

Cotonou Infokit

Some Basic Facts

Who are the parties to the Cotonou Agreement? What objectives underpin EU development cooperation? What kind of support has been given to the ACP? How much EU aid do the ACP receive? Where does the aid come from? In this sheet, we provide some basic facts, statistics and sources of reference with regard to ACP-EU cooperation

The ACP : a Group of 78 Countries

Least Developed Countries (LDCs)				Non-LDCs		
Africa (34)	Caribbean (1)	Pacific (5)		Africa (14)	Caribbean (15)	Pacific (9)
Angola	Liberia*	Haiti	Kiribati*	Botswana	Antigua/	Fiji
Benin	Madagascar		Samoa*	Cameroon	Barbuda	Papua New
Burkina Faso	Malawi		Solomon Islands	Congo-	Bahamas*	Guinea
Burundi	Mali		Tuvalu*	Brazzaville	Barbados	Tonga**
Cape Verde*	Mauritania		Vanuatu**	Côte d'Ivoire	Belize	Marshall
Centr. Afr. Rep.	Mozambique			Gabon	Cuba***	Islands*
Chad	Niger			Ghana	Dominica	Cook Islands*
Comoros*	Rwanda			Kenya	Dominican	FS of
DR of Congo	Sao Tomé &			Mauritius	Republic	Micronesia*
Djibouti	Principe*			Namibia	Grenada	Nauru*
Equat. Guinea*	Senegal			Nigeria	Guyana	Niue*
Eritrea*	Sierra Leone			Seychelles**	Jamaica	Palau*
Ethiopia**	Somalia*			South Africa****	St. Kitts/Nevis	
Gambia	Sudan**			Swaziland	St. Lucia	
Guinea	Tanzania			Zimbabwe	St. Vincent &	
Guinea Bissau	Togo				the Grenadines	
Lesotho	Uganda				Surinam	
	Zambia				Trinidad and	
					Tobago	

* not a WTO member;

** observer status at WTO. Observers must start accession negotiations within five years of becoming observers.

*** Cuba is Member of the ACP group but not part of the Cotonou Agreement

**** South Africa formally joined the ACP group in April 1998. It does not benefit from Lomé trade preferences. It has concluded a separate FTA with the EU. Under the WTO it is considered as a developed country.

Joined the ACP group in June 2000.

The European Union : a Community and 15 Member States

The European Community has considerably expanded over the last 20 years. The Lomé I Convention was signed in 1975 by 9 Members of the European Economic Community, while the Cotonou Agreement was signed in June 2000 by 15 European Member States and the European Community, forming together the European Union (EU). These are: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the UK. The EU is currently involved in a process of Enlargement which may bring the number of Member States to more than twenty.

The legal basis

Only since the Maastricht Treaty has Community aid been put on a firm legal footing. The treaty provides a general framework for overall Community aid policy and sets out common objectives for EC external assistance (see Box).

The Treaty emphasises the coordination and complementarity of the aid programmes of the Community and the Member States. The European Commission received a mandate to improve the coherence of policies and to take account of the above objectives when implementing other policies likely to affect developing countries (Article 130v). These policy prescriptions remained unchanged by the Amsterdam Treaty (signed on 2 October 1997)

Objectives of EU development cooperation

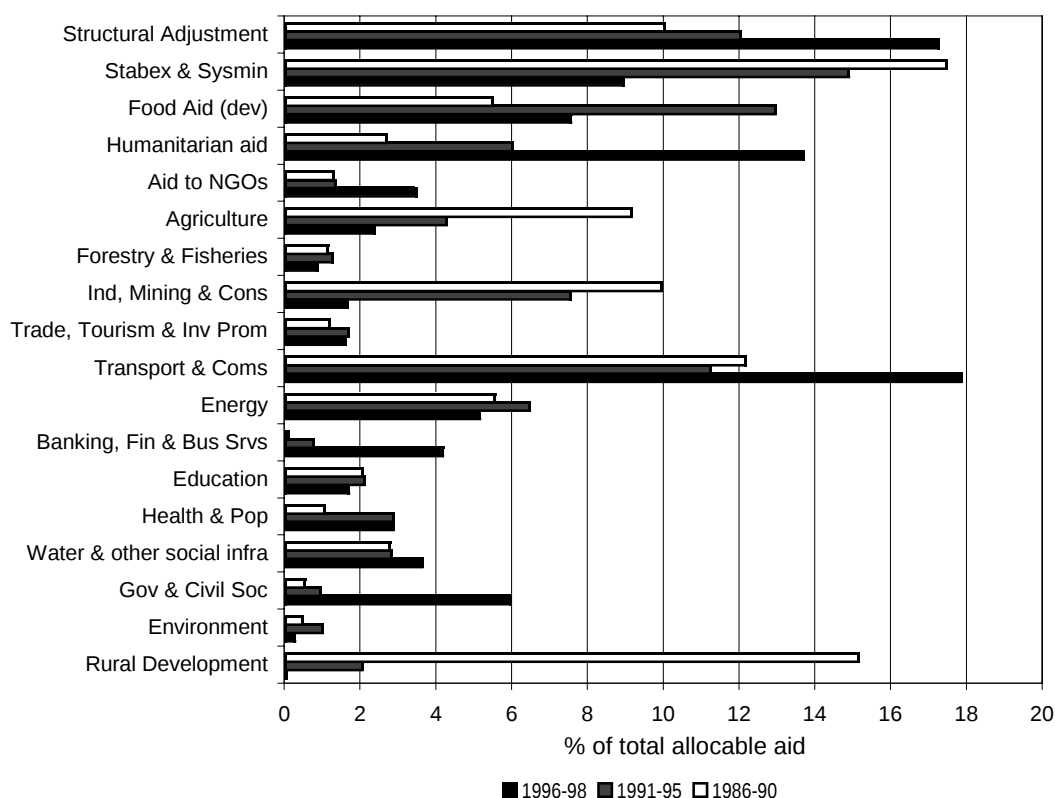
sustainable economic and social development of the developing countries, especially the poorest;
smooth and gradual integration of developing countries into the world economy;
the fight against poverty in developing countries;
and
the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law.

The resource flow

The ACP-EU partnership involves a substantial transfer of aid. Below, we look at how this money has been used,

What type of aid did the ACP receive?

Sectoral Distribution of EC Cooperation with the ACP (1986-98, commitments, % of allocable aid)



Source: European Commission/ODI database 1999

How much aid did the ACP receive in comparison to the other regions?

The ACP partnership is not the only cooperation programme of the EU. Over time, the EU has agreed cooperation agreements with the different regions of the developing world (Asia, Latin America, Mediterranean, Middle East) as well as with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEEC) and the New Independent States (NIS)

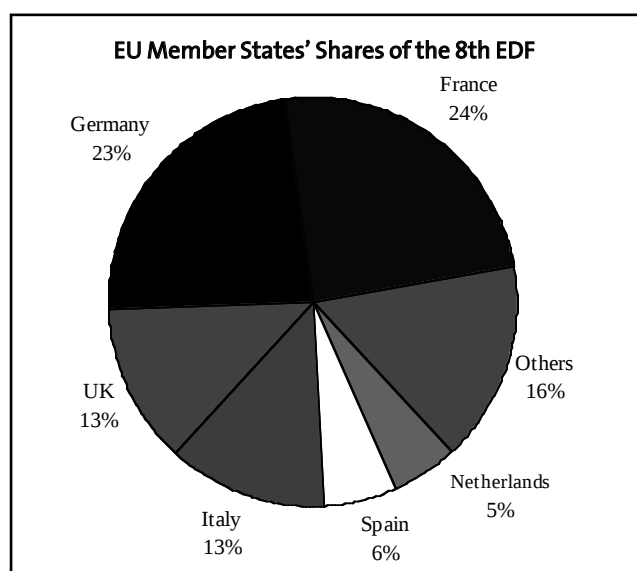
The table below compares the aid flows among these regions.

	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Total
Disbursements														
Total (euro)	1669	1964	2644	2801	2886	4326	4720	4529	5507	5510	5334	5821	6710	54420
ACP	1057	1235	1542	1779	1703	2012	2592	1898	2445	2287	1899	1924	1952	24326
South Africa	3	13	23	19	34	48	66	62	58	46	29	60	72	533
Asia & Latin Am	191	197	226	417	426	457	531	537	493	644	826	847	826	6618
Med & M East	311	164	249	331	285	1012	468	594	581	578	601	794	943	6911
CEECs & NIS	3	0	0	18	360	755	790	1037	1440	1583	1570	1675	2506	11549
Unallocable	103	356	604	238	77	240	273	403	488	373	399	520	410	4484

Source: European Commission/ODI database 1999

What do member states contribute to the European Development Fund?

The contribution of the Member States is calculated on the basis of an agreed formula. At this stage, only France provides a far more important contribution to the EDF than the share it contributes to the Community budget.



What are the sources of EC aid to the ACP?

The ACP countries received euro 22.8 billion over the 1986-98 period from the European Development Fund, which represents 77% of all EC aid to ACP countries. Sixteen percent of aid to the region, euro 4.9 billion, was allocated from the EC Budget, mainly from the lines for food aid and humanitarian aid (particularly in 1994 and 1995). The remaining 7% was provided from the 'own resources' of the European Investment Bank in the form of concessional loans. 7.6% of EDF flows are provided in the form of risk capital, and are managed by the European Investment Bank.

Budget lines to assist ACP countries were established as a response to recipient needs (or EU concerns) not covered by the framework of the EDF. Compared with the EDF, the contribution from the EC Budget is substantially lower, though rising, at least until 1995. Between 1986 and 1998, 54% of this was committed as food aid (euro 2.6 billion) and another 21% as humanitarian aid (euro 1 billion). The remaining euro 1.2 billion which accounted for only 4% of all aid to the ACP countries, was disbursed through other budget lines.

More Information

Interesting websites

Basic information on past Lomé Conventions:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/cotonou/lome_history_en.htm

The evolution of EC cooperation with the ACP countries:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/cotonou/maps_en.htm

ACP-EU cooperation - Euforic Dossier

<http://www.euforic.org/resource/en/doss/lome/index.html>

ACP-EU Courier Nr 181 June-July 2000 -

Dossier: the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement

http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/publicat/courier/index_181_en.htm

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