: % share of total gross value added, 2008 (1)

	Industry	Construction	Services	Agriculture, forestry and fishing
EU-27	20.0	6.4	71.7	1.8
DZ	52.8	9.2	31.2	6.8
SY	31.9	3.6	44.3	20.3
EG	33.6	4.3	48.9	13.2
TN	32.6	5.6	52.0	9.8
MA	20.5	6.8	59.0	13.7
IL	20.0	5.2	73.0	1.8
PS	12.6	6.5	74.6	6.3
JO	17.8	4.3	75.1	2.8
LB	4.8	13.0	76.6	5.6

1) Morocco (provisional), occupied Palestinian territory, Syria, 2007; Jordan, 2005.

General note for all tables: Figures shown in italics are estimates

Table 4: Expenditure components of GDP: % share of GDP, 2008 (1)

	Final consumption expenditure: households and NPISH	Final consumption expenditure: general government	Gross capital formation	External balance of goods and services
EU-27	57.4	20.8	21.5	0.3
DZ	29.8	13.2	37.6	19.4
EG	72.3	10.9	22.4	-5.6
IL	58.3	24.8	18.5	-1.6
JO	88.1	19.5	33.8	-39.9
LB	83.9	14.7	30.6	-29.2
MA	58.4	18.2	32.5	-9.1
PS	108.9	21.4	24.8	-55.1
SY	59.7	12.3	27.2	0.8
TN	62.0	13.9	27.6	-3.5

(1) Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory and Syria, 2007; Jordan, 2005.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (nama_fcs_c, nama_gdp_c and nama_exi_c); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ec2, med_ec3 and med_ec4).

Table 5: General government deficit (-) / surplus (+) relative to GDP (%)

	2000	2002	2004	2006 (1)	2008 (2)
EU-27	0.6	-2.5	-2.9	-1.4	-2.3
DZ	9.4	0.2	5.1	11.0	9.4
EG	-7.1	-10.3	-8.9	3.3	-6.5
IL	-2.2	-4.4	-4.3	-1.2	-1.9
JO	-2.0	-2.1	-2.1	-5.2	:
LB	-18.7	-13.6	-6.9	-6.8	-2.7
MA	-2.3	-2.2	-1.9	:	:
PS	:	:	:	:	:
SY	-2.1	-1.2	-5.0	-3.5	-2.4
TN	-2.5	-1.3	1.4	-1.5	0.6

(1) Jordan, 2005.

(2) Lebanon and Syria, 2007.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (gov_dd_edpt1); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ec6).

Table 6: General government debt relative to GDP (%)

	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008
EU-27	61.9	60.4	62.2	61.4	61.6
DZ	:	:	:	:	:
EG	:	:	:	:	:
IL	85.5	97.4	98.7	84.8	77.1
JO	:	:	:	:	:
LB	139.5	157.2	153.6	166.8	138.6
MA (1)	:	16.5	13.9	11.3	10.7
PS	:	:	:	:	:
SY	:	:	:	:	:
TN	61.9	61.5	59.4	53.7	47.5

(1) 2003 instead of 2002 and 2007 instead of 2008.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (gov_dd_edpt1); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ec7).

Table 7: Exchange rates against the euro (1 euro =...national currency)

	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008 (1)
DZ	69.4455	75.3015	89.6198	91.2231	94.8635
EG	3.2300	4.2889	7.7337	7.2439	8.0382
IL	3.7679	4.4780	5.5694	5.5922	5.2518
JO	0.6521	0.6663	0.8791	0.8876	0.9706
LB	1 391.440	1 425.410	1 873.990	1 893.719	2 066.181
MA	9.787	10.390	11.021	11.042	11.348
PS (2)	3.7679	4.4780	5.5694	5.5922	5.2518
SY	44.1200	48.7000	67.6000	65.3000	68.5000
TN	1.2633	1.3418	1.5486	1.6709	:

(1) Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, 2007.

(2) The currency officially in use in the occupied Palestinian territory is the Israel shekel.

Source: for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ec9).

Table 8: Consumer price index, 2000=100 (annual rate of change)

	2001	2002	2004	2006	2008	Average annual growth rate 2000-2008 (%)
EU-27 (1)	3.2	2.5	2.3	2.3	3.7	2.6
DZ	4.2	1.4	4.0	2.2	4.9	3.3
EG (2)	2.3	2.7	16.4	7.9	9.4	6.7
IL	1.1	5.6	-0.4	2.2	4.6	1.9
JO (3)	1.8	1.8	3.4	2.5	:	2.4
LB (4)	1.3	4.2	1.7	5.6	9.3	3.2
MA (5)	0.6	2.8	1.5	3.4	3.9	2.0
PS	1.2	5.7	3.0	3.8	9.9	4.2
SY (6)	3.0	1.0	4.4	10.0	:	5.1
TN	2.0	2.6	3.6	4.5	5.1	3.2

(1) Harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP): not strictly comparable with national CPIs.

(2) 2007 instead 2008 and growth rate between 2000 and 2007.

(3) Growth rate between 2000 and 2006.

(4) 2007 instead of 2008 and growth rate between 2000 and 2007; house rents and charges are not included.

(5) Cost of living index in urban areas.

(6) COICOP is applied starting from 2006; growth rate between 2000 and 2006.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (prc_hicp_aind); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ec8).

Table 9: Current account balance with the rest of the world (million EUR)

	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
EU-27	:	-35 991	-82 910	-146 205	-127 181	-243 328
DZ	10 681	8 939	17 013	23 044	22 301	:
EG	-1 254	2 744	2 347	1 390	1 646	603
IL	-587	384	750	1 314	819	403
JO	66	-1	-1 823	-1 575	:	:
LB	:	-3 542	-2 209	-962	-1 018	:
MA	-516	776	856	1 125	-51	-3 167
PS	-1 134	-1 139	-900	-423	-321	222
SY	899	451	236	719	334	:
TN	-891	-443	-241	-493	-671	-1 169

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (bop_q_eu); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ecbp).

Table 10: Current and capital account (million EUR)

	Current account		Capital account	
	2000	2008	2000	2008
EU-27	:	-243 328.0	:	-8 411.0
DZ (1)	10 681.2	22 300.9	0.3	-0.1
EG	-1 254.5	602.5	0.0	1.6
IL	-586.8	403.5	123.7	211.4
JO (2)	65.9	-1 575.0	70.5	50.7
LB (3)	-4 802.0	-1 017.9	13.5	430.3
MA	-515.6	-3 166.8	-6.5	-1.4
PS	-1 133.6	221.9	214.5	271.1
SY	898.7	334.3	68.2	86.0
TN	-891.1	-1 168.9	3.3	53.9

(1) 2007 instead of 2008.

(2) 2006 instead of 2008.

(3) 2002 instead of 2000 and 2007 instead of 2008.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (bop_q_eu); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ecbp).

Table 11: Foreign direct investment - outflows from the reporting economy (million EUR)

	2000 (1)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
EU-27	:	-142 278.0	-239 454.0	-313 004.0	-530 738.0	-347 658.0
DZ	-20.0	-207.4	-18.1	-60.8	-211.7	:
EG	-45.8	-125.0	-31.4	-115.3	-388.6	-754.7
IL	-885.1	-813.9	-527.7	-2 672.3	-1 241.7	-1 495.5
JO	-1.5	0.0	0.0	:	:	:
LB	-0.2	-664.9	-575.1	-696.6	-618.8	:
MA	-63.5	-24.9	-60.0	-354.4	-453.9	-331.4
PS	-230.8	40.9	-7.1	-107.1	5.9	5.6
SY	:	:	:	:	:	:
TN	-1.7	-1.2	-8.3	-24.2	-12.1	-25.8

(1) Lebanon, 2002.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (tec00053); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ecbp).

Table 12: Foreign direct investment - inflows into the reporting economy (million EUR)

	2000 (1)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
EU-27	:	58 286	129 167	228 954	411 373	198 693
DZ	304.3	709.1	868.6	1 398.3	1 213.5	:
EG	1 786.2	326.9	3 145.7	4 849.4	8 018.7	8 978.2
IL	1 570.9	454.1	765.4	2 639.7	1 604.4	1 835.4
JO	886.4	525.5	1 234.8	2 493.1	:	:
LB	1 412.8	1 526.5	2 108.8	2 130.1	1 992.7	:
MA	463.1	719.8	1 330.3	1 951.1	2 047.9	1 698.6
PS	67.1	39.3	37.4	14.8	20.6	35.0
SY	292.3	210.0	395.7	480.2	654.5	:
TN	816.2	477.5	581.7	2 605.1	1 120.4	1 801.8

(1) Lebanon, 2002.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (tec00049); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ecbp).

Employment and unemployment

Economic activity rates represent the labour force as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64 years). Activity rates for men and for women are expressed as a percentage of the corresponding male and female same age total population respectively, not as a share of the total (male and female) population aged 15 to 64. The labour force comprises persons in employment and unemployed persons.

Table 13: Economic activity rate (%)

	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008
EU-27	68.6	68.6	69.3	70.3	70.9
DZ (1)	43.6	42.4	44.9	45.3	44.6
EG	47.7	46.4	47.5	49.4	51.2
IL	61.5	61.2	62.2	62.9	63.8
JO	:	:	:	:	:
LB (2)	:	:	47.1	:	47.6
MA	55.4	53.3	54.9	53.8	53.2
PS	43.7	39.9	42.3	42.3	42.8
SY	:	:	:	:	:
TN	48.4	48.6	49.3	50.0	50.8

(1) 2001 instead of 2000 and 2003 instead of 2002.

(2) 2007 instead of 2008.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (demo_ifsi_act_a); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ps412).

Table 14: Economic activity rate by gender, 2008 (%) (1)

	Male	Female
PS	68.8	15.8
DZ	73.5	15.2
LB (2)	72.9	23.9
TN	74.3	27.8
MA	79.9	28.0
EG	76.3	25.0
IL	68.1	59.5
EU-27	78.0	63.9

Employment rates represent persons in employment as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64 years). Employment rates for men and women are expressed as a percentage of the corresponding male and female same age total population, not as a share of the total (male and female) population aged 15 to 64.

Table 15: Employment rate (%)

	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008
EU-27	62.2	62.4	63.0	64.5	65.9
DZ (1)	32.1	32.7	36.8	40.3	39.9
EG	42.3	41.7	42.4	44.1	46.0
IL	57.4	56.3	57.1	59.1	61.5
JO (2)	36.0	33.9	32.9	33.9	30.9
LB (2)	:	:	29.5	:	29.7
MA	49.8	48.9	50.8	50.3	49.8
PS	37.5	27.3	30.9	32.9	31.5
SY	:	:	:	:	:
TN	41.9	42.4	43.3	44.0	44.5

(1) 2001 instead of 2000 and 2003 instead of 2002.

(2) 2007 instead of 2008.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (lfsi_emp_a); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ps413).

Table 16: Employment rate by gender, 2008 (%) (1)

	Female 2008	Male 2008
LB (2)	14.5	45.3
JO (2)	10.2	50.2
PS	12.0	50.3
DZ	12.6	66.8
TN	22.9	66.6
EG	18.7	72.1
MA	26.0	75.0
IL	56.6	66.4
EU-27	59.1	72.8

(1) Syria, not available; MED countries sorted in descending order according to the total employment rate.

(2) 2007 instead of 2008.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (lfsi_emp_a); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ps413).

Table 17: Employment by economic activity, 2008 (%)

	Agriculture		Industry		Services	
	2000 (1)	2008 (2)	2000 (1)	2008 (2)	2000 (1)	2008 (2)
EU-27	7.3	5.7	26.9	24.9	65.9	69.4
DZ	:	:	:	:	:	:
EG	29.6	31.7	21.3	23.0	49.1	45.3
IL	2.2	1.7	24.2	21.9	73.7	76.4
JO	:	:	:	:	:	:
LB	7.5	7.2	23.7	19.4	68.8	73.4
MA	46.0	40.9	19.4	21.7	34.6	37.3
PS	13.0	13.4	34.7	23.3	52.3	63.3
SY	:	:	:	:	:	:
TN	16.3	17.8	34.3	33.1	49.4	49.1

(1) Lebanon and Tunisia, 2004.

The unemployment rate is the share of unemployed persons over the total number of active persons in the labour market. Unemployed persons within the EU are defined as those persons aged 15-74 who were without work during the reference week, were currently available for work and were either actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months. In the MED countries, the narrower age group of 15-64 years is considered.

Table 18: Unemployment rate (% of the total labour force)

	2000 (1)	2002 (2)	2004	2006	2008 (3)
EU-27	8.7	8.9	9.1	8.2	7.0
DZ	28.9	27.3	17.7	12.3	11.3
EG	9.0	10.2	10.3	10.6	8.7
IL	8.9	10.5	10.5	8.5	6.2
JO	13.7	15.4	12.5	14.0	13.1
LB	:	:	8.0	:	9.2
MA	13.4	11.3	10.8	9.7	9.6
PS	14.5	31.7	27.1	23.6	26.1
SY	10.6	11.6	12.5	8.1	:
TN	15.7	15.3	14.2	14.3	14.2

(1) Syria, 2001 (2) Algeria, 2001 (3) Jordan and Lebanon, 2007

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (une_rt_a); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ps421).

Table 19 : Unemployment rate by gender, 2008 (%) (1)

	By gender	
	Male	Female
EU-27	6.6	7.5
PS	26.6	23.9
TN	12.6	18.6
JO (3)	10.3	25.6
DZ	10.1	17.4
LB (3)	8.8	10.2
MA	9.5	9.8
EG	5.6	19.3
SY (2)	5.8	19.9
IL	5.8	6.6

The long-term unemployment rate is defined as the number of persons who have been unemployed for at least 12 months, expressed as a share of the total number of active persons in the labour market

Figure 20 : Unemployment rate by duration, 2008 (%) (1)

	Total unemployment rate	Unemployed less than 12 months	Long-term unemployment rate
SY (4)	8.1	:	:
TN	14.2	:	:
DZ	11.3	3.2	8.1
MA	9.6	3.0	6.6
EG	8.7	1.6	7.1
LB (2)	8.0	5.3	2.7
IL	6.2	4.6	1.6
EU-27	7.0	4.4	2.6

(2) 2007 instead of 2008.

(1) 2004 instead of 2008.

(3) 2006 instead of 2008.

Youth unemployment rate is the share of unemployed persons aged 15-24 as a proportion of the total number of active persons in the labour market (the labour force) aged 15-24. The data presented generally refer to average rates of the four quarterly labour force surveys in each year. Youth unemployment rates for men and women are expressed as a percentage of the male labour force aged 15-24 and the female labour force aged 15-24 respectively, but not as a share of the total (male and female) labour force.

Table 21: Youth unemployment rate, 2000 and 2008 (%)

	2000			2008		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
EU-27	17.3	16.6	18.2	15.4	15.6	15.3
DZ (1)	54.9	46.0	57.4	23.8	21.7	34.4
EG	28.2	16.9	59.2	25.4	16.8	53.9
IL	16.9	17.1	16.8	12.6	11.9	13.4
JO (2)	26.7	24.4	40.4	34.7	34.0	44.4
LB (3)	19.9	20.2	19.0	22.0	22.0	21.0
MA	19.6	21.1	15.8	18.3	19.1	16.1
PS	20.3	19.6	23.2	40.3	38.9	47.4
SY (4)	24.5			18.3	:	:
TN	32.5	34.8	27.6	31.6	31.6	31.5

(1) Male and female, 2001 instead of 2000.

(2) 2007 instead of 2008.

(3) 2004 instead of 2000 and 2007 instead of 2008.

(4) 2001 instead of 2000 and 2005 instead of 2008.

Source: for the EU-27, Eurostat (une_rt_a); for the MED countries, Eurostat (med_ps421).

Annex IV

List of acronyms

ALF	Anna Lindh Foundation
ANIMA	Euro-Med network of investment promotion agencies
AoC	Alliance of civilizations
CEDAW	Committee on the elimination of discrimination against women
FDI	Foreign direct investment
FEMIP	Euro-Med Investment and Partnership Facility
FEMISE	Euro-Med network of economic research institutes
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EGEP	Euro-Med programme on enhancing gender equality
EIB	European Investment Bank
EASA	European Aviation Safety Agency
EMSA	European Maritime Safety Agency
EMUNI	Euro-Med University
ENPI	European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
EU	European Union
IT	Information technologies
IFI	International financial institutions
GDP	Gross domestic product
HQ	Headquarters
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MDG	Millennium development goals
MEDA	Regulation on financial measures for the Mediterranean (1995-2006)
MED-EMIP	Euro-Med energy market integration programme
MED-ENEC	Euro-Med energy efficiency and renewable energy programme
MED-REG	Euro-Med energy regulators programme
MEDSTAT	Euro-Med statistics programme
MeHSIP	Mediterranean hot-spot identification programme
MIC	EU civil protection mechanism
NGO	Non-government organization
NIF	Neighbourhood Investment Facility
OECD	Organisation for economic cooperation and development

PPRD	Prevention, preparedness and response to natural and man-made disasters
RCREE	Regional centre for renewable and energy efficiency.
RIP	Regional indicative programme
RTAP	Regional transport action plan
SWM	Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean
TEN-T	Trans-European Transport Network.
TMT	Trans-Mediterranean transport network
UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural organisation

ANNEX V

REGIONAL SUPPORT ALLOCATION (2007-2010)– FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

Year in which commitments were made under the programme

Programme heading / title	2007	2008	2009	2010	Million EUR
Global allocation	10	6,9	6,1	8,9	31,9
Political, Justice, Security and Migration Cooperation					
Confidence building measures: civil protection	4,4				4,4
Confidence building measures: partnership for peace	5	5		10	20
Justice, security and migration (JSM)			13		13
Policy analysis				8	8
Sustainable Economic Development					
Investment promotion and reform dynamisation to attract investments	6				6
Transport and energy cooperation		9	14		23
South – South regional economic integration			4		4
Environmental programme		9	9	15	33
Technical assistance and risk capital support for FEMIP	32	32	32	32	128
Development of the information society		5			5
Social Development and Cultural Exchanges					
Gender equality and civil society	8			8	16
Information and communication II	12			10	22
EuroMed Youth			5		5
Dialogue between cultures and cultural heritage	17	7			24
TOTAL	94,4	73,9	83,1	91,9	343,3