The EU Water Development Policy and the new framework for action

DEVCO C5

European Commission / EuropeAid
The Present Policy Framework

Council Resolution "Water management in developing countries policy and priorities for EU development cooperation" (2002)

- Water is a primary human need;
- Water supply and sanitation are basic social services.

European Consensus on Development (2006)

- reducing poverty;
- democratic values;
- nationally-led development.

A revision of the Consensus is ongoing in order to better align the EU strategy at the new framework set by the Agenda 2030.
The Agenda for Change (2011)

REDUCING POVERTY IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD:

1) the EU must seek to focus its offer to partner countries where it can have the greatest impact and should concentrate its development cooperation in support of:

• Human rights, democracy and good governance
• Inclusive and sustainable growth for human development

2) To ensure best value for money, this should be accompanied by:

• differentiated development partnerships;
• coordinated EU action;
• improved coherence among EU policies.

The EU should focus its support for inclusive and sustainable growth on:

Business environment, regional integration, world markets

"The EU should support regional and continental integration efforts through partners' policies in areas such as (...) cross-border cooperation on water, energy and security"

Sustainable agriculture and energy

"The EU should (...) tackle inequalities, in particular to give poor people better access to land, food, water and energy without harming the environment."
Council conclusions on EU water diplomacy:

- EU can offer **technical know-how** to other parts of the world (Danube, Rhine etc.)
- Priority regions: **Central Asia, the Nile,** the Mekong, the Middle East and the Sahel
- Elaboration of **action plans** aiming to raise political attention to water security
- Promote **international conventions** and other legal instruments as the basis for management of trans-boundary waters
- Enhance **international partnerships** (UN, WB, USA etc.)
Agenda 2030

- 17 Universal goals and 169 targets. Integrated, Indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development (Social, Economic & Environmental)

- The **2030 Development Agenda** was adopted in New York on 25 Sept 2015 by Heads of State and Government

- **SDG 6** on "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all": 6 outcome targets and 2 MoI targets.
The water and sanitation SDG, Goal 6
Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

1. By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

=> ACCESS to WATER

2. By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations

=> ACCESS to SANITATION

3. By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally

=> WATER QUALITY
The water and sanitation SDG, Goal 6
Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

4. By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity

=> WATER AVAILABILITY

5. By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate

=> WATER MANAGEMENT

6. By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

=> WATER & ENVIRONMENT
THE NEW EUROPEAN CONSENSUS ON DEVELOPMENT

"OUR WORLD, OUR DIGNITY, OUR FUTURE"
What has changed since 2005 and why do we need a new vision?

Global Challenges

- Poverty and inequalities
- Increasing instability & crises
- More diversified developing countries
- Global public goods under stress

A new EU and international framework

- Lisbon Treaty 2009
- Addis Ababa Action Agenda Jul 2015
- Paris Climate Agreement Dec 2015
- Global Strategy June 2016
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Sept 2015

This is why we need a new common vision for our development policy.
The EU and its Member States must respond to current global challenges and opportunities in the light of the 2030 Agenda

Integrate in a balanced and coherent manner the three dimensions of sustainable development (Social, Economics and Environmental)

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda requires comprehensive national sustainable development strategies that factor in the SDGs and their interlinkages
The actions carried by the EU and its Member States will be structured around the key themes of the 2030 Agenda:

- **People,**
- **Planet,**
- **Prosperity,**
- **Peace,**
- and **Partnership.**
Water within the key themes of the EU framework for Action

PEOPLE

They will continue to invest ...through the support for basic services in health, nutrition, water sanitation and hygiene [6.1 & 6.2], and social protection.

The EU and its Member States will support the poorest communities in improving access for all to land, food, water [6.1], and clean, affordable and sustainable energy avoiding any damaging effects on the environment.

The EU and its Member States will support sustainable and integrated water management [6.5] as well as more efficient use of water and water recycling [6.3] including through a more strategic approach to regional development and integration.
Water within the key themes of the EU framework for Action

PLANET

The EU and its Member States will support the conservation and sustainable management and use of natural resources, and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems, including forests, oceans, coastal areas, rivers basins [6.6] and other ecosystems, for the provision of ecosystem services.
The EU and its Member States will support actions to ... conserve water resources... [6.4]

The EU and its Member States, in close coordination with the European Investment Bank, will promote the mobilization of private resources for development...including, integrated water resource management [6.5].

The EU and its Member States will work on better mainstreaming digital solutions in development and promote the use of digital technologies in ... water management [6.5].
Water within the key themes of the EU framework for Action

PEACE
Blending grants and loans, as a way to leverage additional private finance, is another important means to implement the 2030 Agenda. Blending covers all regions of EU external cooperation in sectors including energy, transport and water infrastructure [6.1 & 6.2]
Targets of Goal 6 are interlinked

- 6.1 Safe Drinking Water
- 6.2 Access to Sanitation
- 6.3 Increase water treatment
- 6.4 Availability & Sustainability
- 6.5 Governance
- 6.3 Water Quality
- 6.4 Efficiency
- 6.3 Reuse
- 6.6 Healthy Water Ecosystems
Next Steps

- Update or new “Agenda for Change”
- Future of the Cotonou Agreement
Thank you for your attention