



What distinguishes ECDPM from other institutes?

“At ECDPM we prioritise the moment when the rubber hits the road – when policies are implemented. At a time of increasing half-truths, our policy work, backed by robust analysis of what really works, is crucial.”



Carl Michiels
Director of ECDPM

ABOUT ECDPM

The **European Centre for Development Policy Management** is a leading independent ‘think and do tank’ that wants to make European and African policies work for inclusive and sustainable development.

Good policies can lay a foundation for change and play a crucial part in making the global development and international cooperation agenda a reality for all. We want to help institutions and governments across Europe and Africa create policies that work.

More than a think tank

Our independent policy experts contribute sharp analysis, thorough research and fresh ideas. But making policies work requires stepping off the sidelines. It means working closely with the people who design, implement or are impacted by policies. We bring different groups of people around the table, smooth the way for debate and make sure everyone’s voice is heard. We provide advice and training and most importantly, design practical solutions together.

A trusted partner since 1986

We have over thirty years of experience in development policy and international cooperation and a thorough knowledge of the African and European institutions. Our focus is on EU foreign policy and European and African policies related to conflict, migration, governance, food security, regional integration, business, finance and trade.

WHAT WE OFFER

Research and analysis – we provide thorough policy research, sharp analysis and fresh ideas.

Advice, training and support – we provide practical policy advice, training and support.

Events – we organise or speak at debates, conferences and workshops.

Partnerships and dialogue – we connect people, broker partnerships and create space for dialogue.

Expert information – we provide background information to our partners and the media.

WHAT SETS US APART

(1) We are more than a think tank.

We are researchers and analysts – but we are also facilitators, advisors, evaluators and trainers. It’s that combination of roles which sets us apart from other think tanks. To make policies effective we need solid knowledge of what works and what doesn’t, but also to work with the people who are crucial in implementing those policies.

(2) We are independent.

Our unique funding situation allows us to maintain operational autonomy and set our own, non-partisan agenda. We are not here to defend the interests of anyone – apart from the most vulnerable people in society.

(3) We look beyond promises.

Whether policy change is good, bad or absent usually depends on a number of factors and people. That is why we look beyond policy statements and analyse what drives or prevents change. That means looking at all political constraints and incentives.

(4) We know the African and European policy landscape inside out.

Africa-Europe relations is in our DNA. For over thirty years we have worked with institutions, governments and partners across both continents. This has resulted in a broad network, a solid institutional memory of what has and hasn’t worked before and a knack for how policy arenas will evolve.

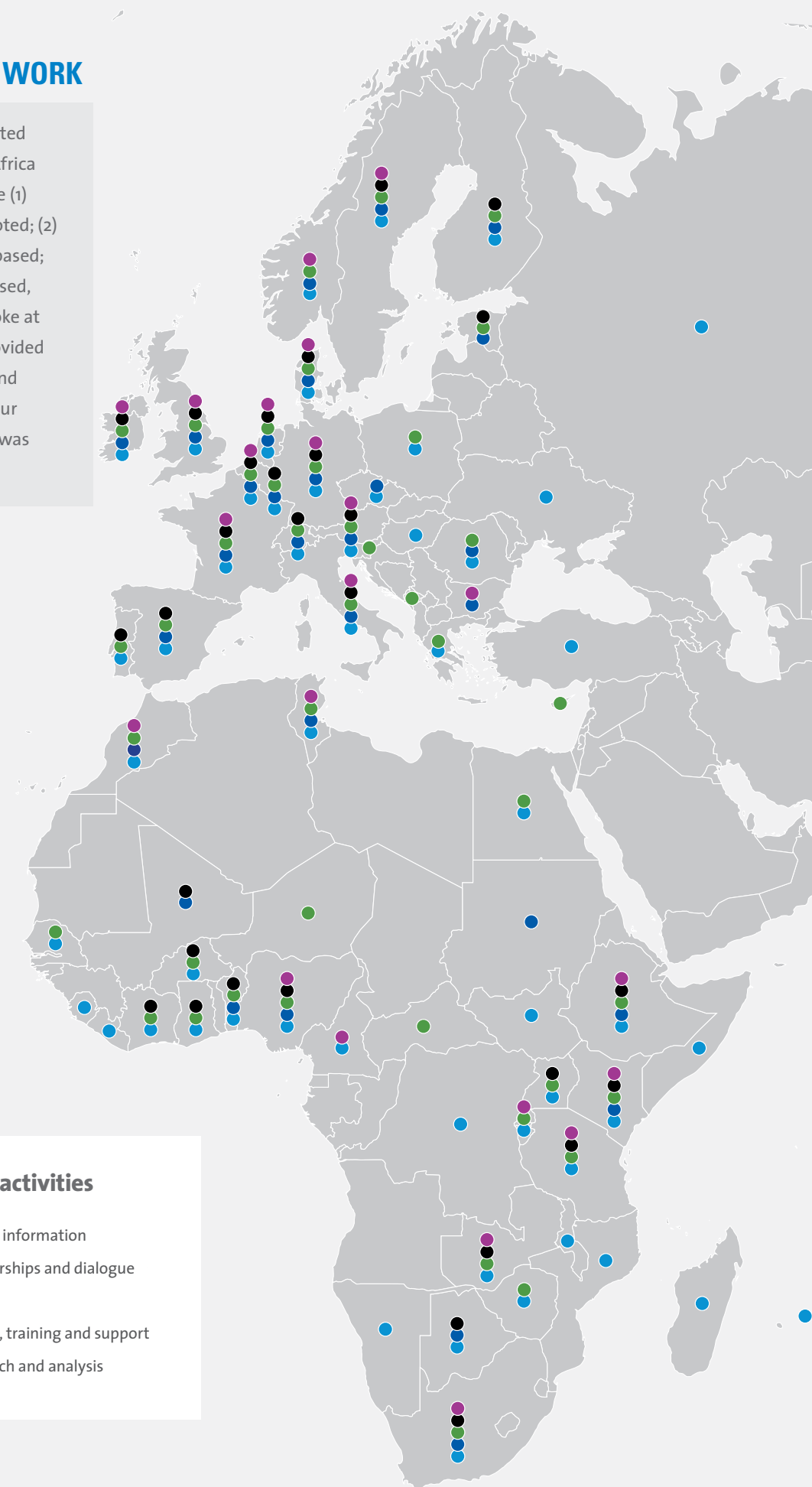
(5) We are in it for the long run.

We engage in policy processes from beginning to end and commit to long-term relationships with our partners – to jointly accomplish changes over time. ■

OUR RECENT WORK

We have highlighted the countries in Africa and Europe where (1) our work was quoted; (2) our partners are based; (3) we (co-)organised, moderated or spoke at events; (4) we provided advice, training and support; and (5) our (online) research was read most.

- Type of activities**
- Expert information
 - Partnerships and dialogue
 - Events
 - Advice, training and support
 - Research and analysis



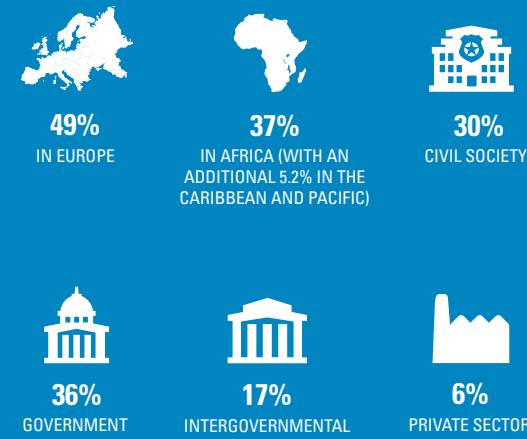
OUR PARTNERS

No organisation or institution can bring about change alone. That is why partnerships are the cornerstone of our work. Partners inspire new ideas and enable exchanges of experiences and best practices. Most importantly, combined efforts are more powerful than any individual, uncoordinated actions could ever be.

Our partners include officials from ministries and institutions, international organisations, think tanks, academia and social and economic actors from Africa, Europe and beyond.

See our partners at ecdpm.org/partnerships.

OUR NETWORK



OUR PROGRAMMES

Our work contributes directly to the Global Goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We effectively position ourselves particularly at the interface between Europe and Africa. We strategically focus our work through five interlinked programmes:

European External Affairs

The EU is dealing with a number of challenges close to home, while at the same time seeking to play a more significant role in solving global problems. We want to assist the EU institutions and member states in working towards coherent and effective foreign and development policy.

Migration

Migration and mobility can stimulate development as drivers of social and economic change, but they also pose significant challenges. We want to help tackle these challenges, making use of the potential of migration for global development and improving dialogue and cooperation on migration between Europe and Africa.

Security and Resilience

African and European institutions are torn between managing urgent crises and tackling the structural

causes and consequences of violent conflict. We explore more effective and sustainable ways to prevent conflict and build peace, and promote strategic partnerships between African and European actors.

African Institutions and Regional Dynamics

African countries and regions are taking steps to develop and implement policies to promote their own socio-economic development, but meaningful institutional reform is often undermined, hijacked or even reversed by groups or individuals operating according to particular interests and incentives. We study the actors and factors at play within different reform processes at the continental, regional and national levels.

Economic and Agricultural Transformation

Economic and agricultural transformation is central to many African and European development strategies. It can create more and better jobs, stimulate economic growth and tackle inequality. We want to help accomplish these goals. We focus on finance, trade and investment, the private sector and sustainable food systems.

All our programmes contribute jointly to our work on Africa-Europe relations, on the relations between Europe and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, on North Africa, on policy coherence for (sustainable) development, on climate change, on gender and on youth. ■

“There are a lot of think tanks creating knowledge, just like there are plenty of organisations or institutions trying to facilitate policy processes. ECDPM manages to successfully connect these two things. That’s what makes the organisation unique.”



Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi
Chair of the ECDPM Board

OUR PEOPLE

ECDPM is home to over 60 policy, communications and support staff members from around the world. In the past few years, we represented the following nationalities:

Algerian, Australian, Belgian, Bolivian, Batswana, British, Canadian, Costa Rican, Croatian, Dutch, Ethiopian, Finnish, French, German, Icelandic, Indian, Irish, Italian, Kenyan, Mauritanian, Nigerian, Pakistani, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, South African, Spanish, Swiss, Tunisian and Ugandan.

Our Board of Governors, which oversees our strategy and operations, is made up of well-respected policy experts and former high-level officials from Africa and Europe.

See our people at ecdpm.org/people and our Board members at ecdpm.org/board.

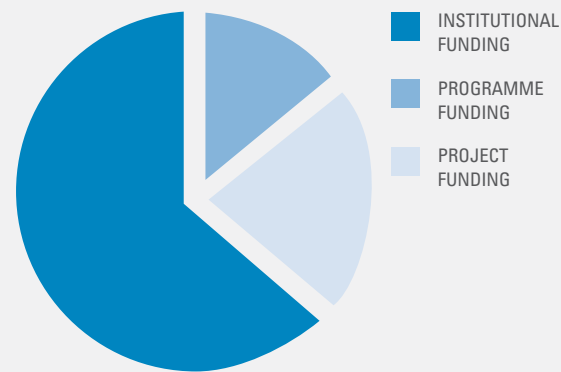
HOW WE ARE FUNDED

The governments of the Netherlands, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Sweden and Switzerland cover the largest part of our revenue.

We also receive project and programme funding from a wide range of organisations and institutions. Among our project funders are for example the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

What makes our funding environment unique is the high level of institutional funding. This type of funding is flexible and allows us to anticipate major policy debates and keep our independence in sometimes highly political or polarised contexts.

Learn more at ecdpm.org/funding.



Contact us

Would you like to know more about us, work with us or share ideas? We would love to hear from you.

Please get in contact with Sabine Mertens via +32 (0) 223 743 10 or irel@ecdpm.org.

You can also get in touch with any of our staff members directly. Please visit ecdpm.org/people for their individual contact details.

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