



WWF

ACTION PLAN



2014



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*Like WWF, I believe in a future development framework, after 2015, that is equitable and sustainable. The EU has to be the champion of sustainable and fair globalisation, offering each and every one the chance to live and grow in an equitable world.*

**Thijs Berman** – Former S&D MEP and rapporteur on the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)

# ENSURE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR HUMAN WELL-BEING GLOBALLY

We are living in an interconnected world where actions in one place impact in another. 2015 is the European Year of Development and also the year when a new global sustainable development framework will be negotiated to succeed the current Millennium Development Goals. The new framework will be universally applicable and will aim to achieve economic, social and environmental sustainability worldwide. The EU is an influential actor and a key financial contributor to global efforts to reduce poverty and promote human rights and environmental sustainability through its external action and development cooperation instruments. Acting on clean water, food security, biodiversity protection, air quality and climate change will be vital to ensure a fairer and safer future for all.

## HOW CAN MEPs IMPROVE THIS POLICY?

- Ensure EU development policies and programmes reflect the new post 2015 international sustainable development priorities at the time of the mid-term review of the EU Budget and programmes in 2017.
- Ensure appropriate EU Budget allocations and effective implementation of external financial instruments, in particular the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) and its associated thematic programmes.
- Scrutinise EU delivery of its international financial commitments for biodiversity and climate change.
- Promote space for civil society dialogue and participation in EU programming of development cooperation in Europe and in partner countries.
- Scrutinise all sectors of EU policy making to prevent negative impacts on people and their environment in other parts of the world (to deliver on the principle of Policy Coherence for Development as set out in the EU Treaty).



83%

of Europeans express support for EU development aid, helping people in developing countries<sup>1</sup>

## YOUR ACTION PLAN

- 1 Increase allocations to sustainable development priorities in the EU's external expenditure through parliamentary involvement in the mid-term review of the EU Budget in 2017.
- 2 Exercise right of scrutiny of annual action programmes for development cooperation to ensure that the objectives and budgetary allocations are in line with the requirements of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI).
- 3 Through parliamentary questions and own-initiative report, encourage the EU institutions to prepare a new common EU Development Consensus to reflect the post 2015 sustainable development agenda.
- 4 Raise parliamentary questions on EU progress towards implementation of international financial commitments for climate and biodiversity.
- 5 Develop an own-initiative report on the delivery of 20% of the EU Budget towards climate actions in third countries.
- 6 Improve EU Impact Assessment guidelines to ensure that the impacts on people and environment in third countries are evaluated (Policy Coherence for Development).
- 7 Appoint a standing rapporteur for the Parliament on EU Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) to prepare reports on the EU's objectives and work programmes.

## WE MUST ACT NOW!

- The EU is the biggest donor worldwide: with €56.5 billion of official development assistance made available in 2013, the European institutions and 28 EU countries together provided for more than half of global official aid<sup>2</sup>.
- On average, high income countries such as EU Member States have a per capita footprint five times higher than low-income countries which suggests that unsustainable consumption rests largely on depleting the natural resources of poorer, often still resource rich, tropical countries<sup>3</sup>.
- Sustainable use of natural resources is key to poverty reduction globally:
  - 2.7 billion people around the world live in catchments that experience severe water scarcity<sup>4</sup>.
  - 1.3 billion people are without access to electricity<sup>5</sup>.
  - About 1.6 billion people depend on forest resources for their survival<sup>6</sup>.
  - Fisheries are a source of income for over 520 million people – mostly from poor coastal and rural communities in Africa and Asia<sup>7</sup>.
  - Women in sub-Saharan Africa collectively spend about 40 billion hours a year fetching water with significant impacts on their employment opportunities<sup>8</sup>.

## TIMELINE

**September 2015:**  
new international sustainable development framework expected to be agreed

**2016 onwards:**  
possible revisions to EU development policy and strategy to reflect new international framework

**2017:**  
mid-term review of EU Budget and thematic programmes within Development Cooperation Instrument



**€56.5 bn**

official development assistance provided by the EU in 2013

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**Sally Nicholson**  
Manager, EU Development Policy and Finance  
snicholson@wwf.eu  
t. +32 2 740 09 37  
www.wwf.eu