

The EU-ACP 10th EDF Intra-ACP Strategy The Knowledge Triangle (Education, Research & Innovation)

Jose VALENTE

Centralised Operations for the ACP Countries, European
Commission, EuropeAid Cooperation Office



The European Union and the African - Caribbean - Pacific (ACP) States

The Cotonou Agreement, a Partnership for Development

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/index_en.htm]

The trade, aid and political Agreement signed in Cotonou, Benin, in June 2000, between the 77 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States and the EU (which fully entered into force on 1st April 2003). The partnership sets ambitious goals for the next 20 years centred on the reduction of poverty, the prevention of violent conflicts and improved governance. It aims at making ACP-EU development co-operation more efficient and acknowledging mutual responsibilities.

European Union Member States and French Overseas Departments (Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique and Réunion).

European Union New Member States (by 2004).

European Union Overseas Countries.

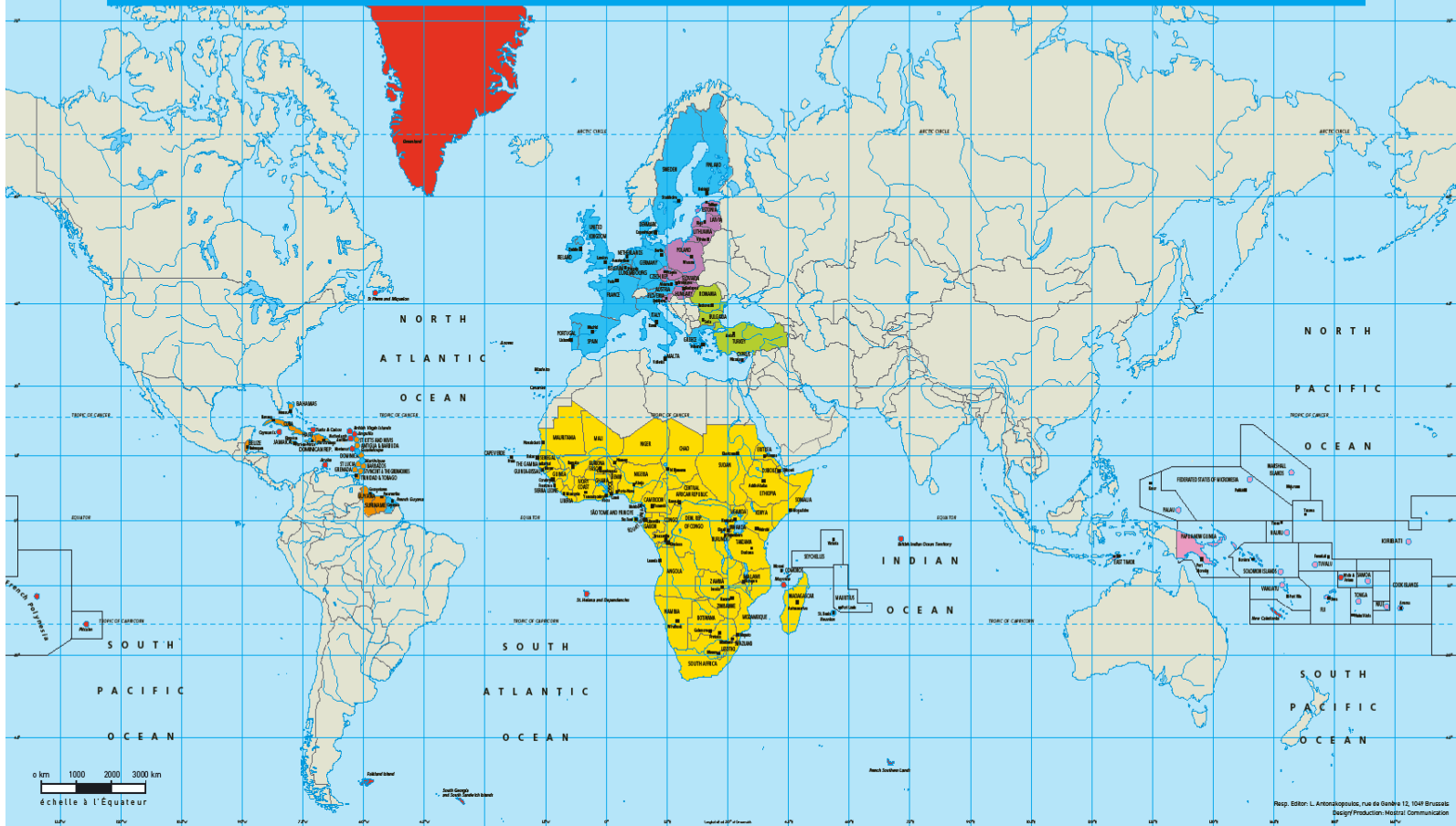
African countries members of the ACP-EU Cotonou Partnership Agreement (148).

Caribbean countries members of the ACP-EU Cotonou Partnership Agreement (176). Cuba is member of the ACP Group but not of the Cotonou Agreement.

Pacific countries members of the ACP-EU Cotonou Partnership Agreement (14). East Timor has officially joined the ACP Group in May 2002. The country has not yet signed the Cotonou Agreement.

Overseas countries and territories (OCTs). Currently there are 28 OCTs which have special relations with France, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands or Denmark.

European Commission Directorate-General for Development



Resp. Editor: L. Antonogiorgos, rue de Solvay 12, 1049 Brussels
 Design/Production: Hevelin Communication

The EU priorities

- The primary and overarching objective of EU development policy is the **eradication of poverty** in the context of sustainable development, in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – primary education is therefore the priority (MDG 2).
- The European Commission (EC) has a **comprehensive approach to Higher Education** (HE) to ACP countries (Cotonou Agreement) in the context of a “policy mix” that recognises the role played by HE Institutions (HEI) in poverty reduction strategies.
- The 10th EDF Intra-ACP strategy supports the **knowledge triangle:** Education, Research and Innovation (capacity, applied research, ICT infrastructure,...).

The EU Aid Delivery Methods

- Support can be provided at **three levels**: national, regional and Intra ACP through their respective strategy papers agreed upon between relevant parties including EU Member States represented in the beneficiary countries.
- The **instruments** can be according to the situation of each country:
 - a) - project approach;
 - b) - sector-wide support *; and
 - c) - general budget support *.

* with variable tranches linked to performance.

The EU Approach to Higher Education

The EU aims to assist ACP Higher Education systems to address *inter alia* the following key development challenges:

- Supply **highly qualified professionals** to support economic growth in ACP countries
- Improve **quality** of locally provided Higher Education in ACP countries
- Build **national capacities to formulate & implement HE policies** (cooperation between ACP & between ACP & European HEI)
- Strengthen **inter-cultural dialogue** & understanding among European and ACP countries.

EU Programmes Under Implementation (+/- € 170 million)

- **EDULINK I** Cooperation Programme in HE - 2006 - € 35M – 66 grants
- Support to **mobility of academics and students** from ACP countries to EU HEI: Erasmus Mundus Partnerships – Action 2– € 18M (academics years 2010-2013)
- **ACP Science and Technology** – 2008 - € 35M – 36 grants
- **ACP Research for Sustainable Development** – 2010 - € 20M
- **Support to Fast Track Initiative** (Global Initiative for Universal Basic Education) – 2007 – € 63M

EDULINK (€ 35 m)

- **Capacity building and regional integration** in the field of higher education through institutional networking, and support to quality higher education systems.
- HEI participate in **Calls for Proposals**. The best ones are awarded grants of up to EUR 1M.
- 3 Calls published, 406 valid proposals received, between 500 and 700 HE Institutions participating in each Call
- **66 Projects selected** involving around 340 HEI from EU and ACP.

ACP Science and Technology (€ 35 m)

- To support ACP countries and ACP stakeholders in the **formulation and implementation of S&T policies**.
- The programme emphasizes the promotion of interdisciplinary approaches to sustainable development along **three main axes**:
 - 1: Co-ordination and networking in applied research
 - 2: Instruments for collaborative research
 - 3: Management of research activities and reinforcement of research quality
- Call closed in March 2009, 200 eligible proposals received and **36 grants awarded**

Erasmus Mundus Partnerships (€ 18 m)

- EU Education Agency publishes Call for Proposals with various Lots of which **ACP Lot** is one
- EU and ACP Universities form a consortium: EU universities host all the students, EU and ACP universities host scholars and hosting institutions approve the final selection
- A € 6 million call was launched in 2009. It will be followed by another one in 2010 & 2011. **Gender issues and disadvantaged** students benefit from + measures

ACP Research for Sustainable Development (€ 20 m)

- The first ACP R&D programme
- It is in line with the EU-AU 8th Partnership for Africa
- It aims to finance Research actions formulated and implemented by ACP stakeholders
- Two components:
 - Africa - € 15 m – call for proposals to be managed by African Union Commission (thematic areas to be determined)
 - Caribbean & Pacific - € 5 m - call for proposals launched

Future EU–ACP Programmes (€ 118 m)

- **EDULINK II** with € 25m (ACP 20 + South Africa 5). Call likely to be launched by end of 2010.
- **ACP Science and Technology II** with € 23m (ACP 20 + South Africa 3). Call likely to be launched by end of 2010.
- **Erasmus Mundus Partnerships** with € 12m (academic years 2014 & 2015).
- **The Intra ACP Academic Mobility** Scheme (Africa Nyerere component € 45m (ACP 30 + SA 5) + Caribbean & Pacific component € 10m). Two-phase programme: Phase I to be managed by Education Executive Agency.
-
- The **ACP Connect** - (A € 12m + C&P € 1m) – Provide interconnectivity to National Research Education Networks. Implementation to be entrusted to Dante.

The future generation of calls for proposals: additional features and criteria

- Targeted projects
- Impact and sustainability and dissemination of results
- Transfer of know-how within partnerships
- Continuation of partnerships beyond EU funding
- Strengthening internal project management
- Linking Education Research and Business

**Thank you for your
attention 😊**