

ENI Regional South Strategy Paper (2014-2020)
and multiannual indicative programme (2014-2017)

SUMMARY

The regional programme will complement and foster closer regional cooperation and integration in areas reflecting a regional dimension, where:

- the impact of country-based support strategies will benefit from broadening the geographical scope, the set of institutional or non-institutional interlocutors;
- cross fertilisation, exchanges of best practices, knowledge transfer will in particular provide a boost to the countries' reform and modernisation efforts; and
- added value is expected in promoting dialogue among partners of the region.

At the regional level, after a lapse of several years, a series of **Union for the Mediterranean** (UfM) Ministerial meetings resumed. The three first meetings on Women, Transport and Energy took place in 2013. The fourth Ministerial meeting on Industrial cooperation took place on 19 February. This was followed by the first Ministerial meeting on Environment and Climate Change, which took place on 13 May 2014. **The League of Arab States (LAS)** has become an important interlocutor for the EU in the region. During 2013, the EU and LAS intensified their cooperation, both in the political and concrete terms. The development of regular contacts between senior officials continued; next meeting of EU and LAS Foreign Ministers takes place in June 2014. The development of cooperation on the basis of the work programme agreed in 2012 is making good progress in areas such as support to crisis response mechanisms, human rights, training on election observation, women empowerment. The EU continued strengthening its relations with the **Organisation of Islamic Cooperation** (OIC), demonstrated by the inauguration in 2013 of the OIC Permanent Observer Mission in Brussels. Following the adoption of the joint Communication of December 2012, the EU is also committed to strengthen its cooperation with the **Maghreb** region, notably with a view to support regional cooperation and dialogue among the five Maghreb countries (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt).

The Southern Neighbourhood, notwithstanding the specific situation of each country and the circumstances that surround the EU cooperation with each, is faced with huge challenges that range from the consolidation of democratic transition and good governance, combined with rising concerns pertaining to security in a regional context; to a pressure to deliver social and economic reforms that will address popular expectations towards more equitable and inclusive societies, notably through youth employment, as well as financial stability. Closer regional or sub-regional dialogue and cooperation present opportunities to increase impact and sustainability of these policies.

As an integral part of the EU response to the needs in the Southern Neighbourhood, the regional strategy complements the bilateral ones to upscale the cooperation in specific areas beyond the national scope to a regional level, or to work on topics not directly addressed through the bilateral cooperation. It builds also on the external dimension of EU internal policies, and on EU policy and instruments in the region, as described inter alia in EU Council Conclusions, EU Agreements, ENP Action Plans, and ENI regional and bilateral strategy papers and Multiannual Indicative Programmes for the neighbourhood. Synergies with the initiatives of the Union for the Mediterranean will be explored, taking full account of institutional roles and mandates. It embeds openness towards closer cooperation with the Maghreb region, and in this context will be closely coordinated with the Pan-African development cooperation programme, which also covers these countries.

The priorities which will be implemented under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) over the period 2014-2020 are:

- Building a partnership for liberty, democracy and security – 20%.
- Building a partnership for inclusive and sustainable economic development – 20%.
- Building a partnership between the people – 25%.
- Support regional and sub-regional institutional cooperation – 15%.

<i>Indicative allocation 2014-2020</i>	EUR 674,000,000- EUR 824,000,000
<i>Indicative allocation for the 1st period (2014-2017)</i>	EUR 371,000,000- EUR 453,000,000
<i>Building a partnership for liberty, democracy and security</i>	20%
<i>Building a partnership for inclusive and sustainable economic development</i>	20%
<i>Building a partnership between the people</i>	25%
<i>Support regional and sub-regional institutional cooperation</i>	15%
<i>Complementary support</i>	20%