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Accompanying the document

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL

2025 Annual Report on the implementation of the European Union's External Action Instruments in 2024

{COM(2025) 741 final}

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1. Introduction: EU response to world developments in 2024

The world is in the midst of profound redefinitions. Some nations, such as Russia and Iran, seek to impose their influence through sheer force, while others, like China, leverage economic power to reshape global dynamics. The United States is re-evaluating its role on the world stage, while emerging powers assert themselves with increasing confidence.

This shifting landscape marks a transition from cooperation to competition, leading to the proliferation of conflicts and the normalisation of force as a means of achieving political objectives. From Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine to conflicts in the Middle East and the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, the erosion of commitments to peace and security is evident.

Against this background, the EU too is redefining itself. More than ever, the focus has been on supporting Ukraine and strengthening European defence. Investment in defence and security capacities and policies have increased. The EU has also been proactive in trying to prevent conflicts from festering in its neighbourhood, from the Caucasus to the Middle East, the Red Sea, Sudan, Libya and the Sahel.

Security has also always been about the economic security. Even more so today, with increasing weaponisation of interdependence, such as the Russian use of the energy dependence. The EU has taken action to secure its supply chains, de-risking, reducing its vulnerabilities and strengthening its resilience while increasing its competitiveness. Moreover, security is also about hybrid threats to our societies: threats against physical critical infrastructure, cybersecurity threats, foreign interference and manipulation of information. The EU has begun to work to strengthen its preparedness, in a whole-of-government-and-society approach, in particular in view of the European defence, preparedness and foreign economic strategies.

The EU increasingly stands out as the main protector and supporter of multilateralism and the rules-based international order in the face of repeated violations of the UN Charter and international law. Russia's actions in Ukraine are a direct attack on the principles of sovereignty and international law, undermining global stability with consequences that extend far beyond Europe. The ripple effects of such contestation reach nations across the world, particularly in the 'Global South'.

To push back against revisionism, the EU has acknowledged the need for change and has a strategic interest in reducing polarisation, while advancing a positive global agenda. Reform is not just an aspiration but a necessity. The successful adoption of the UN Pact for the Future at the UN General Assembly in September 2024 demonstrated the EU's capacity to drive meaningful change when acting in unity.

But our stability and security require more. The EU has made efforts to invest better in its alliances and partnerships. We need to explore new ways to strengthen international trade and investment; to expand our defence and security partnerships; to increase connectivity partnerships; and to use instruments such as the Global Gateway more effectively.

Finally, an indispensable condition for achieving these objectives is to keep ensuring and expanding the EU's global presence and action, through the work of the EU Delegations and working together with all EU institutions and EU Member States in a 'Team Europe' spirit.

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1.1. The EU response to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine (including support for Ukraine and partner countries in addressing the global consequences)

During 2024, the EU continued to give Ukraine unprecedented political, financial, economic, humanitarian, legal and military support while deploying sanctions to further weaken Russia's war machine. With the Ukraine Facility, the EU has ensured stable, regular and predictable support for Ukraine for the next four years. The Ukraine Plan is Ukraine's reform and investment strategy for 2024-2027, paving the way for regular, quarterly payments under the Facility subject to Ukraine meeting pre-agreed requirements.

The Commission has set up the Ukraine Facility – allowing the EU to provide Ukraine with up to EUR 50 billion of support for 2024-2027 to assist it in its recovery, reconstruction and modernisation, in line with its EU path. In 2024, a total of EUR 19.6 billion has been mobilised under the three pillars of the Facility, of which EUR 16.4 billion was disbursed. As part of the Facility's second pillar, the Ukraine Investment Framework, the first grant and guarantee agreements – worth EUR 1.4 billion – were signed in June at the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Berlin to support Ukraine's recovery and attract private-sector investment. They will focus on repairing, rehabilitating and developing energy and transport infrastructure, supporting municipalities, and improving access to finance for small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

In July 2024, the EU made available to Ukraine the first payment of EUR 1.5 billion generated from immobilised Russian assets (EUR 1.4 billion for military support, and EUR 100 million for the Ukraine Facility, mostly for urgent energy needs).

Since 2022, the EU and its Member States have also provided over EUR 47.3 billion of military support, of which EUR 6.1 billion was provided via the European Peace Facility. EU humanitarian and civil protection assistance helped alleviate the suffering of the Ukrainian population and made it possible to restore vital physical infrastructure. Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, the Commission has allocated EUR 1.09 billion for humanitarian aid programmes in Ukraine to be implemented by partners on the ground. In 2024, the Commission allocated EUR 165 million in humanitarian aid for Ukraine. The EU continued to deploy the largest, longest and most complex Union Civil Protection Mechanism operation in its history and extended the Temporary Protection Directive for people fleeing the war until March 2026. The EU has made available EUR 17 billion to host refugees in its Member States.

Since its creation in December 2022 by G7 leaders, the Ukraine Donor Platform has decisively expanded and strengthened multilateral coordination in support of Ukraine. With the Commission as one of the co-chairs, the platform has supported Ukraine's budgetary stability, catalysed its recovery and reconstruction efforts and facilitated key reforms essential for the country's economic prosperity and its EU accession path.

The 27 EU Member States have acted to isolate Russia politically and economically. In 2024, the EU adopted three additional packages of sanctions against Russia and cracked down on circumvention. By the end of the year, the EU had adopted a total of 15 packages of sanctions. On individual sanctions, the measures consist of travel bans and financial measures (asset freezes and a prohibition on making funds or economic resources available) with over 2 300 listings (individuals and entities) in total. In December, the Council adopted Council Conclusions[1] on global food

[1] Council Conclusions 16901/24, 16 December 2024. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-16901-2024-INIT/en/pdf

security and nutrition that condemned Russia's weaponisation of food and deliberate destruction of agricultural infrastructure, and stressed the importance of countering Russia's information manipulation and interference. The Council reasserted its unwavering support for Ukraine for as long as it takes.

The Solidarity Lanes were set up in May 2022 to ensure that Ukraine can export grain and other agricultural and non-agricultural products, as well as import the goods it needs, from humanitarian aid to animal feed and fertilisers. Over EUR 2 billion has been mobilised to scale up the Solidarity Lanes, of which EUR 1.5 billion originate from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Transport. According to the Ukrainian customs registers, the total value of trade via the Solidarity Lanes since May 2022 is EUR 219 billion, including around EUR 63 billion in Ukrainian exports. To maintain the stability of trade and keep the economy afloat, in June 2022, the EU fully liberalised trade with Ukraine, suspending import duties, quotas and trade defence measures for imports to the EU on a temporary basis. In 2024, Ukraine dispatched 500 metric tons of wheat flour to Syria as part of the 'Grain from Ukraine' humanitarian initiative. To maintain the stability of trade and keep the economy afloat, in June 2022 the EU fully liberalised trade with Ukraine, suspending import duties, quotas and trade defence measures for imports to the EU on a temporary basis. These autonomous trade measures have been extended until June 2025. The measures enabled support for Ukraine's economy to the tune of EUR 2 billion per year in additional export revenue.

Significant support was also provided to Ukraine as part of the international actions of the Erasmus+ programme. Since the start of the war, Erasmus+ has helped print over 1.5 million textbooks, ensuring that children in schools across Ukraine have continued access to essential learning materials. Furthermore, since 2021, Erasmus+ has funded more than 17 000 Ukrainians (students and staff) in higher education mobility, allowing them to continue their education, collaborate with European peers, and improve their prospects for a better future.

Under the European Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC), the EU also participated in several nuclear safety-related activities including rebuilding and restoring Ukraine's nuclear and radiation protection infrastructure. Despite the challenging conditions caused by the war, the programmes funded in Ukraine have progressed without interruption. For instance, the EU contributed to the International Chernobyl Cooperation Account, managed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, to support continued infrastructure development at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant and to procure firefighting equipment and vehicles for the safe management of radioactive waste in the Chornobyl exclusion zone. Through the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) budget[(2)], the EU also contributed to the financing of the International Atomic Energy Agency with expert missions to Ukrainian nuclear facilities, including the permanent mission to the temporarily occupied Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant.

The European Union Advisory Mission for Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) supported the Ukrainian authorities in: (i) implementing reforms across the civilian security sector; (ii) smoothly re-establishing Ukrainian government functions and the rule of law in liberated and adjacent territories; (iii) developing effective capacities and capabilities for Ukraine's integrated state border management; and (iv) investigating and prosecuting international crimes. The planned EU financial

[2] International Atomic Energy Agency expert missions to Ukrainian nuclear facilities are financed under Council Decision (CFSP) 2024/656 of 19 February 2024 on Union support for the activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the area of nuclear security.

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contribution for the period from 1 June 2024 to 31 May 2027 amounts to EUR 122.9 million, out of which EUR 40.2 million was committed in 2024.

1.2. EU enlargement

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine has changed the course of European history. The EU has responded with unprecedented strength and unity. In her political guidelines for the 2024-2029 Commission term of office, President von der Leyen stressed enlargement as a geopolitical imperative and overall top priority as each new Member State not only makes Europe more secure, but also strengthens its economy, creating growth and jobs that improve the lives of millions of people.

2024 marked the 20th anniversary of the 2004 EU enlargement, the largest in its history so far. This was an occasion for the EU to look back and reflect on the benefits of enlargement both for the countries that joined the EU in 2004 and for the EU as a whole.

On 30 October 2024, the European Commission adopted the 2024 Enlargement Package[3]. As in previous years, the Commission took stock of developments since the previous Enlargement Package, adopted in November 2023. It examined the progress made by all 10 enlargement partners, the challenges encountered and reforms to be addressed, and set out conclusions and recommendations for the period ahead.

Since 2024, Albania, Serbia, North Macedonia, and Montenegro have been included in the annual rule of law report[4] alongside Member States, as part of the gradual integration objective for the Western Balkans. This inclusion demonstrates the EU's continued monitoring of and support for the consolidation of democracy, rule of law, and fundamental rights in enlargement countries.

In 2024, several milestones were reached in the area of enlargement, including the opening of accession negotiations with Ukraine and Republic of Moldova (hereinafter Moldova) with the first intergovernmental conferences in June, and the decision by the European Council to open accession negotiations with Bosnia and Herzegovina. There was also significant progress in negotiations with Montenegro, as the country fulfilled all interim benchmarks for the rule of law chapters (Chapters 23 and 24), which also paved the way for the closure of three chapters (Chapter 7: Intellectual Property Law, Chapter 10: Information Society and Media, and Chapter 20: Enterprise and Industrial Policy) in December 2024. Two clusters (Cluster 1: Fundamentals and Cluster 6: External Relations) were opened with Albania in October 2024 and December 2024, respectively.

The Commission is helping enlargement partners achieve socio-economic convergence with the EU even faster, enabling them to reap some of the benefits of accession prior to full EU membership. To this end, the Commission has adapted and improved its toolkit and instruments by introducing better measures for gradual integration. The EUR 50 billion Ukraine Facility and the EUR 6 billion Reform and Growth Facility of the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans have been adopted and their implementation is in full swing. The Growth Plan for Moldova was proposed by the Commission in 2024, and the associated EUR 1.9 billion Reform and Growth Facility is being finalised.

[3] 2024 Communication on EU Enlargement Policy - European Commission
[4] 2024 Rule of Law Report - European Commission

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Türkiye is a partner of strategic importance for the EU and a candidate country. Both the EU and Türkiye pursue re-engagement in areas of mutual interest, in line with the recommendations of the Joint Communication on EU-Türkiye relations[5] and the relevant European Council Conclusions[6].

In addition, the EU continued supporting candidate countries' efforts to align their national legislation with the EU *acquis* through instruments like TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange) and Twinning.

The international dimension of Erasmus+ can play a key role for candidate countries to progress towards EU education, training, youth and sports standards and can help in closely associating them to policy developments in these areas, as these countries also face similar challenges as the EU Member States.

In parallel, the EU is preparing for the prospects of an enlarged EU. As such, the Communication on pre-enlargement reforms and policy reviews[7] was adopted in March 2024. It looks at the implications of a larger EU in four main areas: values, policies, budget and governance. Further work is being carried out on this.

1.3. European Neighbourhood Policy

Against the background of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU continued to assist countries in its neighbourhood in tackling the causes of instability. In 2024, the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) mobilised significant political and financial support for its four priorities[8].

Eastern Partnership

The Eastern Partnership (EaP) has continued to deliver tangible results, positively impacting people's lives. At the December 2023 ministerial meeting, Member States and partners reaffirmed their commitment to the EaP as a key framework for addressing shared challenges and promoting common interests. In order to achieve this in the unprecedented geopolitical turmoil in the region, the EaP has adapted to become more flexible, strategic and focused. Intensified engagement is ongoing on connectivity, good governance, civil society, security, green and digital transitions and energy. Complementarity with regional and bilateral activities and the enlargement policy has been prioritised.

Throughout the year, implementation of the Global Gateway strategy through the Economic and Investment Plan continued, supporting our Eastern partners in their efforts to stabilise their economies and delivering on the connectivity and Green Deal agendas. Since the launch of the plan, the EU has unlocked EUR 13.9 billion of investments in the EaP region through its bilateral cooperation, its financial guarantee and its blending projects.

The EU increased its cooperation with Armenia on its ambitious reform agenda and the implementation of the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement by preparing a new

[5] JOIN(2023) 50 final, 29 November 2023. https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/joint-communication-european-council-state-play-eu-turkiye-political-economic-and-trade-relations-0_en

[6] Council Conclusions EUCO 12/24, 18 April 2024. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/m5jlwe0p/euco-conclusions-20240417-18-en.pdf

[7] COM(2024) 146 final, 20 March 2024. https://commission.europa.eu/publications/communication-pre-enlargement-reforms-and-policy-reviews_en

[8] The ENP's priority areas are: (i) good governance, democracy, human rights and the rule of law; (ii) economic development for stabilisation; (iii) security; and (iv) migration and mobility.

EU-Armenia Partnership Agenda. This will be underpinned by a EUR 270 million resilience and growth plan providing grants and investments as announced by President von der Leyen in April.

Engagement with Azerbaijan has focused on pursuing a positive cooperation agenda in the areas of mutual interest. The EU-Azerbaijan Partnership Priorities, the main strategic framework for EU-Azerbaijan cooperation, expired at the end of 2024. The EU remains committed to continue negotiating a new comprehensive agreement to replace the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement of 1999[9], which would allow for enhanced cooperation in a wide range of areas.

In light of the regime's involvement in Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and in light of the European Council Conclusions of February 2022[10], the EU has stopped engaging with Belarusian authorities and is targeting its support at the people of Belarus.

The European Council, at its meeting in December and recalling its conclusions from June[11] and October[12], expressed its serious concern over developments in Georgia that led to a de facto halt in the accession process. The Commission's enlargement report published in October[13] also highlighted backsliding on disinformation, on polarisation, on fundamental rights and on involvement of civil society organisations (CSOs). In November, the Georgian authorities also announced the decision not to proceed with the enlargement process and to reject EU budgetary grants until the end of 2028.

Relations and development cooperation with Moldova further intensified in 2024 thanks to the country's efforts to advance on its EU integration path, leading to the opening of accession negotiations on 25 June. To provide a new impetus to Moldova's economy and society, the EU is currently developing the Growth Plan for Moldova, designed to accelerate socio-economic and fundamental reforms, improve access to the EU single market and increase financial assistance through a dedicated Reform and Growth Facility. Moldova has also demonstrated resilience while continuing to cope with the unprecedented challenges resulting from Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and intensified hybrid actions by Russia and its proxies seeking to destabilise the country.

Southern Neighbourhood

In the Southern Neighbourhood, the Gaza conflict and its spillover effects added to the region's political, social and economic instability. The EU mobilised additional resources to respond to this situation. It provided emergency financing to the Palestinian Authority, while at the same time agreeing with the Palestinian Authority on a comprehensive package thoroughly addressing the critical budgetary and fiscal situation. For Jordan, the Commission proposed a macro-financial assistance package worth up to EUR 500 million in April and started to work on a Comprehensive and Strategic Partnership Agreement in the second half of 2024, while for Lebanon, the President von der Leyen announced a EUR 1 billion financial assistance package in May.

The Eighth Brussels Conference on supporting the future of Syria and the region raised a total amount of EUR 7.5 billion in pledges, including EUR 2.12 billion from the EU and its Member States

[9] OJ L 246, 17 September 1999. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/1999/614/oj/eng
[10] Council Conclusions EUCO 18/22, 24 February 2022. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/54495/st00018-en22.pdf
[11] Council Conclusions EUCO 15/24, 27 June 2024. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/qa3lblga/euco-conclusions-27062024-en.pdf
[12] Council Conclusions EUCO 25/24, 17 October 2024. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/2pebccz2/20241017-euco-conclusions-en.pdf
[13] COM(2024) 690 final, 30 October 2024. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=COM:2024:690:FIN

for 2024 and 2025. At the end of 2024, Syria's political landscape witnessed a dramatic shift, culminating in the fall of the Assad regime. The new Syrian leadership has been focusing on securing legitimacy both domestically and internationally, as it takes steps to stabilise the country. Security remains a critical concern following the regime's collapse. While the 2024 special measure for Syria was still adopted in line with the 2018 Council Conclusions, the special measures for Lebanon (2024-2025) and Jordan (2024) were adopted to continue supporting hosting countries for the benefit of refugees, vulnerable hosting communities and populations in Syria, while also helping to create the conditions for a safe, dignified and voluntary return.

In March, the EU and Egypt agreed on a comprehensive and strategic partnership covering political relations, macroeconomic stability, sustainable investment, and trade. In June, a strategic partnership, specifically on energy including renewables, was signed with Tunisia. In addition, two association committees were held with Egypt (January) and Jordan (July).

Despite the overall complex situation in the region, the EU continued to roll out the Economic and Investment Plan (EIP) of the Joint Communication on a renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood (February 2021). Since 2021, the EU has implemented the EIP, committing EUR 5.7 billion in grants for the region, with an estimated EUR 26.6 billion in investments to be mobilised by blending grants with concessional loans in the clean energy, water and sanitation, education and digital sectors.

EU regional cooperation and policy dialogue in the Southern Neighbourhood continued to support socio-economic development and regional integration. The EU also continued to support dedicated regional dialogue formats and forums, in particular the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the Anna Lindh Foundation.

The ninth UfM Regional Forum (Ministers of Foreign Affairs) took place on 28 October. The Forum discussed the critical situation in the Middle East and reform of the UfM, and requested the preparation of a new vision and strategy document for the organisation.

Institution building

The Commission's institution-building instruments TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange) and Twinning, contributed to the overall reform process in the European Neighbourhood in line with EU political priorities – in particular the green and digital transitions – and the regional EIP, through high-level flagship events.

In 2024, 181 events were held for the Eastern Neighbourhood, involving 9 133 participants from the region, with most events being organised in Ukraine and Moldova. For the Southern Neighbourhood, 49 events were held, involving 1 299 participants from the region, including in Libya with support from Italy.

In 2024, the Twinning instrument continued to support Ukraine and Moldova as well as Algeria, with France having been involved in the support for Algeria.

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1.4. International Partnerships

In 2024, amid multiple overlapping crises, geopolitical shifts and further strains on multilateralism, the EU redoubled its efforts to strengthen its international partnerships with key partners through the Global Gateway strategy[14].

Thanks to this strategy, the EU, its Member States, development banks and European financing institutions aim to mobilise roughly EUR 300 billion in investments by 2027 to shape a fairer, more resilient, and sustainable world. Significant progress was achieved with over 250 flagship projects deployed across all continents.

The mid-term review[15] of the programming of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – Global Europe instrument for Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Americas and the Caribbean, the external dimension of Erasmus+ and thematic programmes[16] was concluded in October 2024[17]. Where needed, the initiatives were adjusted to changing priorities, needs and challenges to ensure that the EU can continue to deliver amidst increasing global competition. The mid-term review of the programmes for 2021-2027 will boost Global Gateway's roll-out, in particular through dedicated support for investment envelope programmes.

In 2024, the Commission stepped up its engagement with the EU private sector to implement Global Gateway and to raise awareness of the strategy's opportunities for companies – including SMEs – across the EU and partner countries. The EU organised outreach events in EU capitals and in partner countries through high-level joint missions and 13 EU business forums.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, 2024 saw the launch of transformational Global Gateway flagships across several priority areas, ranging from education and digitalisation to vaccine production and restoring ecosystems, illustrated in the Joint EU-African Union report published in October.

The EU continued to scale up its Global Gateway Investment Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean and to deepen its partnerships in Asia and the Pacific. Global Gateway projects will help address regions' infrastructure, transport and climate adaptation needs, and the digital and energy transitions, while bolstering the health, education and research sectors. The projects create local added value, increase engagement with the private sector, and promote sustainable growth, jobs creation and social cohesion. Examples include projects to improve Hanoi's sustainable urban transport system, mobilising EUR 10 billion in public and private pledges for the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor, and to boost sustainable trade and investments in the agri-forestry sectors of Laos People's Democratic Republic,.

The Samoa Agreement between the EU and the members of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States was provisionally applied from 1 January 2024.

The EU also signed cooperation agreements with the and stepped up its strategic engagement with Greenland by setting up an EU Office in Nuuk.

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[14] https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/global-gateway_en

[15] Register of Commission Documents - COM(2024)208 ; Register of Commission Documents - SWD(2024)133

[16] Civil society organisations; human rights and democracy; global challenges; and peace, stability and conflict prevention.

[17] Related commission decisions are available here: 'Global Europe - Programming - European Commission'. The mid-term review of the Neighbourhood programmes was concluded in the summer of 2025.

The EU continued to engage in conflict areas, fragile countries, and other complex settings. Least developed countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas and the Caribbean will continue to receive more than two thirds of the NDICI-Global Europe country allocations over 2025-2027. The EU also increased its engagement with partner countries on migration management, including on addressing the root causes of migration.

In terms of public finance, the EU and its Member States collectively remained the largest provider of official development assistance (ODA) with EUR 88.7 billion in 2024, accounting for 42% of global ODA[18] (0.50% of gross national income) based on preliminary OECD data.

The EU also continued to be the world's biggest contributor to Aid for Trade with EUR 22.2 billion[19], amounting to 36% of all Aid for Trade given.

The EU remained at the forefront of efforts to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to meet the Paris Agreement's targets – Global Gateway is the EU's external contribution to all 17 SDGs while addressing interlinkages and synergies across various priority areas.

In this regard, the global energy transition, tackling climate change, and protecting biodiversity continued to be key priorities in 2024. The EU and its Member States remained the world's largest provider of public international climate finance in 2023[20]. At the UN Biodiversity Conference in Cali, Colombia, the EU unveiled new initiatives worth close to EUR 160 million to support partner countries and safeguard biodiversity globally.

In terms of human development, it is still a key EU objective to address public health issues and strengthen global health systems and governance, including social protection and assistance. In 2024, for example, the Commission pledged additional funds to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. The EU is also positioned as an education champion. At the Global Gateway High-Level Event on Education that took place in April 2024, the EU signed country and regional programmes worth EUR 245 million.

Moreover, the EU continued to support the protection and promotion of human rights, including of gender equality, intersectional discrimination, diversity and democracy. In line with the Action Plan on gender equality and women's empowerment in external action (GAP III), the number of external actions with gender equality as a principal or significant objective[21] has increased significantly: from 64.71% in 2019 to 82% in 2024.

The EU continued to deploy a new approach to strategic communication and public diplomacy, focusing on the roll-out of Global Gateway flagships. The Commission, together with the Republic of South Africa and the advocacy group Global Citizen, also launched the global campaign 'Scaling up Renewables in Africa' to mobilise investments in renewables in Africa, building on the EUR 150 billion Africa-Europe Global Gateway Investment Package.

[18] Global ODA is defined here as including the ODA reported by the EU collectively and all other donor countries.

[19] In 2022, which are the latest official figures. These are collected from OECD sources that have a two-year lag.

[20] Latest available data. Next figures will be available at the end of 2025.

[21] The Commission applies the OECD DAC gender equality marker methodology. Significant (marked G1) means that gender equality is a significant objective, but not the principal reason for undertaking the action, while principal (marked G2) means that gender equality is the main objective. For humanitarian aid, the Commission applies its own humanitarian Gender-Age Marker.

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1.5. Humanitarian aid and civil protection

In 2024, EU humanitarian aid provided needs-based, principled emergency assistance and disaster preparedness support to people in 116 countries worldwide, targeting the most vulnerable hit by human-induced disasters and the impact of natural hazards. Together, the EU and its Member States are one of the world's major humanitarian aid donors, providing around 27.4% of the global share of committed humanitarian aid contributions, following the humanitarian principles of impartiality, neutrality, humanity, non-discrimination and independence. The annual budget exceeded EUR 2.48 billion in 2024, enabling the EU to both intervene in large-scale humanitarian crises – including in Ukraine, Palestine[**] and Sudan – and designate 22% of its initial budget to forgotten crises, i.e. those of severe and protracted character where the level of international aid to affected populations is insufficient, such as in the Philippines, Haiti and Mozambique, or the Sahrawi crisis.

Owing to the strong operational knowledge and technical expertise of its unique network of over 40 humanitarian field offices, the EU was able to assist more than 259 million people in 2024[22]. Emergency assistance and disaster preparedness were delivered together with a range of humanitarian partners including the UN agencies, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs), even in the most difficult-to-reach areas.

In addition to humanitarian funding, the Commission deployed its in-house emergency humanitarian response tools such as the European Humanitarian Response Capacity (EHRC). In 2024, the EHRC responded to 16 crises affecting 17 countries, deploying its range of transportation services including chartered flights, and a variety of logistics services. A total of 5 319 metric tonnes of humanitarian aid material was shipped via 97 chartered flights, sea, and land transportation through the EHRC. The Commission also mobilised EUR 38.9 million from its emergency funding tool, the Emergency Toolbox, to provide an additional financial response to sudden-onset disasters, and supported the Disaster Response Emergency Fund of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies with a contribution of EUR 14.5 million.

According to the Global Humanitarian Overview 2024 of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, updated in December 2024[23], 323.4 million people worldwide were estimated in need of humanitarian assistance and protection. According to the UN Security Council Annual Report[24], the increasing trend of grave violations against children in situations of armed conflicts is particularly worrying.

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine continued to have a devastating impact on more than 14.6 million Ukrainians. In 2024, the EU made EUR 165 million available to address immediate humanitarian needs. With the Commission, the EU and its Member States have raised more than EUR 3.6 billion since the beginning of the war. In the Gaza Strip, the humanitarian needs in all

[**] This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

[22] Estimated number of people reached by EU-funded humanitarian assistance as reported by partners and calculated in DG ECHO's humanitarian data repository system EVA Actions. This number will decrease as the procedure to eliminate double-counting for 2024 will commence summer 2025.

[23] Crisis and Emergency Response | United Nations.

[24] https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/content/sc_annual_reports

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sectors are massive. The entire population of Gaza (2.1 million) is exposed to security and protection risks. The Commission has committed over EUR 237 million for 2024. Across Sudan, 24.6 million people, over half the population, are acutely food-insecure, with famine in at least five areas. In 2024, the EU allocated nearly EUR 260 million to the Sudan crisis.

The complex crises in Myanmar, Afghanistan, Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Horn of Africa, and the protracted crises in the Sahel region, Yemen, Colombia and Venezuela further underscore the dire challenges faced by vulnerable populations globally. These conflicts and crises are further fuelled by challenges due to climate change, fragility, failed governance, structural poverty, food insecurity, and continued widespread violations of international humanitarian law.

The Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) continued to play a key role in 2024, by coordinating assistance under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM). The ERCC received and processed a total of 93 requests for assistance in 2024[25]. In addition, the requests for assistance from Ukraine were updated 34 times, with a further 21 other emergencies opened in 2022 and 2023 that remained active during 2024. A total of 29 requests originated from non-EU countries[26], out of which 23 were responded to. In 2024, the UCPM responded to complex and cross-sectoral crises in the Middle East and to the Marburg outbreak in Rwanda, and carried out evacuations and repatriations from Haiti and Vanuatu.

As a global actor, the EU engaged with development and peace stakeholders at all levels in 2024 to jointly address the root causes of fragility. Through a new tool, the Team Europe Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Collaborative Framework, the Commission aims to facilitate collaboration among EU external services at country level. It was used to strengthen humanitarian-development-peace nexus processes in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Ethiopia. The EU also continued active humanitarian advocacy on compliance with international humanitarian law, humanitarian access, and safeguarding principled humanitarian space, as well as policy development and dissemination at the European and global levels, among others linked to humanitarian protection and children and armed conflict.

Finally, in 2024, the Commission continued its work towards achieving the priorities set out in the Communication on the EU's humanitarian action[27], aiming to make the humanitarian system more efficient and impactful, including through outreach for a substantially enhanced humanitarian financing effort and a better sharing of responsibility among donors, including Member States. The highlight of the Commission advocacy remains the third edition of the European Humanitarian Forum. The Forum allowed Member States – at ministerial level – along with the EU to collectively pledge EUR 7.7 billion in support of humanitarian aid for 2024 as a concrete expression of global solidarity and of the EU's leading role in humanitarian action.

[25] The total number includes activations both within and outside the EU. However, with the inclusion of a number of participating states (including Türkiye, Ukraine, Moldova, Albania, etc.), this statistic is still relevant for the annual report.
[26] 30 new requests were introduced by EU Member States or UCPM participating states.
[27] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the EU's humanitarian action: new challenges, same principles. COM(2021) 110 final.

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1.6. Security and defence

Throughout 2024, against the backdrop of a rapidly deteriorating global security environment and Russia's continued war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU remained firmly focused on: (i) providing increased military support to Ukraine; (ii) strengthening security and defence cooperation between Member States and with partners; and (iii) building EU defence readiness and overall preparedness.

As part of the EU's response to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU Military Assistance Mission (EUMAM) had trained a total of 70 000 troops in support of the Ukrainian Armed Forces by the end of 2024. This came alongside the efforts of the EU Advisory Mission (EUAM) supporting reform of the Ukrainian law enforcement and security sector on the ground.

The EU delivered on its three-track initiative to deliver 1 million rounds of artillery ammunition and missiles in November 2024. Collectively, the EU and its Member States provided over EUR 47.3 billion worth of military support to Ukraine between 2022 and 2024. While work is ongoing to mobilise an additional EUR 6.6 billion under the European Peace Facility (EPF), the EPF successfully channelled revenues from immobilised Russian Central Bank assets towards military support for Ukraine. EPF support for partner countries other than Ukraine continued to expand in 2024, including to new partners such as Côte d'Ivoire, Congo, Kenya, Egypt, Albania and Armenia.

In 2024, the EU maintained a strong commitment to promoting peace and security through its 12 common security and defence policy (CSDP) missions and operations. In early 2024, the EU launched a new EU maritime operation, ASPIDES, providing a swift response to the threat against maritime security in the Red Sea. The EU's two civilian CSDP missions supporting the Palestinian Authority, EU Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point (EUBAM Rafah) and EUPOL COPPS, remained engaged with their partners in Israel and Palestine[**] after the Hamas attacks on 7 October 2023. Following the Council's decision of May 2024, the EU started to prepare for EUBAM Rafah's possible redeployment to the Rafah crossing point. The first impact evaluation for a civilian CSDP mission was carried out according to the methodology developed to 'ensure the independent evaluation of the impact of civilian CSDP missions', as requested by the 2023 Civilian CSDP Compact commitments. The EU committed EUR 299 million for civilian CSDP missions under the 2024 budget, in line with the allocation outlined in the multiannual financial framework.

The EU's convening power was once more confirmed by the second edition of the Schuman Security and Defence Forum in 2024. More than 600 participants from EU Member States and institutions, bilateral and international partners, as well as think tanks and academia, gathered to discuss security and defence challenges and global peace.

In 2024, the EU conducted 78 thematic as well as security and defence dialogues with more than 40 partners. Furthermore, the EU signed its first tailored security and defence partnerships (SDP/non-binding instruments) with Moldova, Norway, Japan, South Korea, Albania, and North Macedonia.

The strategic partnership with NATO was strengthened, as illustrated by the close coordination on support for Ukraine, high-level and senior officials' meetings, regular cross-briefings and the launch

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of four new structured dialogues on emerging and disruptive technologies, climate and defence, cyber, and defence industry.

The hybrid and cyber threat against the EU, its Member States and partners remained significant and diverse, stemming from both state and non-state actors. The increasing number of threat actors and malicious activities, the deteriorating global security environment and rising geopolitical tensions continued to undermine international security and stability. Against this background, the EU helped further advance the international rules-based order in cyberspace, in particular by adopting a Declaration on a Common Understanding of the Application of International Law to Cyberspace in November 2024[28]. The EU used its hybrid and cyber-diplomacy toolboxes, including by adopting new packages of sanctions under the cyber sanctions regime and creating a new sanction regime related to Russia's destabilising activities in October 2024, with first listings already adopted in December.

In the space domain, the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President and the European Commission focused on the implementation of the EU Space Strategy for Security and Defence[29]. The strategy contributes to strengthening the strategic posture of the EU as a space power.

In 2024, the Counter-Terrorism and Security Experts' Network of the European External Action Service (EEAS) continued to contribute to situational awareness and support impacted countries by strengthening cooperation and building capabilities, also guiding programmatic support. The EEAS strengthened its commitment to multilateral counterterrorism efforts through co-chairing the Global Counterterrorism Forum. In this role, the EU played a pivotal part in shaping global responses to emerging terrorist threats, encouraging international cooperation, and promoting human-rights-based approaches to counterterrorism.

1.7. Peace, stability and conflict prevention

Against the background of Russia's continuing war of aggression against Ukraine, the war in Gaza and increasing instability in the Sahel region, the EU responded to needs around the world through its 'integrated approach' to conflicts and crises.

The NDICI-Global Europe thematic programme on peace, stability and conflict prevention continued to address conflict prevention and peacebuilding as well as global and trans-regional threat priorities in non-EU countries. In 2024, the conflict prevention and peacebuilding area of work supported multilateral and civil society actors in conflict settings in their work to prevent conflicts and promote dialogue and reconciliation, including via innovative approaches. Work in 2024 also focused on addressing regional and global threats, in particular those with the potential to have a direct impact on Europe's security and well-being. This included actions to mitigate chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks, improve maritime security and cybersecurity, and strengthen global efforts against terrorism and organised crime.

In 2024, timely crisis response actions were also launched under the rapid-response pillar of NDICI-Global Europe, which addressed some of the main conflicts and post-crisis contexts in the world.

[28] Declaration 15833/24, 18 November 2024. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-15833-2024-INIT/en/pdf
[29] https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-space-strategy-security-and-defence-0_en

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This included Ukraine and its surrounding region, but also Palestine[**] and Israel, Lebanon and Syria, addressing both the drivers and the consequences of instability and hostilities in the region. Special attention was also paid to acute crises, from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sudan, the Caucasus, the Horn of Africa, the Sahel region and coastal West African countries and Haiti, amongst others.

Significant actions were launched in a wide range of areas, such as in conflict prevention, natural resources management, stabilisation, confidence building, cybersecurity, and combating disinformation and gender-based violence. Actions continued to support and complement multilateral actions and processes, including CFSP actions across the world. NDICI-Global Europe emphasises conflict prevention by means of early warning, conflict-analysis capacity building, training, and promoting good governance and respect for universal human rights. The EU also continued its long-standing support for the promotion of international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians in armed conflicts.

Through its actions, the EU contributed to:

- conflict prevention;
- electoral violence prevention;
- gender equality;
- mediation, dialogue and peace building;
- transitional justice and accountability;
- stabilisation and human security;
- strengthening the rule of law;
- the fight against violent extremism, stigmatisation and disinformation; and
- security sector reforms.

The EU continued to work with partner countries worldwide through long-term actions to build and improve capacities to tackle global and trans-regional threats.

The EU also seeks to respond rapidly and flexibly to changing priorities and emerging threats. To this end, it seeks to broaden partnerships, promote European values and build new cross-regional alliances and project influence, thereby contributing to the security of the EU and its citizens from an internal and external perspective.

In 2024, engagement with international and regional organisations remained an EU priority and was reflected in its sustained commitment to the rules-based multilateral order.

The EU contributed to international peace and security also by deploying 14 civilian CSDP missions, which support security sector reforms, border management, and capacity building of internal security forces in eastern Europe and the South Caucasus region, Africa (including the Sahel region), the Middle East and the Western Balkans. In 2024, the mandates of seven civilian CSDP missions were renewed, including the mandates of the EU Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform in Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine), the EU Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point (EU BAM Rafah) and the EU Capacity-Building Mission in Somalia (EUCAP Somalia). The EU supported conflict resolution, peace and security in the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes

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region, the Middle East, Central Asia, the Gulf, the Western Balkans and the South Caucasus, also through the work of 11 EU Special Representatives.

Apart from actions addressing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons at country and regional levels, the EU also contributed to international security and peace by supporting non-proliferation and disarmament efforts at the global level. It did so through support for the effective implementation and, when relevant, universalisation of global non-proliferation and disarmament treaties, conventions, mechanisms and programmes[30], as well as the activities of the relevant international organisations, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation.

The EU also supported a global reporting mechanism on illicit trading of conventional arms and their ammunition to reduce the risk of their diversion and illicit transfer (iTrace) in conflict-affected areas.

1.8. Human rights and democracy

In a global context marked by democratic backsliding and pushback against human rights, gender equality, diversity and the underlying multilateral rules-based order and UN system, the EU remained committed to upholding and promoting human rights and democratic values and principles around the world.

Regarding the defence and promotion of human rights at the global level, throughout the year, the EU Special Representative for Human Rights continued to improve the effectiveness, presence and visibility of EU policy on human rights and democracy and to ensure that human rights are integrated into all areas of EU external action. EU Delegations around the world continued to provide funding and other forms of support primarily to local CSOs to address human-rights challenges. In 2024, the EU also provided protection support to 10 050 human-rights defenders and family members through its emergency fund and the flagship programme ProtectDefenders.EU, managed by a consortium of 12 international NGOs.

As fighting impunity for serious human-rights violations requires coordinated global efforts to uphold international law, the 'Global Initiative Against Impunity for International Crimes and Serious Human-Rights Violations: Making Justice Work!' started in December 2023. The initiative aims to empower civil society in addressing international crimes and supporting gender-responsive and victim-centred approaches to transitional justice. The four-year project is implemented by a consortium of eight international organisations and the Coalition for the International Criminal Court. The Digital Democracy Initiative, a collaboration with Denmark to promote and protect local inclusive democratic space in the digital age, supported innovative CSO-led projects. The opportunities and risks brought by the digital sphere to human rights and democracy were also addressed by supporting the work of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

[30] Amongst others the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004); the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons; the Arms Trade Treaty; the Hague Code of Conduct; the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction; and the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons.

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To create strategic, longer-term implementing relationships with high-capacity consortia of NGOs, in 2024, thematic framework partnerships (FFPAs) for human rights and democracy were concluded. These aim to promote work on young people's freedom of assembly and association, with a focus on youth activists, fighting torture, advocating against the death penalty and promoting independent and pluralistic media and quality journalism.

Specifically, the EU began to see results from its collaboration with the United Against Torture Consortium. This alliance of six leading anti-torture NGOs strategically reflects the EU guidelines against torture, offering a cooperative and holistic response to the main priorities, from prevention to rehabilitation and redress. In the first year, EU funding reached over 160 less-resourced anti-torture organisations in all regions of the world, while more than 80 CSOs were accompanied to engage in state review processes under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The consortium implemented crisis response actions in five countries and conducted a summer school for African anti-torture practitioners.

The EU also partnered with the Global Consortium for Death Penalty Abolition. Launched in July 2024, the consortium will operate in 40 target countries to: (i) promote transparency in hardcore retentionist countries; (ii) reduce the scope of death penalty application in retentionist countries with the potential for change; (iii) achieve abolition in law in countries that are abolitionist in practice; and (iv) encourage the ratification of abolitionist treaties in abolitionist countries in law.

In addition, the EU set up partnerships with consortia of media development organisations. These aim to strengthen the resilience of at-risk media outlets, combat hate speech and disinformation, and expand journalists' access to professional development and learning opportunities. Supporting women journalists and those working in areas with limited access to local news coverage is a priority. These partnerships complement EU efforts at multilateral level to support independent media together with the OHCHR, UNESCO, the OECD, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as projects fighting foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI).

Over half of the global population resided in countries that held national elections in 2024, providing a significant opportunity for democratic expression, even as threats to electoral integrity persisted. The EU was a key provider of electoral assistance globally. In Sub-Saharan Africa alone, the EU assisted 15 countries in their electoral processes while strengthening the role of the African Union and regional networks of domestic observers.

In addition to providing electoral assistance, the EU was invited to assess or observe elections or follow up on earlier observation missions in 20 countries. Full-fledged election observation missions took place in Senegal, Jordan, Sri Lanka and Mozambique. Election expert missions were deployed in Mexico, Comoros, Mauritania, South Africa, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, El Salvador, the Solomon Islands, Panama, Gabon and Ghana. Follow-up missions were conducted in Zambia, São Tomé and Príncipe, Peru and the Gambia. Such missions aim to build confidence in electoral processes, assess their inclusiveness and transparency, and propose recommendations for future improvements. The missions also contribute to the reduction of electoral violence, acceptance of credible results by all segments of society, and the peaceful transition of countries emerging from civil strife or war. EU conflict analysis, including electoral violence risk assessments, increasingly feed into the planning and deployment of election observation missions.

In 2024, the EU also remained a key player in supporting democracy globally through initiatives promoting women's and young people's civic and political engagement, strengthening democratic

institutions, and supporting independent media and journalists. These include the global Team Europe Democracy (TED) initiative, which provides a platform for the EU and 14 EU Member States to coordinate democracy support actions in partner countries. TED enabled improved exchanges in the fields of people-centred justice and anti-corruption, civic space, and information integrity. TED supported cooperation through a 'Team Europe' approach in Guatemala, Jordan, the Central African Republic, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Malawi and Cameroon. The Women and Youth in Democracy (WYDE) initiative supported young people's and women's participation through a variety of activities that includes inter-parliamentary cooperation, small grants, advocacy, exchanges and support programmes. The WYDE Women Leadership initiative was launched in March 2024 to foster women's democratic engagement and leadership by changing social norms and building political competencies in collaboration with global partners. 'WYDE Civic Engagement' aims to promote political pluralism and the inclusiveness of democratic processes by encouraging the participation of young people and women in all aspects of public life. It provided grants to 50 organisations and trained young decision-makers across Africa. 'Inter Pares' sustained inter-parliamentary cooperation between national parliaments in EU Member States and their counterparts in Ukraine, Benin, Botswana, Zambia, Guinea-Bissau, Nepal, Côte d'Ivoire and Uzbekistan. Beyond core democracy support, the EU supported policy reforms through initiatives such as the Open Government Partnership initiative, which supported civil society-led reforms in Honduras, Colombia, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Indonesia and the Philippines.

The EU continued to provide financial support to human rights and democracy through the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance III and the NDICI-Global Europe instrument[31] in countries covered by the EU's Enlargement and Neighbourhood policies. EU financial support also continued to be channelled through the European Endowment for Democracy, empowering pro-democracy actors, civil society, and independent media across the European Neighbourhood, the Western Balkans, Türkiye, Eurasia, and the Middle East.

More information on EU actions can be found in the *2024 Annual Report on Human Rights and Democracy in the World*[32] of the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

1.9 Support for multilateralism and addressing global challenges

In 2024, the overarching priority was to continue to stand up for the rules-based international order, multilateralism, international law including international humanitarian law, accountability, human rights and democracy. To make the multilateral system, with the UN at its core, more efficient and inclusive and to meet today's and future global challenges and rebuild trust, world leaders adopted – on 22 September 2024 – the UN Pact for the Future, the Global Digital Compact, and the Declaration on Future Generations.

The Pact for the Future is a major achievement for multilateralism to which the EU contributed substantially, pushing for an ambitious outcome reflecting its values and priorities. The EU was widely recognised for its bridge-building role in the negotiations, including with the G77 and African countries, pushing for shared priorities, e.g. accelerating the achievement of the SDGs and reforming the international financial architecture.

[31] Thematic programmes for human rights and democracy and for civil society organisations.
[32] EU Annual Reports on Human Rights and Democracy | EEAS

The Commission also promoted inclusive multilateralism at the 2024 UN Civil Society Conference ahead of the Summit of the Future. Following the European Council Conclusions of 17 October[33], the EU is implementing the pact through existing UN processes and upcoming international conferences, such as the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Social Summit, the Third International Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, and the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4). As to the latter two, the Commission engaged in and contributed to negotiating the respective programmes of action. The Commission also contributed to the 2024 UN Civil Society Conference.

In the G20, the EU played a major role in the launch at the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro in November 2024 of the main priority of the Brazilian Presidency: the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty. The EU joined as a founding member and presented, with support from the Council, its statement of commitments, including how the goals of the alliance can be supported through the Global Gateway strategy. The G20 Development Ministerial in Rio de Janeiro in July 2024 adopted a landmark ministerial declaration on inequality and leaving no one behind – the first after more than two years of standstill as a consequence of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine – and a call for action on access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

At the G7 Summit held in Apulia in June 2024, leaders launched the Apulia Food Security Initiative and reaffirmed their commitment to the ongoing work on the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII), recognising the EU's contribution through Global Gateway. These work strands were given a boost at the G7 Development Ministerial in Pescara in October 2024, with the direct participation of the Commissioner for International Partnerships.

The EEAS coordinated and prepared the input to the EU's priorities for cooperation with the Council of Europe in 2025-2026, adopted by the Council in December 2024[34].

[33] Council Conclusions EUCO 25/24, 17 October 2024. 20241017-euco-conclusions-en.pdf
[34] Council Conclusions 17028/24, 17 December 2024. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-17028-2024-INIT/en/pdf

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2. Delivering on our commitments: promoting EU values and interests and fostering sustainable development globally

2.1. The Global Gateway strategy

Throughout 2024, the EU continued efforts to mobilise public and private resources as part of the 'Team Europe' approach in order to facilitate implementation of the Global Gateway strategy. By doing this, the EU aims to narrow the global investment gap, foster economic development and boost clean, secure and mutually-beneficial links in key areas such as digital, energy and critical raw materials, and transport corridors including shipping. The Global Gateway strategy is a key contribution to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and leaving no one behind, and additionally supports improvement in investment and business climate conditions, regulatory convergence, standardisation, supply chain integration and financial services to further boost the development impact of investments by the private sector.

Global Gateway flagship projects are projects that demonstrate how the EU and its Member States implement the Global Gateway strategy through a 'Team Europe' approach. They showcase how Global Gateway's transformative approach mobilises sustainable investments that support the strategic autonomy of partner countries. The European Council has now identified more than 264 Global Gateway flagship projects. Of these, 50% are related to climate and energy, 20% to transport, 13% to digital, 10% to health, and 7% to education and research. Some projects are contributing to several priorities at once, consistent with the interlinked nature of the SDGs. The geographic breakdown provides the following picture: 45% of Global Gateway flagship projects are in Sub-Saharan Africa, 20% in the Americas and the Caribbean, 18% in the Neighbourhood and Enlargement regions, 15% in Asia and the Pacific, and 2% are regional or global projects. In 2024, the pace of adding new flagships slowed down to 40+ projects, while some projects were also removed reflecting that despite best efforts, some investments may not mature.

Furthermore, 2024 was a year marked by key stocktaking moments at global, regional and country levels. The Commission reported that the 'Team Europe' approach has increased the scale, impact and visibility of sustainable development cooperation actions by mobilising EUR 179 billion in investments in partner countries between 2021 and 2023, which is in line with the target of mobilising EUR 300 billion by 2027.

Working in a 'Team Europe' approach and alongside international financial institutions, the Commission unveiled the EUR 10 billion commitment for the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor at the Global Gateway Investors Forum for EU-Central Asia Transport Connectivity. At the 20th Overseas Countries and Territories-European Union (OCTs-EU) Forum in Brussels, the EU reaffirmed its strong partnership with OCTs, showcasing progress on common priorities through effective partnerships centred around Global Gateway and the signing of five new cooperation agreements. The third EU Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum and the 24th EU-ASEAN[35] Ministerial Meeting were held back to back in Brussels and provided a stocktaking moment on the ongoing roll-out of Global Gateway in the region.

In 2024, engagement with international partners on critical raw materials continued with the signing of five additional partnerships (Rwanda, Norway, Uzbekistan, Australia and Serbia), the design of roadmaps, and the signing of memoranda and partnership agreements with the Democratic Republic

[35] Association of Southeast Asian Nations

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of the Congo, Rwanda and Mauritania. The Commission launched six Global Gateway mini campaigns at regional and local levels (EU-Latin America and Caribbean Digital Alliance, Rwanda MAV+[36], Tajikistan green energy, EU-Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) BELLA Cable, Namibia green hydrogen) and organised several Team Europe / Global Gateway joint missions (to Costa Rica, Malaysia, Lesotho, Vietnam and Indonesia, Senegal and Mauritania).

The Commission further deepened its engagement with the Global Gateway Business Advisory Group (two meetings), and the Global Gateway Civil Society and Local Authorities Advisory Platform (one meeting), highlighting the strong outreach to key stakeholders in the implementation of Global Gateway. The Commission launched the Expert Group on Enhanced Coordination of External Financial Tools, organised two meetings, and received the final recommendations of the High-Level Expert Group on scaling up sustainable finance in low- and middle-income countries.

In 2024, mobilising and engaging the private sector remained central to the Commission's agenda with over 10 business forums with partner countries. To help mobilise private investment, the Commission launched three EU-supported investment programmes worth over EUR 700 million (from the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus), which will mobilise EUR 6.3 billion in public and private investments.

The EU strengthened its work with G7 partners to promote sustainable investments worldwide through the G7's Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII). Global Gateway flagship projects such as the Lobito Corridor, the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor, the Sargassum initiative, the African Virtual Investment Platform, renewable hydrogen in Namibia, the Kenya green industrialisation partnership and the Just Energy Transition Partnerships (in South Africa, Vietnam, Indonesia and Senegal) were identified as priorities under the PGII and unveiled at the G7 Leaders' Summit in Apulia. Global Gateway was also highlighted at the G20 Development Ministers' meeting, the UN General Assembly High-level Week and the Summit of the Future, and the COP29 and COP16 summits (the most recent Conferences of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the UN Biodiversity Conference respectively).

2.2. 'Team Europe' approach

The ambition of the EU and Member States is to ensure a joint, coherent and coordinated effort to further strengthen the EU's international partnerships, taking into account both the interests of the EU and its Member States and those of partner countries and regions. This is commonly referred to as the 'Team Europe' approach, which remains a critical aspect of the EU's external action.

The implementation of over 260 Global Gateway flagship projects (see Chapter 2.1) and the 165 Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs - 127 at country level, 32 at regional level and 6 at global level) continued. Alongside the implementation of TEIs, joint programming processes continued with 14 joint programming documents in place.

In 2024, the 'Team Europe' approach was also promoted through the Practitioners' Network of European development cooperation organisations, which further consolidated its role by becoming an international non-profit association (AISBL). Continued engagement with JEFIC (Joint European Financiers for International Cooperation) and EDFI (European development finance institutions) further strengthened coordination of the 'Team Europe' approach. To ensure continuous engagement by all Team Europe actors, the organisation of informal EU development Directors-

[36] Team Europe Initiative on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies in Africa

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General meetings continued both in Brussels and in the capitals of the two Council Presidencies in 2024 (Belgium and Hungary).

The 'Support to European Development Policy' technical assistance facility continued to assist EU Delegations, Headquarters, and Member States in the resource-intensive coordination work that helps structure the 'Team Europe' approach. In 2024, the facility implemented over 40 assignments, providing support to 20 EU Delegations in all regions, and covering a wide range of support areas including critical raw materials (CRM), gender mainstreaming, and investment mapping. The facility also supported the operationalisation of 'Member States National Global Gateway Teams', to ensure a whole-of-government approach at capital level, involving line ministries, financial institutions, export credit agencies, etc., which can engage with the private sector. The first assignment of this kind was to support the setting-up of 'Team Greece'.

In 2024, the Commission maintained its strong engagement with the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), including at the IMF/WBG spring and annual meetings, as well as engagement with key WBG and IMF leadership and senior management around Global Gateway. Team Europe coordination with the European Executive Directors on the Board of the WBG intensified, including through their annual visit. The use of the 'Team Europe' approach for the reform of the multilateral development banks and relevant aspects of the reform of the international financial architecture continued in the respective forums, through close work with Council Presidencies on related joint messages.

The EU and its Member States continued to be committed to promoting an effective, inclusive and fair multilateral system, with the UN at its core, through the Pact for the Future at the Summit of the Future on 22 September 2024. The EU and its Member States played a key role in the run-up to the pact, closely coordinating to push for an ambitious pact and building bridges with the African group, who played a key role in getting the pact adopted. Through close coordination between the EU (the Commission and the EEAS) and its Member States in New York and in Brussels, the EU agreed on Council Conclusions and coherent Team Europe messaging. Since the adoption of the pact, the EU has continued to play a leading role in its implementation through UN and international processes such as the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, the Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, and the World Social Summit.

To boost knowledge-sharing through a 'Team Europe' approach, the Commission continued to invest in online tools, such as the Team Europe Explorer[37], which offers an overview of the official development assistance mobilised by Team Europe, and the Team Europe Initiatives and Joint Programming Tracker[38].

2.3. Implementing the 2030 Agenda and other international and European commitments and policies

Amidst renewed attacks against multilateralism, the EU remains firmly committed to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are our universal roadmap to tackle deeply interconnected challenges, respecting our planet and leaving no one behind. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, escalating conflicts, geopolitical tensions, the triple planetary crisis (climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss) and rising inequalities are hitting SDG progress hard. Only 17% of SDG targets are on track to be achieved globally by 2030, nearly half are showing minimal

[37] https://team-europe-explorer.europa.eu/index_en
[38] https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/resources/team-europe-tracker/partner-countries/jp_en

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progress, and progress on over one third has stalled or even regressed[39].

Implementing and achieving the SDGs is a cross-cutting ambition for the Commission. The College of Commissioners as a whole is responsible for the overall implementation of the SDGs, while each Member of the College will ensure the delivery of the SDGs within their policy field. The Global Gateway strategy is the EU's external investment strategy supporting the achievement of the SDGs. Within each Global Gateway flagship project, the EU targets interlinked SDGs through large-scale, transformational projects with a 360-degree approach supporting climate neutrality and human rights, and promoting decent work, education, gender equality, youth empowerment, and social inclusion and social rights.

The UN Pact for the Future[40] was adopted at the Summit of the Future in 2024. The pact gave renewed impetus for a more effective and inclusive multilateral system that rebuilds trust and covers financing and implementing SDGs as a priority. The EU and its Member States presented a joint written input into the pact reflecting EU priorities and are supporting its implementation through existing UN processes[41].

2.4. Fragility response

In 2024, 2.1 billion people were experiencing high or extreme fragility[42], representing 25% of the world's population, yet accounting for 72% of those living in extreme poverty[43]. The impacts of climate change continued to hit the most vulnerable communities in low-income countries much harder than developed ones. Humanitarian needs were on the rise, geopolitical and geostrategic tensions intensified, and the declining trust in institutions and polarisation continued or emerged in various part of the world. All these challenges created a complex and unpredictable global environment in which the EU was called upon to respond.

The EU's response to fragility aims to link urgent relief to longer-term solutions addressing root causes of fragility through an integrated approach. Showing the EU's strong commitment to addressing the root causes of fragility and migration, a differentiated approach to the needs of our partner countries is being rolled out. The Global Gateway strategy is coupled with a sustained engagement in fragile contexts, bringing together the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and resilience support, including by providing essential/basic services where needed.

In response to fragility, the EU continues to provide investments at the crossroads of what EU partners want, and what the EU can deliver. By working closely with other international organisations, most notably the United Nations and the World Bank, as well as regional organisations, the EU aims to improve coordination and effectiveness. The EU's actions foster governance, rule of law, and economic recovery, addressing the root causes of conflicts and inequalities. They improve the capabilities of local institutions and CSOs in fragile contexts to improve governance and resilience. They also address the impacts of climate change on vulnerable regions of the world, building the climate resilience of our partner countries.

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[39] UN, 2024. Sustainable Development Goals Report. The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2024.pdf

[40] Including its annexes (i.e. the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations).

[41] For example the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Social Summit, the 16th session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development, and the 2025 UN Ocean Conference.

[42] Fragility, according to the OECD, is the combination of exposure to risk and insufficient coping capacities of the state, system and/or communities to manage, absorb or mitigate those risks. It occurs in a spectrum of intensity across six dimensions: economic, environmental, human, political, security and societal.

[43] OECD States of Fragility 2025. https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/publications/reports/2025/02/states-of-fragility-2025_c9080496/81982370-en.pdf

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2.5. Policy coherence for sustainable development

EU policies, both internal and external, have an impact on our international partners. It is essential to ensure that EU legislation and actions complement each other and promote sustainable and inclusive development.

Policy coherence for development (PCD) is a long-standing legal and political commitment of the EU, enshrined in the Treaties, and a key principle through which the EU seeks to increase the positive impact and effectiveness of its international partnerships by minimising contradictions and building synergies between internal and external EU policies.

It follows a whole-of-government approach, with strong coordination across the Commission to develop coherent policies. Close coordination with EU Member States is also sought on implementation approaches as part of Team Europe.

The Commission's willingness to ensure a balanced impact of EU policies on partner countries is reflected in the design of its working methods, from the outset, including from the planning stage during the preparation of the annual Commission Work Programme and throughout the consultation and decision-making phases. The Better Regulation Agenda, impact assessments, the Regulatory Scrutiny Board and interservice consultations provide additional and multiple layers and tools through which the potential impacts of the Commission's decisions, legislation and policies on partner countries are examined.

The Commission continues to uphold the principle of PCD, seeking to minimise contradictions, mitigate any potential negative impacts of EU internal policies on partner countries, and build synergies between different EU internal and external policies in order to increase the effectiveness of development cooperation.

The Commission emphasised the importance of integrating development objectives into all policies likely to affect developing countries, in line with the European Consensus on Development, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, while calling on partner countries to better align with their national priorities and systems and to work more effectively together to realise their potential.

PCD is therefore mainstreamed in the Commission's daily work and is implemented by all relevant services.

Changes are also reflected in how we report on PCD. There are no more stand-alone PCD reports as reporting on it is integrated into the comprehensive reporting on SDGs implementation.

Through the Global Gateway strategy, the Commission aims to build on the interlinkages between the SDGs and accelerate progress through integrated actions that can generate mutual benefits and deliver on multiple objectives. This is a key requirement to fulfil the commitment to ensure policy coherence for sustainable development.

The EU is making ongoing efforts and working on challenges to align its policies with development objectives, and to highlight the dynamic nature of PCD within its external action.

2.6. Development effectiveness

Development effectiveness (Busan principles, 2011) is actively promoted in the EU's development cooperation to achieve the best sustainable impact with official development assistance funding. The 'Team Europe' approach is a key contribution to effectiveness by pulling together European resources (financial, technical and/or human), to avoid fragmentation and duplication, and by

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providing a common space and framework for collaboration focused on results – in line with partner country priorities identified through political dialogue and multi-stakeholder dialogue processes.

As an active member and supporter of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), the Commission supported both the development of the new GPEDC Monitoring Framework and the participation of partner countries undertaking voluntary GPEDC monitoring activities. These activities provide a better basis for analyses on development effectiveness, and the more countries take part, the deeper the potential analyses. As of end of December 2024, 59 countries had signed up for this voluntary monitoring.

2.7. Support for multilateralism and addressing global challenges

In 2024, the overarching priority was to continue to stand up for the rules-based international order, multilateralism, international law including international humanitarian law, accountability, human rights and democracy. On 22 September 2024, world leaders adopted the Pact for the Future and its annexes, the Global Digital Compact (GDC) and the Declaration on Future Generations (DFG). The pact aims to: (i) make the multilateral system, with the UN at its core, more efficient and inclusive; (ii) meet today's and future global challenges; and (iii) rebuild trust. The adoption of the pact is a major achievement for multilateralism to which the EU contributed substantially. Together with its Member States, the EU pushed for ambition and for EU priorities through a joint written input into the pact and joint messaging in negotiations, and acted as a bridge-builder in the negotiations with other (regional) groups such as G77 and African countries on shared priorities such as accelerating implementation and financing of the SDGs and reforming the international financial architecture. The EU is supporting the implementation of the pact through existing UN processes and upcoming international conferences, such as the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, the Third International Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, and the World Social Summit.

2.8. European financial architecture for development (EFAD)

This section provides an overview of the main activities carried out by the Commission in 2024 to implement its roadmap towards an improved European financial architecture for development. The roadmap was updated in March 2024, following consultation with EU Member States, in order to better incorporate activities related to Global Gateway implementation and engagement with the private sector. The roadmap includes 28 measures aiming to achieve the following objectives: affirming a strong EU policy steer; promoting improved coordination; building a more inclusive financial architecture; and ensuring increased visibility and influence for the EU and its Member States' actions through a 'Team Europe' approach.

Overall, 2024 saw a consolidation of the activities launched in the previous years. The mechanisms to ensure that investment operations are aligned with EU policy priorities, including the objectives set out in the Commission programming documents, were fully operationalised. Regular pipeline review meetings with international and European development finance institutions (EDFIs) ensure alignment with Global Gateway priorities and optimal use of the full European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+) toolkit (combining blending, guarantees and technical assistance). Engagement on the ground – through Team Europe missions and through the coordination role of EU Delegations to facilitate upstream discussions with Member States, financial institutions and other stakeholders – was further strengthened. EU coordination on matters related to international financial institutions was improved with a particular focus on reform of multilateral development banks.

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Some key workstreams are still being implemented, primarily in relation to policy measures to mobilise greater sustainable private finance in low- and middle-income countries, monitoring EFSD+ results, further coordination between development and export finance agencies in their respective Member States, and tools for private-sector engagement.

Stronger policy steer

The mid-term review of the programming of NDICI-Global Europe offered an occasion to further ensure alignment between investment actions and EU strategic interests, including Global Gateway priority areas. The regional Multiannual Indicative Programming documents for Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas and the Caribbean for 2021-2027 were amended in October 2024[44] to focus on the EU's specific policy objectives and strategic interests in relation to the respective regions taking into account the development of the geopolitical context and the existing investment/partnership documents. These include the EU-LAC Global Gateway Investment Agenda, the EU strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, the EU strategic partnership with the Gulf, and the Joint Roadmap for Deepening Ties between the EU and Central Asia. Dedicated 'support to investments' allocations were introduced to promote Global Gateway in the three regional programming documents mentioned above.

Regarding the neighbourhood region, a 'Deep Dive' event with international financial institutions held in October 2024 reaffirmed the need to align financial and technical support for socio-economic reforms in key partner countries, as set out in the strategic partnerships agreements. For all regions, a number of strategic and pipeline review meetings with development financial institutions (DFIs) took place to ensure that the proposed projects are aligned with Global Gateway and the Economic and Investment Plans for the neighbourhood. For Sub-Saharan Africa, specific technical assistance / study facilities were set up to support both the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) with the purpose of developing a pipeline of projects fully aligned with Global Gateway.

The EFSD+ Strategic Board met in February and December 2024, providing key inputs into the strategic vision and overall coordination of EFSD+ operations. The meetings were also an opportunity to take stock of progress and discuss future strategic goals.

In April 2024, the High-Level Expert Group on scaling up sustainable finance in low- and middle-income countries published a report outlining recommendations to the Commission for actions to boost private investments in partner countries and support inclusive growth. The report proposes innovative funding mechanisms and actions to further strengthen local financial markets to help bridge the financing gap for achieving the SDGs.

Data on investments mobilised in Global Gateway priority areas was consolidated based on the agreed methodology. In October, the following figures were set out in the Communication *Building sustainable international partnerships as a Team Europe*[45]: between 2021 and 2023, the EU, Member States, the EIB and the EBRD mobilised investments worth EUR 179 billion in support of Global Gateway implementation. Out of this total, EUR 50 billion was made available by the EU, and EUR 129 billion was mobilised by EU Member States, the EIB and the EBRD.

[44] The mid-term review of the Neighbourhood programmes was concluded in the summer of 2025.
[45] JOIN(2024) 25 final, 2 Octobre 2024. https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/publications-library/eus-revamped-international-partnerships_en

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Technical meetings with DFIs on the use of the EFSD+ Results Measurement Framework (ReMF) took place in 2024 with the aim to further improve their capacities to report on results and to harmonise approaches. Training sessions for EU Delegations on EFSD+ ReMF were organised. The IT tool to manage the EU portfolio of external interventions was adapted to allow DFIs to enter results frameworks from guarantee agreements.

Coordination

EU coordination on matters related to international financial institutions was further improved in 2024 including in Council meetings, with a particular focus on reform of multilateral development banks, involving both the development and finance tracks. The practice of developing a set of Team Europe messages for the spring and annual meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund was continued.

Dialogue with the EIB and the EBRD on their efforts to improve mutual coordination and collaboration continued, with a joint presentation to the Council of the EIB-EBRD annual progress report on EFAD in December 2024.

In 2024, structured dialogue took place with international finance institutions and regional development banks, such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IaDB), the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Caribbean Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the International Finance Corporation (IFC). This led to specific results such as an agreement with the International Monetary Fund to conduct a study on foreign direct investment flows to Latin America and the Caribbean, a blending operation signed with IaDB on sustainable mining practices, and discussions with IFC on the implementation of budgetary guarantees in fragile countries such as Iraq.

Coordination with export credit agencies (ECAs) gained relevance within the ecosystem of the EFAD ecosystem. The Commission Expert Group on Enhanced Coordination of External Financial Tools met in January, May and November 2024. Ministries, ECAs, DFIs and public development banks discussed the possibilities of improving coordination between development finance and export finance. A study carried out by independent consultants made recommendations for further work in this regard.

Engagement with the private sector continued in the Global Gateway Business Advisory Group, which met twice in plenary (April and November 2024) while its subgroups worked throughout the year. Over 10 EU business forums were held in partner countries. Outreach events addressed to Member States' private sectors to raise awareness of the opportunities offered by Global Gateway were co-organised with the relevant authorities of several Member States (Finland, Italy, Slovakia, Sweden, Portugal, Denmark, Malta, Hungary, Poland and Germany).

Inclusiveness

Under the EFSD+, the Commission continued to favour joint proposals from DFIs to ensure coherence, coordination and a 'Team Europe' approach. 2024 saw the finalisation of negotiations and signing of several guarantee agreements. In particular, the guarantee signed with the EDFI Management Company has the potential to bring in new and smaller partners.

EU Delegations made targeted efforts to engage not only with representatives of EU Member States and international financial institutions but also with EU private-sector stakeholders. These actions both strengthen collaboration as Team Europe and provide a deeper understanding of the main challenges facing the private sector, while opening up a dialogue to explore strategies to effectively

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address these obstacles. Delegations' capacities to manage the full toolbox of EU financial instruments was continuously strengthened in 2024 through training and EFSD+ outreach missions.

The use of institution-building tools such as TAIEX and Twinning to provide capacity building through public sector expertise continued to increase in 2024 both geographically and thematically, with growing support from all EU Member States, thus strengthening the inclusiveness agenda in international partnerships. A total of 81 Twinning projects were ongoing in 2024, involving 25 Member States either as a lead Member State or as a junior partner, while TAIEX facilitated 901 events.

Dialogue with the Practitioners' Network of European development cooperation organisations, EDFI and the Joint European Financiers for International Cooperation (JEFIC) focused on how the three networks can operationalise their joint statement of intent on improved collaboration (adopted in 2023). High-level and technical meetings held in 2024 with both JEFIC and EDFI focused on the networks' contributions to implementing and scaling up Global Gateway.

Commission's Pillar assessment applications from Member States banks and agencies have been further streamlined in 2024 to focus on those organisations whose main focus is international cooperation. This allows more timely support to applications and ensures a shorter processing time.

Visibility

High-level Team Europe missions took place in 2024 to promote Global Gateway investments in Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Vietnam, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Indonesia, Senegal, and Lesotho. In the neighbourhood, investment missions were organised to Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia and Moldova.

Monthly communication drop-in sessions for EU Delegations as well as regular meetings of Global Gateway communication focal points were organised throughout 2024. Global Gateway campaigns were implemented in 18 partner countries to promote Global Gateway strategic investments such as the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor, the investment agenda for Latin America and the development of vaccine manufacturing in Africa, to increase the positive perception of the EU as a trusted international partner.

2.9. Means of implementation

The EU is working on concrete solutions through Global Gateway, and with a 'Team Europe' approach, to help close the financial gap to achieve the SDGs and implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

The EFSD+ supports guarantees and blending operations through DFIs to catalyse private capital. With these instruments, the EU aims to reduce the cost of capital for sustainable investments. In 2024, 12 new EFSD+ private-sector guarantee programmes were signed (10 under the EFSD+ and two carried over from the EFSD) worth EUR 1.93 billion across all regions. In addition, EFSD+ guarantees continue to support EIB lending for public sector investment, with total covered operations amounting to EUR 9.98 billion for sovereign and sub-sovereign non-commercial loans, of which EUR 2.81 billion correspond to 2024, and EUR 1 billion for private sector operations in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Examples of EIB lending for public sector investment in the neighbourhood included the Jordan Water Security and Climate Adaptation project and the Vore-Hani i Hotit railway line in Albania. In the same region, EUR 41 million of guarantee cover was used in 2024 for 13 operations involving the private sector.

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Alongside the EFSD+ and related technical assistance, EU budget support remains a key method to advance Global Gateway implementation and its 360-degree approach. Budget support promotes prudent macroeconomic management (including debt sustainability), sound public policies, accountability and critical reforms for the investment climate[46]. In 2024, budget support was used to promote regulatory reforms, while development finance institutions funded investments with an EU guarantee and/or blending. Such synergies were sought, for example, in: Kyrgyzstan, Timor-Leste and Jamaica to boost connectivity and information and communication technology (ICT) skills; in Mauritania for green hydrogen; in Benin, Tonga and Vietnam for sustainable energy transition; in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Uzbekistan and Vanuatu for climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture value chains; and in Zambia and Laos for education and vocational training.

The EU continued to promote sustainable finance in partner countries, which is key to attracting private capital flows to help the deployment of sustainable investments under Global Gateway. A High-level Expert Group (HLEG) handed its final report on scaling up sustainable finance in low- and middle-income countries in April 2024[47] to the outgoing Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, in the presence of IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva. The HLEG identified challenges and opportunities in sustainable finance and provided recommendations for the Commission's work with partner countries[48].

In 2024, the EU continued promoting private-sector investment, in particular by creating a dedicated portal[49] bringing together relevant information for businesses interested in engaging in the Global Gateway. Additionally, the EU provides support for human rights and climate due diligence for products reaching the single market. In 2024, it concluded an agreement that will offer a dedicated platform to refer partner countries' stakeholders – including civil society, the private sector and government institutions – to relevant accompanying measures[50]. The EU also promotes public-private dialogue processes, for instance through the Global Gateway Business Advisory Group, or in a more targeted manner, such as through country-level business forums. Dialogue with civil society focused on Global Gateway is taking place in a dedicated platform – the Global Gateway Business Advisory Group – and is increasingly localised through the consultations taking place at EU Delegation level (EU Roadmaps for Engagement with Civil Society). Dialogue with local authorities is being held through the Global Gateway Civil Society and Local Authorities Advisory Platform.

2.10. Mobilisation of the NDICI-Global Europe cushion

In 2024, the Commission used EUR 1.2 billion of Global Europe's emerging challenges and priorities cushion, amounting to 91% of the 2024 budget of the cushion[51].

As in previous years, the cushion supported the EU's response to challenges related to migration and forced displacement. Most of the 2024 budget was mobilised to support Syrians and communities hosting refugees from Syria in the region and to a lesser extent inside Syria. EUR 130 million was

[46] In line with the 'Collect More, Spend Better' agenda, for instance.

[47] HLEG final report, 2024.

[48] Key recommendations include: (i) designing a new model of strategic engagement with low- and middle-income countries to deliver on Global Gateway; (ii) scaling up flows of private capital to sustainable projects in low- and middle-income countries by promoting the use of innovative financial instruments and structures; (iii) supporting local currency-denominated sustainable financial instruments; and (iv) increasing fiscal space for sustainable investments by supporting asset recycling and green asset-backed securities, disaster risk coverage and climate resilience.

[49] Global Gateway Business Opportunities - European Commission

[50] For example: Sustainability in Global Value Chains | Capacity4dev (europa.eu).

[51] EUR 124 million were carried over to 2025, against a total budget of EUR 1.324 billion.

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mobilised to support actions in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq. A package of EUR 804 million was mobilised for Syrian refugees in Türkiye. Of this amount, EUR 454 million resulted from the redeployment of budget freed up within the NDICI-Global Europe cushion, due to the transfer of initially planned support for Ukraine to the Ukraine Facility following the revision of the multiannual financial framework.

To continue supporting partner countries facing the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, EUR 266 million was mobilised to support the initiative on vaccine production in Africa.

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3. Thematic overview

Working together towards the SDGs and results achieved with EU support

The Commission's priorities have been translated into a portfolio of development actions: human development; Green Deal; sustainable growth and jobs; digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure; migration and forced displacement; and governance, peace and security. These categories – of priorities and actions – provide the basic structure for the sections within this chapter on the thematic overview of international partnerships. Each section presents the EU's main achievements, along with examples of EU-funded projects and programmes.

At the same time, implementing these EU priorities is key to helping our partners achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In some sections, the connection to an SDG is explained, and related results are given, based on indicators of the Global Europe Results Framework. In the interests of readability, each SDG is mentioned only once under an EU priority to which it is particularly related. However, because of the cross-cutting nature of the SDGs and the strong interlinkages among them, the content reported under each SDG will often also be relevant to other EU priorities as well.

3.1. Human development

3.1.1. SDG #1 Reduced poverty

Poverty eradication remains central to the Commission's work, as mandated by Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), which states that the EU's development cooperation policy 'shall have as its primary objective the reduction and, in the long term, the eradication of poverty'. This is also a priority for the Global Gateway strategy.

Global poverty reduction has stagnated, risking a 'lost decade' from 2020 to 2030. Currently, 8.5% of the world's population – nearly 700 million people – live below the extreme poverty line of USD 2.15 per day, with three quarters of these concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa and fragile or conflict-affected regions. The Human Development Index (HDI) has declined for two consecutive years, deviating from previous trends, while inequalities are widening both within and between countries, reversing two decades of progress.

Meanwhile, in 2024 for the first time, over half of the world's population (52.4%) is covered by at least one social protection benefit, up from 42.8% in 2015[52]. In Africa, for instance, the share of the population covered by at least one social protection benefit increased from 15% in 2015 to 19% in 2023. However, there are still 3.8 billion people without access to a social protection scheme providing income support or access to social services, both crucial for leaving poverty behind.

Poverty is multidimensional, affecting different aspects of well-being, including health, education, living standards, rights and empowerment, work quality and security, and the environment. Therefore, the thematic chapters on human development contribute in various meaningful ways to the multi-fold objective of poverty reduction.

[52] According to latest ILO figures World Social Protection Report 2024-26: Universal social protection for climate action and a just transition | International Labour Organization.

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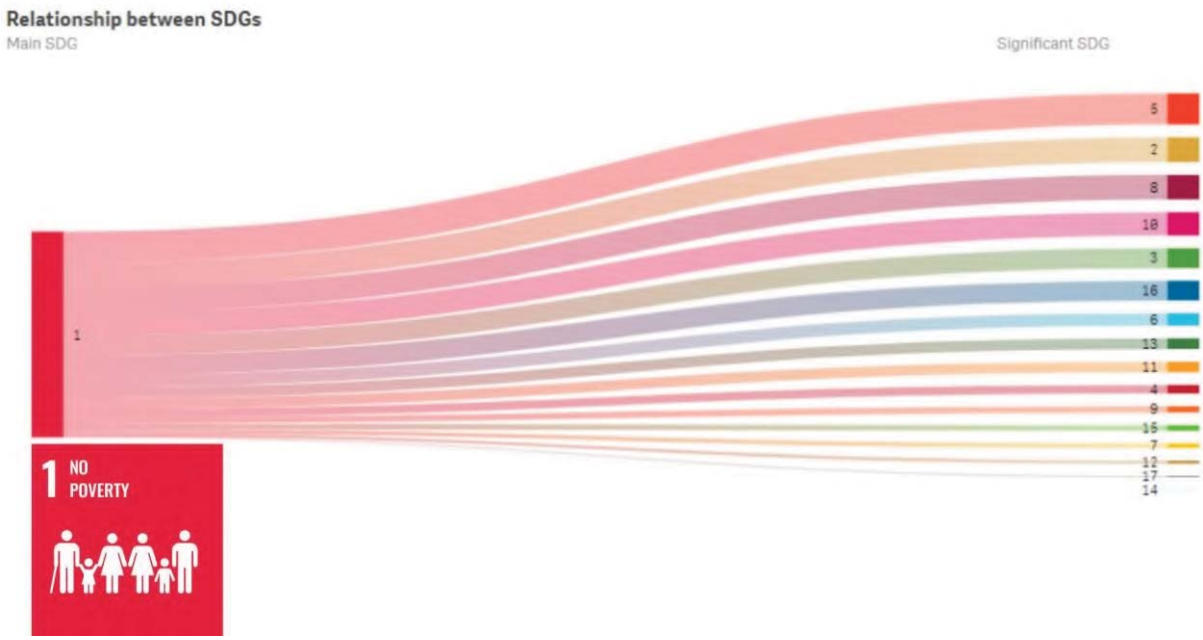
In this regard, the Commission[53] is well on track to achieve the NDICI-Global Europe spending target of allocating over 2021-2027 at least 20 % of its official development assistance (ODA) to social inclusion and human development from 2021 to 2027. According to the latest figures, the percentage rose to 32% over 2021-2024, driven by a substantial increase in activity in Sub-Saharan Africa and major commitments under the Global Challenges programme.

Those contributions to the spending target on social inclusion and human development have enabled measures to reduce poverty and inequalities and reinforce social cohesion and access to basic social services. This encompasses efforts to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, ensure access to water and sanitation, and promote universal social protection and health coverage, universal access to quality education and training, and decent work for all within a healthy environment.

With regards to SDG target 1.3 on social protection, the EU has continued supporting long-term national social protection system-building. At country level, some 50 country multiannual indicative programmes for 2021-2027 have integrated social protection in their priority areas, focusing on policy development, expansion of coverage, digital management information systems, shock-responsive and adaptive social protection, and social protection in the informal economy or across the humanitarian-development nexus.

Two regional Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs) also focus on poverty reduction, 'Social Protection in Sub-Saharan Africa', officially launched in 2024, and 'Inclusive and Equal Societies' in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a focus on promoting social cohesion. Finally, the EU is supporting digital interoperability standards on social protection, which is expected to have an impact in terms of more efficient national social protection schemes and better data on their impact on poverty reduction.

Figure 1. SDG 1 – interlinkages with other goals



[53] More specifically the Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships.

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The total of commitments for SDG 1 on poverty reduction under NDICI-Global Europe in 2024 amounts to EUR 1.46 billion. Figure 1 above shows main synergies between SDG 1 with a broad range of other significant SDGs (numbers on the right), notably SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 2 on zero hunger, SDG8 on decent work and economic growth and SDG 10 on reduced inequalities.

3.1.2. SDG #2 Zero hunger

End hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Food security and nutrition have been at the centre of geopolitical and geo-economics agendas since the start of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. With 294 million people experiencing acute food insecurity across 53 countries or territories[54]. Of these, Sudan, Palestine**, South Sudan, Haiti and Mali remain the hunger hotspots of highest concern. Growing food insecurity and malnutrition are triggered by the interplay of conflict, weather extremes and economic risks operating in different contexts across Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America. To counteract these challenges, the EU and its Member States are delivering a comprehensive response comprising solidarity, production, trade, and multilateralism, backed by a commitment of EUR 18 billion in grants for the period 2021-2024.

The EU mobilised around EUR 730 million in humanitarian food and nutrition assistance in 2024, (9% more than 2023). These funds were mostly channelled through multilateral institutions and primarily directed to countries most affected by food insecurity. In Palestine**, this assistance increased around 2.4 times compared to 2023, and almost 33 times with respect to 2022, before the outbreak of the recent conflict. Chad, Lebanon and Haiti also saw significant increases. In 2024, the EU supported 109 humanitarian projects having nutrition as main or significant objective in 36 countries targeting about 32 million beneficiaries. The total amount for this was around EUR 670 million. The Programmatic Partnership approach was often used to ensure the predictability of funding and to promote a more strategic response.

Global Gateway spearheaded investment in more resilient and sustainable agri-value chains, for example through private-sector engagement in Western Kenya targeting 40 000 small-scale farmers for improved production through sustainable agricultural practices, including agroecology. In Somalia, a EUR 20 million initiative was launched to support sustainable nutrition-sensitive agri-food systems by renewing irrigation infrastructure and by strengthening key value chains such as maize, cowpeas, sesame and sorghum.

2024 also marked the beginning of a new phase of the DeSIRA initiative with two new components aimed at setting up regional research and learning networks on agroecology, and at scaling up innovation through partnerships with small-scale farmers and SMEs in West, Central, East Africa and Indian Ocean islands.

The EU remains fully engaged in ensuring a decent living income for cocoa farmers while tackling social and environmental challenges. Under the Sustainable Cocoa Initiative a significant milestone

[54] Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC) 2024

** This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

was reached with a specific annex on cocoa included in the discussion leading to a Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement with Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana.

A decade since the launch of the EU's action plan on nutrition, the Commission published in 2024 its eighth progress report showing that the EUR 2.5 billion pledge made at Nutrition for Growth in 2021 had been surpassed by EUR 1.9 billion and that the EU's pledge to reduce stunting in children under five by 7 million by 2025 was on track in the 40 baseline countries.

Finally, the EU reaffirmed its commitment to food security through the December 2024 Council Conclusions[55], continuing to showcase its engagement and leadership at multilateral level. In 2024, the EU engaged in relevant events and platforms – contributing, for example, to the G7 and G20 work agendas and UNFCCC COP29.

16 000 ha of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU support[56].

3.1.3. SDG #3 Good health and well-being

In 2024, the EU continued implementing the Global Gateway strategy, of which health is a pillar, as well as the EU Global Health Strategy, presented at the end of 2022 and endorsed by the Council Conclusions on Global Health in January 2024[57]. Recognising the global health agenda as an essential pillar of its external foreign policy, the EU focused on strengthening health systems, preventing and combating health threats, including epidemic outbreaks, and promoting the advancement of universal health coverage to ensure that everyone has access to high-quality health services without financial hardship.

At the global level, the European Commission provided support for global health initiatives (GHIs), such as the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (Gavi), the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF), the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and the Universal Health Coverage Partnership Programme (UHC-P).

With this support, for example, the EU contributed to Gavi's roll-out of the new malaria vaccine in 16 countries, the work of the GF to help 6 million people annually, and the Pandemic Fund's support to strengthen disease surveillance and early-warning systems, upgrade laboratories and build the health workforce.

Throughout 2024, the European Commission also advocated for greater synergies among the GHIs, promoting the Lusaka Agenda and its main five key shifts. Partnerships have been strengthened between Gavi, the Global Fund and Unitaid.

[55] Council Conclusions 16901/24, 16 December 2024. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-16901-2024-INIT/en/pdf

[56] Results achieved by interventions under the current multiannual financial framework (2021-2027). For further information, please refer to Chapter 6 on results.

[57] Council Conclusions 5908/24, 29 January 2024. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-5908-2024-INIT/en/pdf

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Three new TEIs focused on health were launched: the TEI on sustainable health security following the One Health approach; the TEI on digital health for health systems strengthening and universal health coverage; and the TEI on support to public health institutes in Africa.

The roll-out of the Global Gateway strategy was prominent in 2024. The TEI on manufacturing and access to vaccines, medicines and health technology products in Africa (MAV+) made significant progress in creating an enabling environment, increasing demand, and improving supply. One example of this is the support for mRNA technology at Afrigen Biologics in South Africa, through the World Health Organization (WHO) mRNA technology transfer and research hub and network. The New SafeBirth Africa Regional programme was also selected as a Global Gateway flagship project under the TEI on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Support for development of the health sector in several fragile countries, including Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mauritania, Ethiopia, Ghana and Sudan, helped reduce maternal and infant mortality, improve primary healthcare and quality of care, support the health workforce and improve health systems resilience, with a focus on the most vulnerable populations.

Addressing public health issues and strengthening health systems and governance, including social protection and assistance, remained a key EU objective, for the Neighbourhood and Enlargement region as well as further afield. The regional project 'Strengthening health systems resilience in the Western Balkans' aims to strengthen all-hazard emergency response capacities, helping to reform health financing systems to ensure universal health coverage, and increasing vaccination levels.

In 2024, the EU's humanitarian health assistance accounted for EUR 357 million worldwide, following a cross-sectoral, needs-based and integrated approach. Some examples of life-saving care in humanitarian and conflict-affected contexts included fostering access to primary healthcare, reproductive health and medical responses to gender-based violence, mental-health and psychosocial support, trauma care and rehabilitation. A significant effort of the EU's humanitarian health assistance in 2024, complemented by the work of Relief EU (former European Humanitarian Response Capacity) and the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, has contributed to epidemic preparedness and response to address the cholera, mpox and Marburg outbreaks on the African continent.

The EU continued to advocate for the protection of health workers and infrastructure and for compliance with international humanitarian law in conflicts in 2024, for example through a dedicated side event during Protection of Civilians Week 2024. Likewise, the EU was engaged in raising awareness and contributed towards the provision of quality mental-health and psychosocial support in humanitarian settings, notably at the conference to mark 30 years of the International Federation of the Red Cross Psychosocial Centre.

3.1.4. SDG #4 Quality education

Figure 2. SDG 4 – interlinkages with other goals

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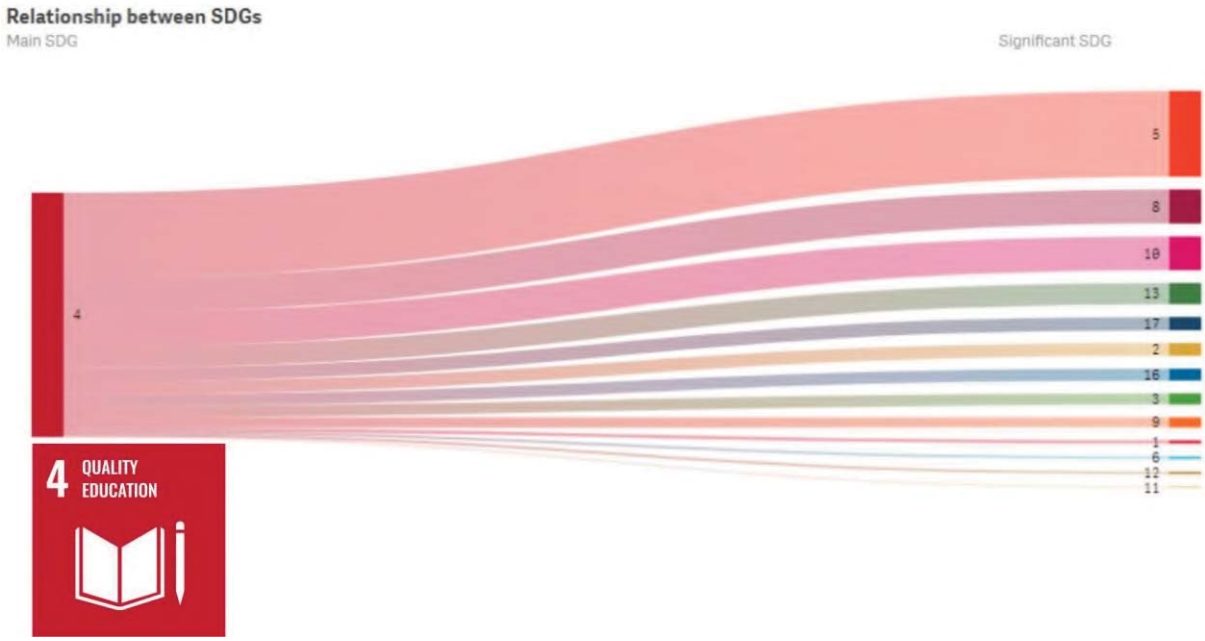

The total of commitments for SDG 4 on quality education under NDICI-Global Europe in 2024 amounts to EUR 865.69 million. Figure 2 above shows main synergies between SDG 4 with a broad range of other significant SDGs (numbers on the right), notably between SDG 4 and SDG 5 on gender equality (EUR 810.77 million), SDG 8 on decent work (EUR 323 million) and SDG 10 on reduced inequalities (EUR 319.9 million).

Education is key enabler for all SDGs, an equaliser of inequalities and driver of prosperity. The EU Global Gateway strategy recognises that economic growth depends on an educated, skilled workforce.

EU investments focused on teachers and learning, equitable and inclusive education systems and 21st century skills that enable partner countries to maximise the digital and green transitions. By investing in the 'Global Partnership for Education' and 'Education Cannot Wait', the EU and its Member States – together in a 'Team Europe' approach – strengthened this focus in the extensive EU education and training support which they provided in 80 partner countries.

The Regional Teachers Initiative for Africa started with actions in 22 Sub-Saharan Africa countries. Investments of EUR 8 million include six grants for teaching in fragile contexts and eight grants for innovative solutions for teacher education, both benefiting six countries.

In April, the EU organised a Global Gateway High-Level Education event, highlighting its role in transforming global education and bridging skills gaps. A key focus was also on vocational education and training (VET) as essential drivers of inclusive and decent employment. As part of the EU's approach, VET is a way of ensure the feasibility and sustainability of Global Gateway investments. Employment remained the central to all VET interventions, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Western Balkans.

The 'VET Toolbox 2' supported demand-driven skills development in 11 Sub-Saharan African countries, to align with value chain developments under the Global Gateway. To date, 4 273 participants have been trained. 93% of firms rated the training as relevant to their needs, demonstrating the project's demand-driven approach and alignment with industry requirements.

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The Western Balkans school exchange scheme is a regional initiative that helps young people to develop their skills and knowledge in the Western Balkans. It enhances education systems and promotes cooperation by building schools' capacities to develop and implement quality school exchange projects. In total, 2 265 students took part in exchange activities while 1 950 students were involved in local outreach activities associated with the action. In addition, 77 school partnerships were set up, involving 154 schools. A new phase of the scheme was launched in 2024.

The EU continued to be a strong champion of children's right to education in crisis contexts. In 2024, the EU allocated 10% of its initial humanitarian aid budget to education in emergencies and protracted crises, which amounted to over EUR 175 million. This investment enabled access to safe and quality learning for 2.3 million children and adolescents affected by conflicts, displacement and climate-related disasters worldwide.

The EU continued to be a key funder of the Global Education Monitoring Report that published fundamental works on data and analysis such as its 2024/2025 report on leadership in education'[58] and, together with the World Bank, the 2024 edition of the Education Finance Watch[59].

The EU's work on higher education amplified Global Gateway investments, opening learning opportunities through student and staff exchange programmes, and strengthening higher education institutions in partner countries. A review of Erasmus+ capacity-building projects in higher education in Asia concluded that projects made substantial contributions to regional cooperation, strengthening institutional capacity and supporting development across actions and countries. The initiatives have modernised teaching approaches, bolstered digital infrastructure and increased collaboration between universities, industries and governments.

Over 2021-2024, under the NDICI-Global Europe, all actions approved in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific and the Americas and the Caribbean contributed to the education spending target set by the Commissioner for International Partnerships for a total corresponding to 12% out of the total committed amount.

3.1.5. SDG #5 Gender equality

EU external actions contributed to SDG 5 through political and human-rights dialogues, improved gender mainstreaming across all sectors and funding modalities and through ambitious targeted actions. Gender equality has also been a strong priority in multilateral work and key negotiations in the Commission on the Status of Women, the G7, the G20 and the Pact for the Future. The intersection of various forms of marginalisation and vulnerabilities, based on factors such as disability or migration status, was increasingly incorporated into gender-responsive approaches.

In line with the third Gender Action Plan III (GAP III), 2021-2027, the number of external actions with gender equality as a principal or significant objective[60] has increased significantly: from 64.71% in

[58] https://www.unesco.org/gem-report/en/leadership
[59] https://www.unesco.org/gem-report/en/2024efw
[60] The Commission applies the OECD DAC gender equality marker methodology. Significant (marked G1) means that gender equality is a significant objective, but not the principal reason for undertaking the action, while principal (marked G2) means that gender equality is the main objective. For humanitarian aid, the Commission applies its own humanitarian Gender-Age Marker.

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2019 to 82% in 2024. 79% of external actions adopted between 2021 and 2024 have gender equality as a significant or principal objective[61]. For NDICI-Global Europe, between 2021 and 2024, the share of G1 and G2 actions reached 84%, and of those, 4% were marked as G2.

Gender equality objectives are also integrated into Global Gateway initiatives. The EU continued to work with international and development financing institutions to increase gender-lens investing[62] through EFSD+ funded guarantee and blending operations, promoting, amongst others, women's access to finance and entrepreneurship. Of the new guarantees signed in 2024, 71% are gender-mainstreamed.

Women's entrepreneurship and labour market participation are a focus of the 'Investing in Young Businesses in Africa' (IYBA) TEI. In 2024, the IYBA Market Creation Platform programme was signed to support young and growing businesses, in particular women-led ones. The Investment Climate Reform Facility co-funded by the EU strengthened its focus on business environment reforms that work for women. The 'EU 4 Social Inclusion' regional programme in the Western Balkans and Türkiye fosters women's economic empowerment by strengthening their access to managerial and leadership roles, entrepreneurship, employment opportunities (notably in the digital labour market and green transition) and to STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). The programme also seeks to increase access to essential digital services for victims of gender-based violence and to promote legal and policy frameworks to address digital violence.

The EU continued to support global efforts to prevent and eliminate gender-based violence, including. It did this, for example, through new Spotlight Initiative country programmes in Ecuador, Uganda, Sierra Leone and Liberia, and through a regional programme for Africa to combat harmful practices and improve access to and deepen accountability for sexual and reproductive health and rights, and the 'Advocacy, Coalition Building and Transformative Feminist Action to End Violence Against Women' (ACT) programme, implemented in partnerships with UN Women.

Other targeted actions, such as the Eastern Partnership 'EU4Gender Equality' programme, fight gender-discriminatory attitudes and practices in institutional and community spheres, contributing to the prevention of gender-based violence. The WYDE/Women Leadership programme promotes inclusiveness in democratic processes by enhancing the participation of youth and women in all aspects of public life.

Efforts have also continued to include a gender dimension in EU-funded humanitarian aid. The EU allocated approximately EUR 47 million in 2023 from its humanitarian aid budget for targeted actions to prevent, mitigate and respond to gender-based violence in emergencies. A further approximately EUR 31.5 million was allocated to accommodate the sexual and reproductive health and rights needs of women and girls in humanitarian situations.

The EU has applied restrictive measures (sanctions) as part of its gender equality policy tools. In 2024, two packages under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime were adopted in response to sexual and gender-based violence crimes.

l new actions under the MFF 2021-2027 for NDICI-Global Europe, CSFP and IPA III.

[62] Gender lens investing (GLI) is an investment strategy that incorporates gender-based factors into the investment process to promote gender equality and enhance financial performance.

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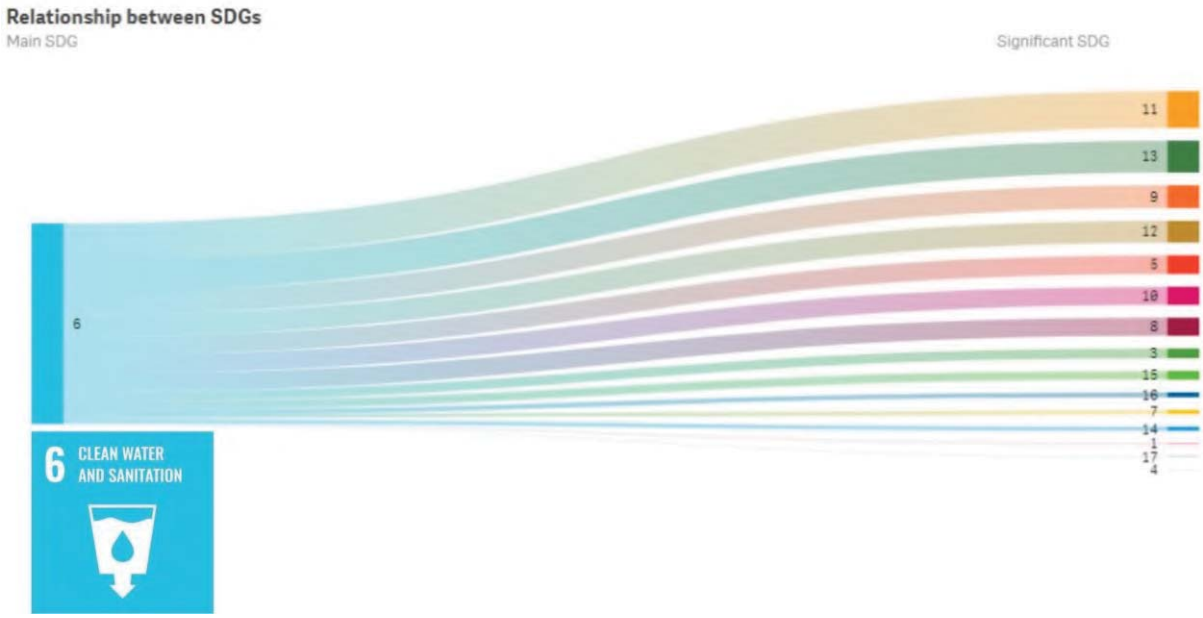
126 000 people benefited from EU-funded programmes to counter sexual and gender-based violence[63].

3.1.6. SDG #6 Clean water and sanitation

Figure 3. SDG 6 – interlinkages with other goals



The total of commitments for SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation under NDICI-Global Europe in 2024 amounts to EUR 266 million. Figure 3 above shows main synergies between SDG 6 with a broad range of other significant SDGs (numbers on the right), notably with SDG 11 on sustainable cities (EUR 181.5 million) and SDG 13 on climate action (EUR 158 million).

The world is currently off-track to meet SDG 6 targets: 2.2 billion people in the world were lacking safely managed drinking water services in 2022[64], i.e. around 200 million more than in 2020, while almost half of the global population lacks safe sanitation.

In 2024, the EU stepped up its commitment to reaching its target of supporting access to an improved drinking water source and/or sanitation facility for 70 million individuals. Activities and Global Gateway investments for water access, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are being implemented in around 50 countries, while the private sector is being mobilised to further increase this reach. The Climate Investor 2 Fund saw the first infrastructure works started or contracted in Vietnam, the Philippines, Mozambique, Mexico and South Africa. In fragile and rural areas like the north of Mozambique, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea and Madagascar, EU programmes are reaching vulnerable populations with sustainable WASH services. In Vietnam, the facility for water and natural

[63] Results achieved by interventions under the current multiannual financial framework (2021-2027). For further information, please refer to Chapter 6 on results.
[64] Latest available figure.

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resources management increased its leverage for AFD concessional loans of up to EUR 450 million from the *Agence Française de Développement.* The aim is to address coastal erosion and water management in river basins and to increase populations' resilience and economic dynamism in vulnerable areas.

The EU also intensified efforts to promote access to WASH services during humanitarian crises. Besides integrating environmental considerations into WASH interventions, emphasis was placed on the human right to water and sanitation at the core of its mandate through the implementation of the EU Human Rights Guidelines on Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation[65].

Under the 2023 UN Water Action Agenda, the EU also committed to improve transboundary cooperation across water basins. Owing to policy outreach and cooperation through TEIs on transboundary water management in Africa and Central Asia, the EU helped extend the global reach of the Water Convention considerably. At the 10th meeting of the Parties, nine new Parties attended for the first time, and 20 countries, mostly in African countries, joined the accession process.

In 2024, the EU continued its enhanced efforts in support to multilateralism on water. As a result, a UNEA-6 resolution on water was adopted on 1 March[66]. Furthermore, a first-ever UN system-wide strategy for water and sanitation was launched on 16 July. Finally, the UN Special Envoy on water took office on 1 November. Preparations started for the next UN Water Conference in 2026, with the UNGA resolution on its modalities adopted on 6 September[67].

The EU and its Southern Neighbours are also parties to the Barcelona Convention and support the Union for Mediterranean (UfM) water policy framework for actions 2030. A UfM ministerial declaration is planned for early 2026 and will include provisions for supporting: the WEFE approach; digitalisation of the water sector; and water finance. In 2024 a new regional project entitled 'Water and Environment Support-Biodiversity and Climate Action' was launched for a three-year period, with a EUR 7 million contribution.

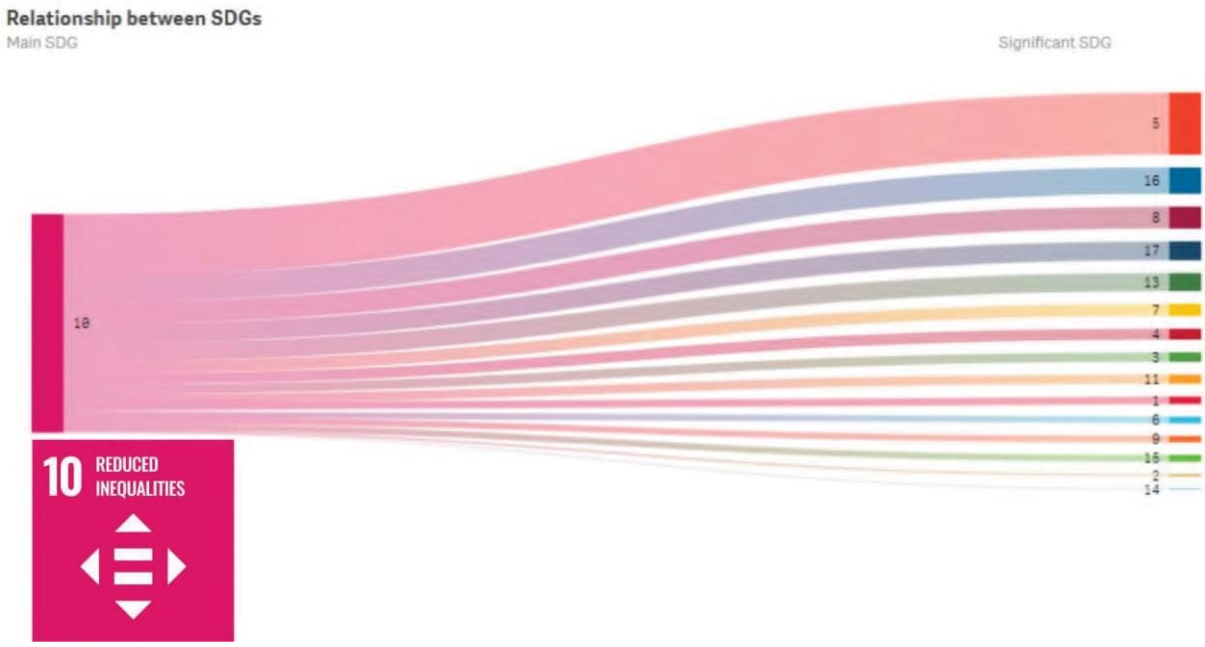
In the Neighbourhood East and Enlargement region, the aim has also been to improve governance leading to regional and sub-regional water resilience. The Water and Environment Support project and the EU4Environment Water and Data programme are supporting more sustainable use of water resources and improving the use of sound environmental data in the Eastern Partnership. In 2024, a EUR 5 million EU guarantee was signed for Azerbaijan, which will leverage EUR 40 million for water and sanitation infrastructure. In the candidate countries and potential candidates, EU for Water in Albania and EU for Modern Wastewater in North Macedonia are examples of programmes that aim to support integrated water management and wastewater pollution reduction.

[65] https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/hr_guidelines_sanitation_en.pdf
[66] UNEP/EA.6/Res.13, 1 March 2024. *Effective and inclusive solutions for strengthening water policies to achieve sustainable development in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution*. https://docs.un.org/en/UNEP/EA.6/RES.13
[67] A/78/L.110, August 2024. *Modalities of the 2026 United Nations Water Conference to Accelerate the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all*. https://docs.un.org/en/A/78/L.110

1 800 000 people could access improved drinking water sources and/or sanitation facilities with EU support[68].

3.1.7. SDG #10 Reduced inequalities

Figure 4. SDG 10 – interlinkages with other goals



The total of commitments for SDG 10 on reduced inequalities under NDICI-Global Europe in 2024 amounts to EUR 3.77 billion. Figure 4 above shows main synergies between SDG 10 with a broad range of other significant SDGs (numbers on the right), notably with SDG 5 on gender equality (EUR 1.07 billion) and SDG 16 on peace and justice (EUR 453.28 billion).

Rising global inequality threatens decades of progress, leaving the vulnerable behind. Only 10% of nations are meeting SDG 10 targets. Post-COVID-19, Human Development Index scores have declined in an unprecedented number of countries, with the 2024 report from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) showing continuing deviation from pre-2019 trends. The recovery is projected to be unequal, with the poorest nations suffering most. This multifaceted inequality hinders SDG achievement, fuelling instability and injustice, impacting both Europe and its partner countries.

In 2024, the EU continued to build a multifaceted response to inequalities. First, the EU's Global Gateway strategy offers a framework for addressing inequalities by scaling up investment in key priorities (energy and climate, digital connectivity, transport, health, and education and research), that hold significant potential to reduce inequalities. This approach is grounded in EU values and

[68] Results achieved by interventions under the current multiannual financial framework (2021-2027). For further information, please refer to Chapter 6 on results.

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aims to provide comprehensive support across these interconnected priorities (360-degree approach).

Secondly, the EU continued to implement policy measures and programmes to support inequality reduction. This includes efforts against tax evasion and corruption, investment in social protection systems, human development, and education in partner countries. The EU also designed the Team Europe 'Equality Flagship' initiatives in partner countries where inequality is a significant challenge and a political priority. From digitalisation in Kenya to decent work in Bangladesh, these initiatives are transformational in reducing inequality.

The EU has actively monitored its efforts on inequalities, so it can effectively target the most vulnerable. The first Inequality Marker ('I-Marker') was launched to enable the Commission to better understand, track and benchmark its impact on inequalities, across all sectors. After the first year of implementing the Inequality Marker, results show that, among new actions under the responsibility of the Commissioner for International Partnerships committed in 2023, 59% had a substantial focus on reducing inequality (either I-1 or I-2), establishing a strong initial benchmark.

The 2023 Council Conclusions on social, green and digital transition[69] recommended the broadest application of the I-Marker, including in TEIs and with regard to the Global Gateway, and encouraged EU Member States to use it. France and Spain adopted it in 2024.

The Gender Action Plan III ensures full, equal and meaningful participation for all women and girls. The human-rights-based approach (HRBA) puts rights-holders at the centre of EU cooperation. Through its Global Health Strategy, the EU works to put SDG 3 on good health and well-being back on track. And with the first-ever Youth Action Plan, the EU supports young people in leading the global change by engaging, empowering and connecting them.

The EU strategy for the rights of people with disabilities promotes the inclusion of persons with disabilities in external action. Progress in this area continues, and as measured by the OECD Disability Marker, 46% of new commitments in 2024 paid attention to their inclusion.

Social protection reduces inequality through redistribution and ensures equal opportunities. It supports just transitions by providing income security and mitigating negative impacts on livelihoods. The EU is committed to supporting robust social protection systems that go beyond basic poverty programmes. This is done through comprehensive approaches that combine budget support, technical assistance, policy dialogue, and cooperation with various stakeholders. The EU advocates for progressive universal access, leveraging its own experience with strong social security systems. In 2024, the EU continued its support for the SOCIEUX+ facility, launched a project supporting the Digital Convergence Initiative, and initiated the TEI on Social Protection in Sub-Saharan Africa.

1 900 000 migrants, refugees and internally displaced people or individuals from host communities were protected or assisted with EU support[70].

[69] Council Conclusions 15732/23, 21 November 2023. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-15732-2023-INIT/en/pdf

[70] Results achieved by interventions under the current multiannual financial framework (2021-2027). For further information, please refer to Chapter 6 on results.

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3.1.8. Other major achievements

To showcase the progress on the Youth Action Plan in EU external action (2022-2027), the EU organised the Global Gateway High-Level Youth Event which reinforced partnerships with young people and explored synergies between the Global Gateway and youth engagement. Furthermore, several initiatives were launched.

The Youth Empowerment Fund backed youth-led solutions for achieving the UN SDGs. It included youth engagement mechanisms like the Youth Panel, which advised on funding allocation. The first call for proposals received over 10 000 submissions.

The Africa-Europe Youth Academy strengthened youth capacities and opportunities. One component launched a leadership programme under a 'Team Europe' approach (France, Italy).

The Women and Youth in Democratic Engagement initiative supported young people's participation in decision-making, political processes and civic movements. Over 50 sub-grants in 30 countries enabled young people to organise concrete local actions.

The fourth 'Bridging the Gap' event, held in Albania in February 2024, was co-organised by the European Commission and the European Parliament's Young Political Leaders Programme. Returning to the region after 2018, it brought together parliamentarians and youth organisations to discuss youth policies, EU enlargement, disinformation and green and digital transitions.

In culture, the 'ACP-EU Programme towards a viable cultural industry' continued to support more than 143 projects across Sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, fostering socio-economic development. Continued support for the audiovisual sector highlighted the growing recognition of filmmakers, promoting intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity.

The EU-UNESCO Expert Facility assisted policymaking to enhance the creative industries' role in sustainable development. With 89 selected experts, technical assistance was launched in eight partner countries. Regional workshops for the 'UNESCO Culture | 2030 Indicators' programme involved 31 countries, with 10 set to implement the framework.

3.2. Green Deal

3.2.1. SDG #7 Affordable and clean energy

In line with the European Green Deal, the Commission continued to support actions in partner countries to increase sustainable energy access and decarbonise the energy sector.

In November 2024, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa launched the campaign 'Scaling up Renewables in Africa', aiming at new commitments to boost renewable power generation in Africa. The TEI 'Africa-EU Green Energy Initiative' progressed well with the completion of the rehabilitation of the Kariba Dam in Zambia[71], progress on the Zambia-Tanzania-Kenya interconnector and the inauguration of the Boundiali solar plant in Ivory Coast. TEIs supporting renewable hydrogen were launched in Namibia and Mauritania.

[71] In August 2024, the EU-funded part of this rehabilitation project was completed. The rest of the rehabilitation not funded by the EU should be completed in 2025.

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In Central Asia, progress has been made with the Rogun Hydropower Project in Tajikistan, which will serve as an anchor for a regional electricity market, as well as the Kambar Ata dam project in Kyrgyzstan. In South Asia, work continued on the Regional Energy Connectivity Global Gateway flagship project, aimed at increasing cross-border trading in electricity. In Southeast Asia, work started on the development of the ASEAN Power Grid focusing on the regional energy market and infrastructure planning.

In Latin America, the EU introduced a regional initiative on electricity integration, including projects such as the Peru-Ecuador interconnection and a European Investment Bank financing facility for Central America. Through Euroclima, a regional programme promoting mitigation and adaptation to climate change, the EU continued to support green hydrogen activities in the region.

Investments in energy interconnectivity between the Eastern Neighbourhood and the EU help mitigate energy dependencies and address vulnerabilities related to climate change impacts, environmental challenges and hybrid threats. The investments focus on green finance, diversifying energy sources and supply routes, deploying renewable energy and synchronising electricity markets. In Moldova, in 2024, energy efficiency solutions in public buildings were implemented and two new projects were launched to support energy efficiency in residential housing. Since 2023, the regional energy efficiency programme in the Western Balkans has blended policy support with loans, technical assistance and incentives to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy investment. This integrated package has reached over 1 000 SMEs, 16 000 households, and 400 public buildings across 700 cities and towns.

As part of the greening of humanitarian aid, the European Commission[72] continued to implement a series of innovation projects, worth EUR 1.2 million in 2024. Within the scope of these greening projects, partners are encouraged to consider greener solutions for energy generation such as solar panels instead of fossil fuel generators for well pumps and schools.

The Commission is also an active member of the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM), which is a clean energy leadership platform to accelerate clean energy transitions. The Commission is a co-lead in multiple initiatives under CEM, such as the campaign on sustainable lifestyles, fairness and access to clean energy technologies and the empowering people initiative.

3.2.2. SDG #11 Sustainable cities and communities

SDG 11 recognises the central role cities play in economic development and innovation while highlighting the need to address environmental and social challenges. Its successful implementation can lead to improved living conditions, better urban governance, and more sustainable growth.

Cities, which currently house over half of the world's population, are projected to accommodate two thirds of humanity by 2050, with developing countries accounting for 90% of the upcoming global urban growth. They are the locus of major threats but also the biggest potential for attaining the SDGs. Additionally, metropolitan areas are becoming increasingly strategic hubs, along major regional economic corridors. Finally, for displaced populations worldwide, they offer shelter and multiple opportunities. To support functioning cities that can deliver on the various aspects mentioned above, the EU encourages a more cohesive strategy for productive, sustainable and inclusive urban development, in cooperation with local actors and authorities, service providers and the private sector.

[72] More specifically DG ECHO, the Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection.

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In 2024, urban investments were supported through blending (e.g. urban mobility in Senegal and solid waste management in Ecuador) and technical assistance in project preparation and engagement with counterparts (knowledge partners, international financial institutions and implementing authorities), mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Neighbourhood. The EU also started the first NDICI-Global-Europe-funded Sub-Saharan Africa urban intervention for the integration of displaced communities.

Achieving the ambitions of the Global Gateway strategy and the Green Deal relies on actions within and by cities. Local government plays a crucial role in fulfilling SDG 11 and many other SDGs. The European Commission worked to enhance connections between EU cities and those in partner countries. The city-to-city partnerships for sustainable urban development have led to the creation of 57 partnerships that engage in various aspects of sustainable urban progress. This was complemented by the global International Urban and Regional Cooperation programme.

The European Commission co-founded the Global Covenant of Mayors initiative, which involves cities that pledge to implement sustainable energy policies and engage in local actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Currently, the Global Covenant includes over 11 500 cities across 140 countries. In 2024, agreement was reached on funding for its fourth phase in Sub-Saharan Africa, with roll-out set for 2025. In 2024, the EU also renewed its support for the 'MobiliseYourCity' partnership, which aims to provide clean transport solutions for urban mobility. Deploying sustainable mobility in urban contexts helps decarbonise the transport sector and cities.

Urban preparedness is a key focus area for the EU, demonstrated through its investment in Malawi and Zimbabwe. In Malawi, the EU collaborates with UNDP, while in Zimbabwe, it partners with a consortium of the World Food Programme and the International Federation of the Red Cross to strengthen resilience in rapidly urbanising yet fragile contexts. These initiatives aim to mitigate risks, save lives, and enhance the capacity of urban communities to withstand future disasters. One such intervention is the implementation of Urban Cash Transfer programmes, which provide vulnerable urban households with crucial support. In Zimbabwe, economic instability and disasters – such as cyclones and pandemics – severely impact urban livelihoods, particularly for informal workers. By addressing these challenges, the EU helps with building safer and more resilient urban environments.

3.2.3. SDG #12 Responsible consumption and production

The EU is committed to promoting sustainable consumption and production (SCP) in its international partnerships, as an essential contribution to SDG 12. Supporting decarbonised circular economic development models that are more efficient in the use of energy and natural resources is critical to achieving sustainable development within planetary boundaries. It is also a central objective of the new EU Clean Industrial Deal. EU international partnerships in these areas focus mainly on developing awareness and knowledge of the green/circular-economy transition, supporting enabling policies and institutional frameworks for the circular economy, promoting circular business development in key value chains and mobilising finance for the global circular-economy transition. Contributions to responsible consumption and production also derive from EU actions addressing a range of other SDGs, notably SDGs 8 (decent work and economic growth), 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), 13 (climate change) and 14 (terrestrial ecosystems).

At global level, the EU has supported multilateral dialogues, civil society engagement, knowledge-sharing and action to pilot circularity in global value chains, notably through the UN Partnership on

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Green Economy (PAGE), the Green Economy Coalition, the Green Growth Knowledge Platform (GGKP) and the Switch to Circular Value Chains programme.

At regional and country level, the EU has supported a growing number of non-EU countries, to promote SCP and the transition to green and circular economies. In 2024, over 100 countries worldwide benefited from EU support in relation with SCP and the circular economy. This support was given through country programmes and regional programmes, including regional SWITCH programmes in Asia and the Mediterranean, the AL-INVEST Verde programme in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the EU for Environment for the East Neighbourhood.

In 2024, at the World Circular Economy Forum, the Commissioner for International Partnerships launched two innovative programmes: the SWITCH programme to support circular economy in Eastern and Central Africa, and the Circular Economy Resource Centre that will promote peer-to-peer partnerships between private and public actors in the EU and in non-EU countries to promote the uptake of sound circular business models and policies.

In 2024, the EU also supported the African Union Commission in developing Africa's first continental roadmap on circular economy. It also provided support for the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency, the Africa Circular Economy Alliance, the LAC Coalition on Circular Economy, and regional platforms on circular economy in South-East Asia and Central Europe.

3.2.4. SDG #13 Climate action

Climate change is a key priority for the EU's external action. A major component in the EU's engagement with partner countries is the roll-out of TEIs, as part of the Global Gateway strategy.

Together, the EU, its Member States and the European Investment Bank constitute the biggest contributor to public climate finance for developing economies. In 2023, they provided EUR 28.6 billion in public finance, with a further EUR 7.2 billion in private finance mobilised to support international climate action.

The EU has integrated climate change and the environment into all its policies. The EU has set over 2021-2027 a spending target of 30% of NDICI-Global Europe funds to contribute to climate objectives. Over 2021-2024, under the NDICI-Global Europe, all decided actions contributed to the climate spending target for a total corresponding to 25% out of the total committed amount.

In 2024, the EU continued to be a global leader in the green transition, for instance through active participation at the UNFCCC COP29, where a new collective quantified goal (NCQG) for climate finance was agreed on. This will provide a crucial framework for mobilising the financial resources needed to support developing countries. Next to the NCQG, the EU also takes up an active role in the negotiations of the implementation of the UNFCCC Just Transition Work programme. This programme is meant to assess, design and scale up pathways to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement in a way that is just and equitable for all, leaving no one behind. The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage, to which the EU pledged EUR 25 million, began its operational work, with the EU and Ireland sharing a seat on the Board.The Covenant of Mayors East, an EU-funded project promoting the EU's climate and energy initiative in Eastern Partnership countries, was showcased at COP29 as well. New signatories committed to reducing CO_2 emissions by at least 30% by 2030.

The TEI on Adaptation and Resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa made further progress, strengthening adaptation and resilience through innovative mechanisms. These included support for the Global Shield against Climate Risks Initiative, the Africa-EU space partnership programme and African Risk

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Capacity through which Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe received support to respond to the severe drought caused by El Niño. As part of this TEI, the EU has continued to contribute to the Adaptation Fund (EUR 100 million). In South Asia, the EU allocated EUR 12 million to support disaster risk reduction through Earth observation and climate services, and it will work with South Asian countries to build their national capacities. The EU remained committed to championing methane emissions reduction through additional support to the Global Methane Pledge.

In 2024 the EU launched new programmes to support the Great Green Wall (GGW) initiative, aiming to restore 100 million hectares of degraded land and sequester 250 million tonnes of carbon, while improving food security in the Sahel.

The EU continues to factor climate and environmental risk considerations into humanitarian operations[73]. In 2024, the Commission allocated EUR 79.6 million to disaster preparedness activities including for support for communities to prepare for the impacts of climate change.

3.2.5. SDG #14 Life below water

Progress has been slow in addressing threats and impacts, including pollution, eutrophication, overfishing, loss of biodiversity and ecosystems, and climate change. Most SDG 14 targets will not be reached by the deadline.

The ocean is an increasingly important aspect of EU diplomacy and cooperation, hence the EU's commitment to doubling external funding for biodiversity over 2021-2027. In 2024, the EU maintained a high level of commitment towards achieving SDG 14 targets. It prepared for ratification of the 'High Sea Treaty'[74], and maintained its position on deep-seabed mining: it should not start until: (i) we have sufficient scientific evidence that deep-sea ecosystems will not be damaged by mining; and (ii) the regulations governing exploitation contain provisions for the effective protection of the marine environment. The EU has continued its fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including through bilateral dialogues with third countries and the implementation of the catch certification scheme.

The EU renewed its financial support for regional fisheries bodies to improve the sustainability of fisheries worldwide. It also adopted several regional external action programmes focusing on ocean governance, sustainable aquatic food systems, sustainable use, conservation and observation, through an integrated approach. For example, a EUR 40 million Global Ocean programme was adopted to support the involvement of partner countries in the conservation and sustainable use of the high seas, as were several regional programmes to strengthen ocean governance, sustainable blue economy and conservation in the Pacific (EUR 20 million), the Western Indian Ocean (EUR 58 million), and Central Africa (EUR 42 million), complementing the two regional programmes adopted in 2023 in West and Southern Africa. The EU also allocated EUR 7 million to support ocean prediction capacities in Sub-Saharan Africa, in alignment with the SDG 14 target on developing research capacity and transferring marine technology. In the Mediterranean region, through the Water and Environment Support – Biodiversity and Climate Action (WES-BCA) programme, the EU continued to support marine and coastal ecosystem conservation and pollution reduction through wastewater treatment, marine litter reduction and the fight against single-use plastics. The EU also

[73] COM(2021) 110 final, 10 March 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/hacommunication2021.pdf
[74] Agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), adopted in June 2023.

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collaborates closely with its Black Sea neighbours under the Common Maritime Agenda, continuing activities such as the EU4EMBLAS environmental monitoring project.

These programmes are complemented by a wide range of national-level programmes all around the globe, from mangrove protection and management to reduction of pollution from land-based sources and developing sustainable blue economy activities.

3.2.6. SDG #15 Life on Land

Figure 5. SDG 15 – interlinkages with other goals

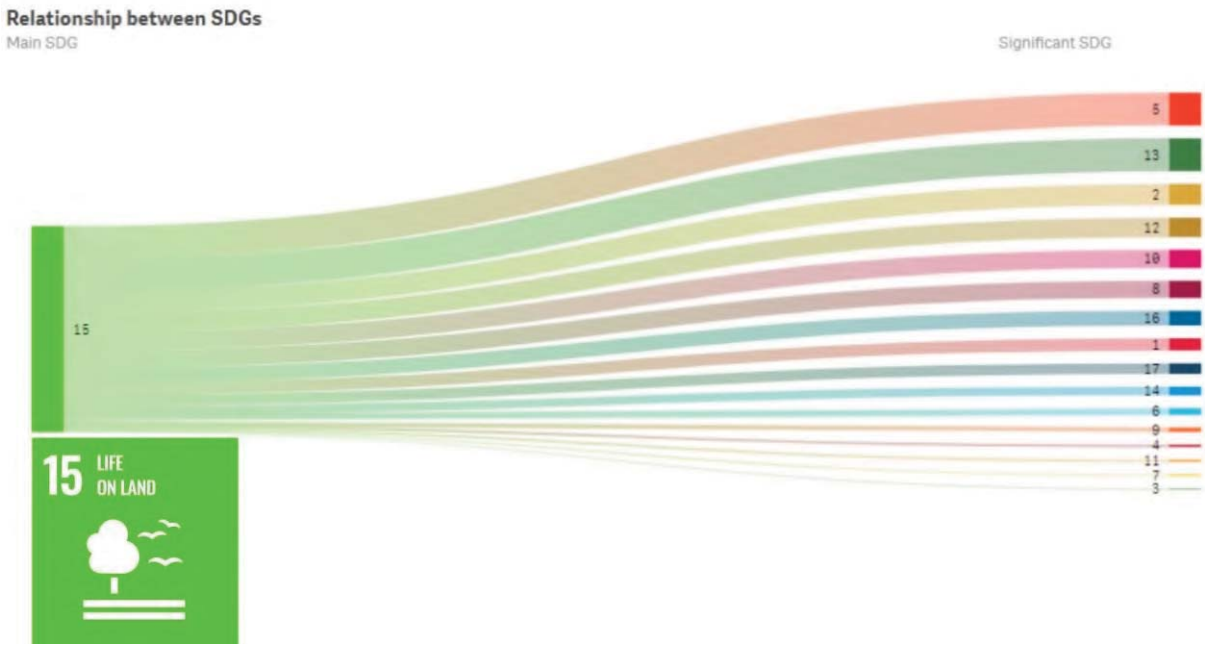

Figure 5 shows the total amount of commitments for SDG 15 life on land (EUR 371.49 million) under NDICI-Global Europe in 2024 and its contribution to other significant SDGs. The graph shows main synergies between SDG 15 and SDG 5 on gender equality (EUR 356.8 million) and SDG 13 on climate action (EUR 356.6 million).

In line with its ambition of doubling external biodiversity funding to EUR 7 billion for the period 2021-2027, the Commission has already mobilised EUR 3. 847 billion for biodiversity over 2021-2024 (including NDICI-Global Europe and IPA), supporting interventions that benefit people, nature and sustainable economies.

Following the adoption of the ambitious Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) at the UN Biodiversity COP15 in 2022, the EU increased its support for partners. At the UN Biodiversity COP16, it launched a EUR 27 million global programme to combat wildlife trafficking and a EUR 69 million package on capacity development for GBF implementation. The latter will support a wide range of stakeholders. For example, it will support: national administrations in mobilising biodiversity funding; scientific institutions in enhancing biodiversity monitoring, reporting and policymaking; and civil society in protecting nature in biodiversity hotspots while promoting empowerment and rights recognition for indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation.

Further to the signing, at presidential level, of six Forest Partnerships in the margins of UNFCCC COP27 and COP28, the EU signed a new Forest Partnership with Gabon in 2024. Forest Partnerships

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are designed to address global challenges such as climate change and biodiversity loss, while meeting socio-economic development objectives through the promotion of forest-related value chains and sustainable trade in wood products.

The Commission furthered its work on forest law enforcement, governance and trade (FLEGT), notably via voluntary partnership agreements, which have improved governance and regulatory frameworks leading to greater transparency, greater accountability and more sustainable forest management. Thanks to the work done on FLEGT licences in 2024, Ghana is set to become the second country globally and first in Africa to issue FLEGT licences.

Launched at UNFCCC COP28, the TEI on Deforestation-free Value Chains was scaled up to EUR 86 million. The SAFE pillar was extended to Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Indonesia, Peru, Uganda, Vietnam and Zambia.

The Commission promoted an integrated landscape approach through its NaturAfrica initiative to protect biodiversity, support territorial governance and the green economy in Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2024, the EU expanded NaturAfrica's support to 117 700 km^2 of protected areas across 45 African countries. Under the 'Sustainable Wildlife Management' programme, the EU supported the development of innovative models for conservation and sustainable management of wild species covering 34 521 km^2.

The EU continued to support the African-led Great Green Wall initiative in the Sahel and Horn of Africa. At UNCCD COP16 (Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification), the Commission launched Phase II of the Regreening Africa programme, its central land restoration initiative for the region.

In Peru, the Commission, along with the Peruvian government and international donors, launched a pilot project to assess potential and challenges relating to biodiversity certification and nature credits.

In the Southern Neighbourhood, the Commission is contracting a regional project on forest genetic resources conservation which will be implemented by the European Forest Institute.

In the Eastern Partnership countries, the 'EU4Environment' programme continued to focus on sustainable management of forests and land-based resources through community engagement, strengthening timber trade controls, and conserving/restoring natural capital by developing guidelines and management plans for Emerald sites(75). Country-specific activities were launched to advance the Emerald Network in Ukraine.

In the Western Balkans region, the 'EU4Green' programme focuses on protected areas in floodplains, and conservation of diversity of species, habitats and ecosystems, including endemic species and areas of pristine nature.

Attention was also given in all candidate countries to supporting legislative alignment with the EU Nature Directives.

Network is a pan-European network of protected sites. It consists of the Areas of Special Conservation interest (ASCI) designated under the Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats. Protected areas networks | Biodiversity Information System for Europe

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14 500 km^2 of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems were under protection with EU support[76].

3.2.7. Other major achievements

The Multiannual Indicative Programme 2021-2027 of the European Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC) finalised a mid-term review in 2024. The review concluded that the programme's priorities were fit for purpose, so did not need to be amended for 2025-2027.

In 2024, INSC activities in Ukraine continued to be implemented with limited implementation delays despite Russia's unprovoked war of aggression since February 2022 and the subsequent war-related hardship conditions, such as insecurity and frequent electricity blackouts. The INSC-funded programmes in Ukraine remained persistent in meeting the needs of our partners under challenging and constantly evolving conditions, underlining how Ukraine has remained a priority for the EU and the Instrument. Our support has included restoring stolen, looted and destroyed nuclear and radiation-protection-related infrastructure in Ukraine. These achievements are the result of the determination and resilience of the Ukrainian beneficiaries, the implementing partners and the coordination efforts of the EU through its support organisations in Ukraine.

Beyond Ukraine, the EU continued its cooperation in the field of nuclear safety, radioactive waste management and nuclear safeguards around the world. In particular, it pursued its commitment under Annex 3[77] to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPoA) relating to civil nuclear cooperation with Iran, for instance through the delivery of monitoring equipment. The EU also continued to address the environmental remediation of the legacy of former uranium mining sites in Central Asia via the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, through the Environmental Remediation Account. Three sites have been fully remediated so far (Min-Kush and Shekaftar in Kyrgyzstan and Charkesar in Uzbekistan).

3.3. Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

3.3.1. SDG #9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Research and innovation

The EU continued to support research and innovation ecosystems in developing countries, in particular in Sub-Saharan Africa, by focusing on capacity-strengthening and policy frameworks, and innovation and research for informed investment decisions. A Centre of Excellence for Pharmacovigilance was established at the University of Western Cape to provide training for regulators and researchers in the region. With researchers working in 38 African countries, the African Research Initiative for Scientific Excellence (ARISE) has started to produce outcomes,

[76] Results achieved by interventions under the current multiannual financial framework (2021-2027). For further information, please refer to Chapter 6 on results.
[77] https://eeas.europa.eu/archives/docs/statements-eeas/docs/iran_agreement/annex_3_civil_nuclear_cooperation_en.pdf

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including knowledge products, new networks and collaborators, and support for master's and PhD research students.

The ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) Research and Innovation Programme, the 'Valorising Research, Results and Innovation in West Africa' project aims to strengthen the innovation ecosystems in Benin, Burkina Faso, Senegal, and Togo. It supported two incubation centres in Senegal run by the *Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles* and the *Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis*. The incubation centres pool and accelerate the transfer of agricultural and agri-food research technologies and know-how to final users, facilitate purchases of equipment, and provide training for researchers in business creation, intellectual property and innovation management.

The 'STI4SDGs' project assisted five African countries in developing roadmaps for investment in research and innovation supporting value chains and healthcare systems, leveraging research and innovation to enhance food self-sufficiency and optimising food systems in the Gambia and Rwanda.

Global Gateway, digital connectivity, cybersecurity and cyber-resilience

In 2024, the EU continued to strengthen its partnerships to boost secure and human-centric digital transformation with partner countries, in close collaboration with EU Member States, to mobilise investment, facilitate policy dialogue, promote trusted suppliers and enhance capacity-building activities.

Regional programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) aimed at creating a digital single market. In LAC, the Digital Trade Platform with Central America advanced significantly. The Global Gateway TEI on Data Governance in Africa provided a Digital Investment Facility engaging with companies and partners.

The promotion of trusted, secure and resilient connectivity progressed significantly, through joint investments such as the 'Last-Mile Digital Connections to Underserved Areas' in Kenya providing internet for up to 1 300 schools and a Satellite Connectivity TEI in Central Asia. Since its launch at the Global Gateway Forum in October 2023, the Africa Connected Programme started supporting four digital investment initiatives in 2024 across Sub-Saharan Africa.

The second phase of the 'Multilateralism and Digitalisation' (M&D) programme promoted a free, secure cyberspace, responsible artificial intelligence use, resilient connectivity, and enhanced capacity for girls and women.

Digitalisation is key in the Western Balkans' regional market plan, focusing on digital skills, secure infrastructures, business transformation, and public services. In the Eastern Partnership, the EU4Digital programme[78] continued its support for digital transformation, including, among others, roaming efforts in Ukraine and Moldova. To accelerate the digital transition, the EU4Digital programme allocated EUR 15 million in 2024. In 2024, Ukraine adopted a national strategic plan for digital development and transformation.

Digital entrepreneurship, digital and green initiatives

The EU continued to support the twin digital and green transitions. The Africa-Europe Digital Innovation Bridge 2.0 (AEDIB 2.0), part of the Global Gateway Africa-Europe Investment Package, promotes digital innovation, ecosystem development, and access to financial resources.

[78] https://eufordigital.eu/

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The EU also continued to promote an integrated approach to realising the potential of the twin digital and green transitions, notably through the Digital Energy Facility, which provided technical assistance, new seed-financing proposals and awards for start-ups and utilities.

Space technology and Earth observation

In 2024, the EU extended its space partnerships mobilising EU assets in space data, technologies and services. The first phase of the Africa-EU space partnership programme was launched. This is a Global Gateway flagship initiative, establishing a partnership between the African Union (AU) and European space-related institutions – a milestone for EU-Africa cooperation on space and Earth observation. Likewise, the Copernicus mirror site in the Philippines became operational and its regionalisation to two other ASEAN countries was agreed upon, taking forward this important EU-Asia space collaboration.

The EU-LAC Digital Alliance expanded with Belize, Grenada and Guyana joining. This comprehensive cooperation digital framework delivered significant results in 2024, including the launch of the Digital Campus of the Copernicus Panama Centre, the introduction of new services at the Copernicus Chile Centre, policy dialogues, and other significant events on topics including cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and e-governance, in various partner countries from the LAC region.

Sustainable transport

Through the Global Gateway, the EU has supported multi-sectoral investments in road, rail, maritime and air transport, through a 360-degree approach, in all regions of interventions. Up to 2024, 35 transport Global Gateway flagships were submitted – 18 in Sub-Saharan Africa, seven in LAC and eight in Asia and the Pacific, and two at global level.

Efforts were made with stakeholders to enhance connectivity and infrastructure following the 2030 Agenda and the G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment. In Africa, the Global Gateway has targeted trade and transport investments in 12 priority corridors, with 12 operations worth over EUR 3 billion, including an EU contribution of over EUR 300 million. In Asia and the Pacific, focus areas included the Trans-Caspian Corridor, with potential investments in railway and ports in Southeast Asia, while, in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Global Gateway Investment Agenda was prioritised, emphasising urban and interurban mobility, as well as sustainable cargo transport.

In 2024, special attention was also given to the green transition in mobility. The EU encouraged cleaner modes of transport and private-sector involvement. For example, it set up railway working groups, pursued the Global Gateway Green Shipping Corridor initiative, and moved forward on several projects and programmes focused on renewable and low-carbon fuels for maritime transport and sustainable aviation. Dialogue with relevant stakeholders (IFIs and private sector companies and federations) were also fostered in 2024 with a view to strengthening strategic procurement rules and boost EU private-sector involvement in identifying investment opportunities.

3.3.2. Other major achievements

The Digital for Development Hub (D4D Hub) and the Knowledge Hub Digital (KHD)

The EU's Digital for Development (D4D) Hub expanded its role in strengthening the 'Team Europe' approach for digital cooperation and partnerships. It now encompasses 16 Member States, with two additional Member States joining as observers, There is also now a regional branch for EU Neighbouring countries. The D4D Hub continued to facilitate joint digital interventions with the private sector, civil society and academia. The Knowledge Hub Digital (KHD) provide EU Delegations

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and partners with specialist expertise. It delivered technical analysis to advance Global Gateway actions, capacity building and a series of policy dialogues.

E-services, e-governance and skills

In 2024, the EU continued its multilateral collaboration with the International Telecommunication Unit (ITU), UNDP, UNESCO, OHCHR, and the UN Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies (ODET), under the global M&D programme, addressing digital rights, open-source software, capacity building, universal connectivity, and AI.

In 2024, the EU signed the Information and Telecommunications Technologies Standardisation programme with the European standardisation organisations to harmonise and promote secure, high-quality technology standards. The EU also engaged with partners on digital public infrastructure/digital public goods through the UN Joint SDG Fund's Digital Transformation Window.

The regional programme 'Safe Digital Boost for Africa' (SDBA) supported trade and digitalisation towards a sustainable African single digital market with a robust cybersecurity environment, creating space for collaboration with African partners on e-governance, e-commerce and cybersecurity. Other initiatives included the Tallinn Summer School of Cyber Diplomacy and a partnership with Germany to enhance cybersecurity in the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) region.

In December 2022, the EFSD+ Operational Board gave its green light to start the negotiations on 40 guarantee proposals submitted by European development finance institutions for Sub-Saharan Africa, LAC and Asia and the Pacific regions, with the aim of mobilising over EUR 50 billion in sustainable investment. A package of 24 guarantee programmes amounting to EUR 2.4 billion have been endorsed by the EFSD+ Operational Board to support investment – expected to total approximately EUR 17 billion – in the EU's Neighbourhood and Enlargement countries, in priority areas like energy, digital, and private-sector competitiveness.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, implementation of the Global Gateway strategy focused on identifying and preparing investments, mainly along the strategic transport corridors endorsed in 2021. In the Asia and the Pacific region, emphasis was placed on developing the Trans-Caspian Corridor in Central Asia. In addition, investments in urban mobility in India, and railway and ports projects in South-East Asia are under consideration.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, the priority is on implementing the Global Gateway Investment Agenda, launched at the 2023 EU-CELAC Summit, with a focus on urban mobility, railway and regional maritime transport projects involving EU financial institutions.

At a more global level, several initiatives promoted the decarbonisation of transport such as 'MobiliseYourCity', aimed at providing clean transport solutions for urban mobility, promoting the use of renewable and low-carbon fuels for maritime transport, and sustainable aviation fuels. The Global Green Shipping Corridors initiative was also been launched to complement these efforts.

3.4. Sustainable growth and jobs

3.4.1. SDG #8 Decent work and economic growth

In 2024, Commission work combined three complementary structural efforts:

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- supporting implementation of the Global Gateway as the EU's roadmap for delivering on the SDGs, using all available tools to derisk sustainable investment and help provide an environment conducive to it;
- using those tools to increase alignment of programmes and partnerships with the Global Gateway and EU priorities; and
- actively steering work within the Commission, relations with implementing partners, and contacts with Team Europe stakeholders to serve both these objectives.

Some of the main achievements included the conclusion of most of the open negotiations on Open Architecture guarantees under the EFSD+. The results were presented at the ESFD+ strategic and operational boards held in December. These agreements represent the overwhelming majority of the guarantee volume approved for the Open Architecture in 2022. The Commission presented a proposal to the boards for the setting-up of the EIB Investment Window 2, expanding the existing Guarantee Agreement to allow the EIB to engage with commercial sub-sovereign entities. This is a key milestone, ensuring the Commission and the EIB can use the most impactful and appropriate tools in their financing of the Global Gateway. Guarantee agreements already signed continued to deploy investments in challenging economic contexts, impactful sectors and innovative financial mechanisms to provide essential financing for Global Gateway. Examples include digital infrastructure in South Sudan, support for entrepreneurs in Zimbabwe and hydro and solar projects in Bhutan.

Action on critical raw materials (CRMs) was also scaled up. This was confirmed as a top political priority and strategic area of engagement for the new Commission. The aim is to diversify CRM supply to the EU by working with resource-rich countries to jointly address partner countries' development needs and EU strategic interests while supporting the green and digital transition on both sides. With the European Commission's active involvement, the Critical Raw Materials Act entered into force in May 2024. Five new partnerships on sustainable raw materials value chains were concluded with Australia, Norway, Rwanda, Serbia and Uzbekistan in addition to the existing nine (Argentina, Canada, Chile, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Greenland, Kazakhstan, Namibia, Ukraine and Zambia). Work focused increasingly on implementation, through the endorsement of roadmaps with concrete activities and the programming of actions. Examples include a national programme for Zambia on governance, transparency and skills development and a regional programme to create local CRM value chains and boost investment opportunities in Central Asia. Particular attention was given to supporting EU strategic interests through an environmentally and socially sustainable approach in line with the decent work agenda.

Another achievement included running multiple strands of work (including through the Global Gateway Business Advisory Group) on private-sector engagement and support for the private sector. This included effectively mobilising Team Europe and encouraging 'Team National' mobilisation around priority investments in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas and the Caribbean regions. At the same time efforts were made to improve the investment and trade climate those regions rely on and consolidating domestic resource mobilisation and public finance management under the 360-degree approach to Global Gateway flagship projects.

2024 also saw active engagement in the reform of Multilateral Development Banks and the International Financial Architecture, for example by scaling up engagement with the IMF and WBG around Global Gateway.

There was further progress in helping partner countries to mobilise private capital for their sustainable investment: the High-Level Expert Group (HLEG) mandated by the Commission published

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its recommendations on scaling up sustainable finance in low- and middle-income countries; the first activities were deployed under the Sustainable Finance Advisory Hub; and negotiations with partners progressed for the launching of the Global Green Bond Initiative (GGBI). The Commission actively engaged in early preparations, leading on to negotiations in 2025, for the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in Seville.

Collaboration between export credit agencies and development finance actors intensified: a Commission expert group was established with public development banks, development finance institutions, export credit agencies and other actors in development and trade finance. Operational work was done on mandates, regulation and mapping. Pilot projects were explored and concrete recommendations prepared on how to strengthen cooperation between actors.

Global Gateway implementation was supported through investment packages in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and the Americas and the Caribbean regions. Prominent among these were the EU-LAC Global Gateway Investment Agenda (GGIA), the Asia Pacific Investment Facility and the Africa-Europe Investment Package.

Creation of decent jobs

Creating decent jobs and improving working conditions remained a cross-cutting priority.

The Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive has substantial leverage in improving working conditions in partner countries that produce goods and services for the EU market. With the legislation adopted in the first half of the year, accompanying measures for stakeholders were put in place. In October 2024, a massive online open course – delivered by the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) – was well attended. Financing has been arranged for a TEI that will offer a referral helpdesk for authorities, business and civil society in partner countries. The helpdesk will guide them towards support (accompanying measures) to help them understand and meet legal due diligence requirements. The long-standing SOCIEUX+ facility, through which EU civil servants offer partner countries peer-to-peer support on employment policy, was extended to cover support on due diligence legislation.

The Commission continued to strengthen compliance with international labour standards. It focused particularly on the eradication of child labour with a programme addressing child labour in the coffee value chain. Work progressed in Uganda, Honduras and Vietnam to disentangle the various drivers that perpetuate the problem. In 2024, the Commission became a member of ‘Alliance 8.7’, a multi-stakeholder global initiative that seeks to exchange knowledge and coordinate activities addressing child and forced labour.

In 2024, the Commission developed its capacity to assess the employment impact of the Global Gateway strategy and other investment programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa, using a macroeconomic model developed by ILO with Commission support. The model was complemented by profiling the skills needed for Global Gateway investments, such as for the MAV+ pharmaceutical programme. The identification and mapping of these employment opportunities and related skills profiles became the central component for the Opportunity-Driven VET TEI presented in the section of this document on ‘Quality education’ above.

Supporting trade facilitation, investment climate, economic and fiscal governance as part of an enabling environment to deliver on Global Gateway priorities

The Commission worked on supporting an enabling environment conducive to trade and investment, supporting Global Gateway implementation, and developed a more in-depth analysis of how key

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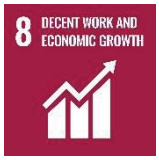
Global Gateway flagship projects promote and fit within this enabling environment, to support action in that regard. This included identifying potential gaps in national trade and investment policy and relevant legislation, such as hurdles for the establishment of entities or obstacles in the cross-border movement of goods and services relevant for a particular project. The aim is to inform the diplomatic and political support the EU can provide: (i) for EU investors to make their investment a success, and (ii) for partner countries to be reassured about the developmental impacts of EU projects.

The third phase of the Trade and Private-Sector Development Facility (TPSD) – focusing on supporting the Commission in assessing the investment environment of Global Gateway flagship projects, strengthening development and export finance complementarity and coordination – and the Global Gateway Investment Climate Reform Facility (GG ICR) were put in place.



90 000 jobs were supported or sustained by the EU[79].

Case study

'Investing in Young Businesses in Africa' (IYBA)

Developments in 2024

The Team Europe initiative (TEI) 'Investing in Young Businesses in Africa' is an example of a Global Gateway flagship initiative with a strong 360-degree approach. It supports early-stage businesses and young entrepreneurs – especially women – in Africa in launching, consolidating and growing sustainable, strong and inclusive businesses and creating decent jobs.

At strategic level, in June 2024, the EIB took over the chairmanship of the TEI from France with new lines of action and priorities. Management meetings were held in March and October 2024 and a Policy Steering Group was organised in May 2024.

At operational level, progress was achieved on scaling up IYBA programmes with an extension of the geographical scope and new initiatives launched under the TEI umbrella. In 2024, the IYBA TEI was officially launched in three new countries: Uganda, Cameroon and Benin. IYBA SEED and IYBA WE4A programmes made strong progress with in-country implementation on the right track. The IYBA Market Creation Platform programme was signed in September 2024. Preparations for the launch of the IYBA Invest programme progressed well and on schedule to be finished in 2025. Several EFSD+ IYBA-related guarantee operations were negotiated in 2024 with partner DFIs. Preparations for IYBA country mappings started for Zimbabwe, Tanzania, South Sudan and Senegal.

Figure 6. SDG 8 – interlinkages with other goals

[79] Results achieved by interventions under the current multiannual financial framework (2021-2027). For further information, please refer to Chapter 6 on results.

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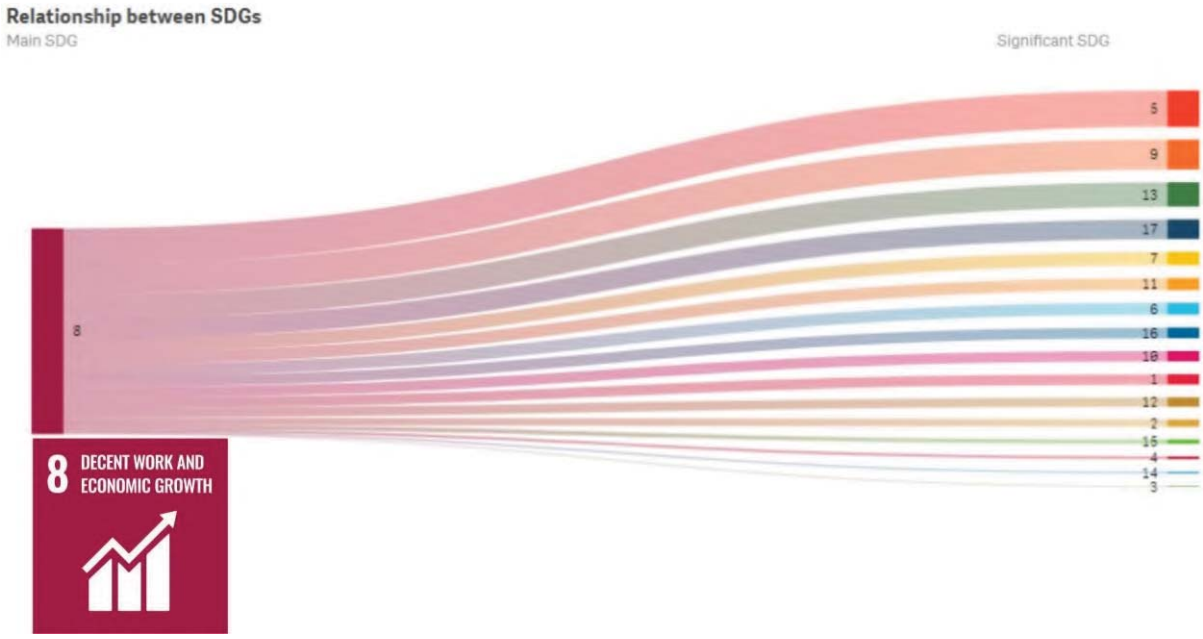

The NDICI-Global Europe commitments for SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth (totalling EUR 955.78 million in 2024) also contributed to other significant SDGs. Figure 6 shows main synergies between SDG 8 and SDG 5 on gender equality (EUR 896.18 million), SDG 9 on industry and infrastructure (EUR 733.88 million) and SDG 13 on climate action (EUR 602.35 million).

3.5. Migration and forced displacement

3.5.1. SDG #10.7 Reduced inequalities

In 2024 the number of irregular border crossings at the EU borders on the central Mediterranean route was significantly lower than in the previous year, while irregular arrivals slightly increased on the Atlantic, western and eastern Mediterranean routes. 2024 also saw unprecedented forced-displacement levels, mainly linked to new and protracted conflict situations (Afghanistan, Gaza, Mali, Sudan, Syria, etc.), but also increasingly to climate-related disasters, resulting in over 120 million forcibly displaced people by the end of June 2024. Against this background in 2024, the EU took further steps to enhance its strategic policy approach on migration and asylum, with the adoption of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum in May 2024[80]. The external dimension of the Pact tasks the EU with engaging with partner countries on the basis of a strategic and comprehensive approach addressing all areas of concern for us and them, both on migration and forced displacement, with a strong focus on the migratory routes towards the EU.

In line with this, the Commission, together with its Justice and Home Affairs agencies, stepped up its support for key partner countries of origin, transit and destination, for improved management of migration and forced displacement at national, regional and global level. EU support for development and international cooperation played aa significant role in increasing partners' capacity to address the challenges of migration and forced displacement and take advantage of the opportunities, in line with joint needs and priorities. Implementation of the Global Gateway strategy also supported the external dimension of the EU migration and asylum policy, notably: i) by

80 https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/promoting-our-european-way-life/migration-and-asylum/pact-migration-and-asylum_en

promoting job creation in countries of origin for irregular migration or in countries hosting refugees, to address root causes of irregular migration and prevent further irregular departures or secondary movements of asylum seekers; ii) by investing in technical and vocational education and training in countries from which the EU has an interest to receive labour migrants to fill labour market gaps.

Targeted and tailor-made EU support was provided to key partner countries, with a particular focus on the Western Balkans and Türkiye, the EU Neighbourhood, the Sub-Saharan African and Asian regions, guided by EU Action Plans covering the key migratory routes towards Europe, in a whole-of-route approach.

Comprehensive migration and border management remain key priorities for the EU with its Enlargement partners. The Western Balkans Action Plan, through visa policy alignment, increased the presence and operational support of EU agencies. Extensive EU-funded migration programmes have led to a significant fall in irregular border crossings to the EU via the Western Balkan route. In 2024, the number of crossings fell by 78% from the 2023 level.

The EU continued to support Türkiye in hosting nearly three million refugees by allocating an additional EUR 1 billion in 2024. This funding is to meet the basic needs of refugees in health, education and social cohesion, and to enhance Türkiye's capacity to manage migration and control its borders.

In Ukraine, the EU supported border management and strengthened Ukrainian border management agencies through the Integrated Border Management programme. Since Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, Moldova has also seen an unprecedented influx of refugees. The EU has supported the newly established Moldovan General Inspectorate for Migration in implementing its internal affairs strategy for 2022-2023.

In 2024 the EU continued its engagement on migration and forced displacement with partner countries in the Southern Neighbourhood. Most notably, the EU continued implementing the EU-Tunisia Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership (also known as Memorandum of Understanding, signed in 2023) on migration and launched the Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership with Egypt. The 2024 regional migration allocation for the Southern Neighbourhood (EUR 208 million) targeted border management, anti-smuggling and anti-trafficking, protection assistance, return and reintegration, and legal migration and mobility. It made a substantial contribution to the ongoing talent partnerships in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia to boost mutually beneficial international mobility.

In the Middle East, the EU continued to provide support in response to the Syrian crisis, ensuring access to basic services for refugees from Syria in neighbouring countries, internally displaced people in Syria and their hosting communities in the region. Following the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, the EU extended its support to internally displaced people, including refugees from Syria, and reoriented a part of its assistance to the emergency response, addressing needs arising in relation to healthcare, education, water and social services. The EU continued to support Palestinian refugees in the region.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, the EU-Mauritania Migration Partnership was launched by the Commission and Mauritania in March 2024. This Partnership is accompanied by substantial EU funding, including actions worth EUR 210 million to support Global Gateway initiatives, including investments, infrastructure and job creation primarily in the field of energy, and to support Mauritania's capacity for managing migration and forced displacement. In parallel, the Commission activated a EUR 30 million intervention to support Senegal, focusing on preventing irregular and unsafe

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departures at sea and land borders. To support return and reintegration in West Africa, an EUR 85 million package was adopted, which aims to strengthen national ownership of the reintegration of returnees in that region. As regards support for refugees and host communities, the EU mobilised EUR 255 million to protect internally displaced people in Sudan and to strengthen the resilience of communities affected by conflict and climate change in Chad, the Central African Republic and South Sudan.

In Asia, two actions were launched supporting talent partnerships with Bangladesh and Pakistan. EU support in 2024 also included a EUR 148 million project for displaced and returning Afghans and their host communities.

In the Latin American and Caribbean region, the EU maintained its engagement towards Venezuelan migrants, refugees and their host countries in Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru by contributing to socio-economic integration, access to decent jobs and social protection systems. A new EUR 10 million project was adopted to support forcibly displaced people and economic migrants in Costa Rica.

The Commission also invested at global level, including through an action on improving national asylum systems in selected partner countries, as a concrete contribution to the EU pledge at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023. In support of the Global Alliance to Counter Migrant Smuggling, launched by the Commission President in November 2023, a key action was launched in 2024 to improve operational cooperation and coordination against trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants.

The Commission's contribution to implementing the external dimension of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum was closely coordinated in a 'Team Europe' approach with EU Member States, ensuring coherent and joined-up programming. In the same Team Europe spirit, implementation of the two regional African Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs) made significant progress, including an increase in combined TEI contributions, which tripled between 2022 and 2024 reaching EUR 4.2 billion. Similarly, the regional TEI addressing the situation of Afghan refugees and returnees continued to foster durable solutions and provide support for displaced Afghans, as well as their host communities across Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, and Central Asia, using a combination of humanitarian and development aid funds.

Over 2021-2024, all actions decided under NDICI-Global Europe contributed to the spending target on migration and forced displacement, amounting to 16% out of the total committed amount.

The EU continued its active role in addressing the humanitarian impact on forced-displacement issues (such as refugees, internally displaced persons, and disaster/climate-induced displacement) in multilateral forums and through strategic partnerships, especially with UNHCR and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

3.6. Governance, peace and security

3.6.1. SDG #16 Peace, justice and strong institutions

Figure 7. SDG 16 – interlinkages with other goals

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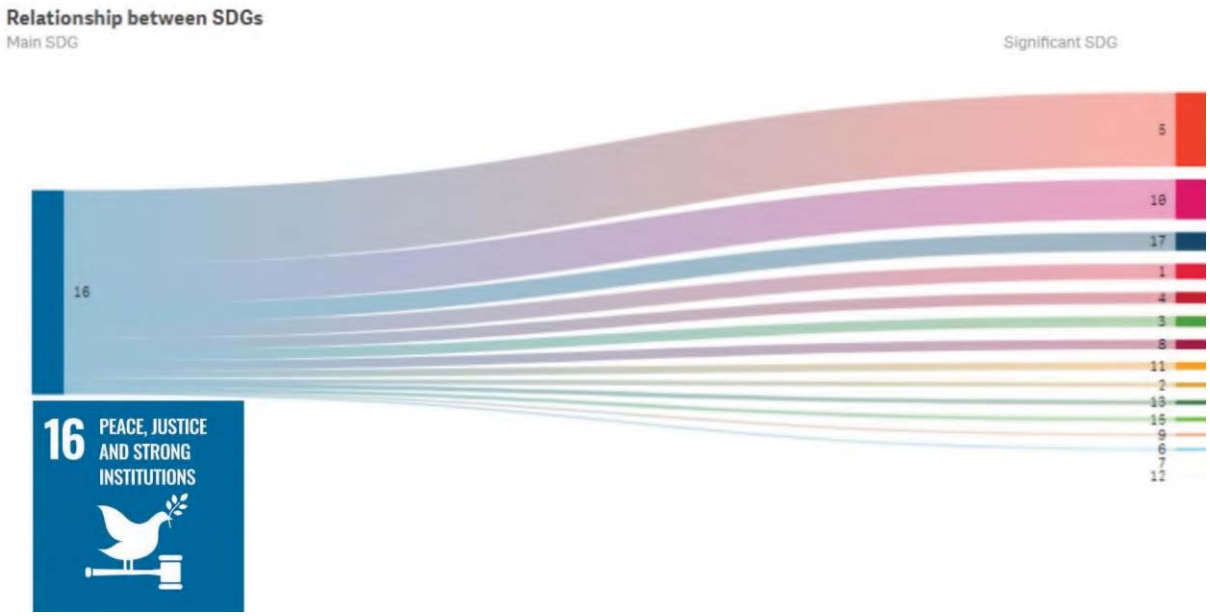

The NDICI-Global Europe commitments for SDG 16 on peaceful and inclusive societies (EUR 3.24 billion) 2024 also contributed to other significant SDGs. Figure 7 shows main synergies between SDG 16 and SDG 5 on gender equality (EUR 1.21 billion) and SDG 10 on reduce inequalities (EUR 653 million).

Peaceful, democratic and resilient societies are a prerequisite for other development objectives and human security. 2024 was a year of turmoil in which new conflicts erupted, existing crises intensified, and climate-fuelled disasters multiplied. The backlash against human rights, democracy and the rule of law intensified, resulting in further abuse and continuing impunity, endangering peace and security. No fewer than 50 countries worldwide experienced active conflict – the largest number of conflicts since 1945 – taking a heavy toll in human suffering and jeopardising peace and development gains. Several situations were marked by ongoing 'political estrangement', with the EU's role in building long-term peace, security and resilience remaining at low levels. Challenges such as political instability and economic fluctuations particularly impacted the EU's efforts.

In this context, the EU reinforced its Global Gateway investment offer, while also maintaining dedicated resources to engage in fragile and conflict settings. By integrating Global Gateway projects with the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus approach, the EU sought to tackle the root causes of fragility and migration. This included providing essential services in vulnerable areas and enhancing community resilience.

Over 2021-2024, all NDICI-Global Europe geographic actions contributed to the human rights, democracy and good governance spending target, amounting to 23% out of the total committed amount.

A more systematic and granular approach to streamlining conflict prevention involved conflict analysis and conflict sensitivity assessments at all stages of the intervention cycle and further mainstreaming of the EU's conflict sensitivity and early-warning approach. The coherence of actions relating to resilience, peace and conflict sensitivity was promoted through shared analyses of the root causes and drivers of fragility and crisis and the application of the HDP Nexus Collaboration Framework in key non-EU countries, notably Afghanistan, Ethiopia and Pakistan. Guided by the

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Council Conclusions on EU Peace Mediation (2020)[81] and accompanying EU Mediation Guidelines (2023) over the past year, the EU employed peace mediation support in all regions across the world, and in 27 specific conflicts. The results of this work often fed into or informed ensuing programmes.

Responding to growing needs and aiming to support partners in responding better to shocks and pressures and taking advantage of emerging opportunities, the EU made preparations for specific actions under the rapid response pillar of the NDICI-Global Europe – Resilience component. These actions were complementary to existing programmes and strengthened the resilience capacities of vulnerable and host communities, addressing refugee and forced-displacement situations, preventing spillover effects, responding to insecurity and to natural disasters, and supporting climate change adaptation efforts.

Additionally, the EU continued to strengthen Europe's global role by promoting an integrated approach to security sector reform and governance (SSR/G). For example, it offered expertise and support to capacity building and the strengthening of the entire criminal justice chain in partner countries. The EU focused on providing credible, coherent and longer-term support to help our partner countries build their capacities for lasting peace and be ready to tackle complex global threats, such as organised crime, radicalisation and violent extremism, terrorism, illegal trafficking, including trafficking in human beings, and money laundering. This also includes the support provided by civilian and military common security and defence policy missions and operations and, under the European Peace Facility, support for partner countries' armed forces to combat terrorism and insecurity. The EU also supported partner countries' institutions in protecting their critical infrastructure and enhancing their resilience in different domains, such as space, cyber and maritime.

Gender equality remained a priority, with the EU actively promoting the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Key initiatives included a joint gender-responsive conflict analysis with the UNDP in Liberia, based on the recently developed new conflict analysis methodology focusing on gender, and preparations for the 25th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), to be commemorated in 2025.

Democratic governance, the rule of law, the fight against corruption and strong institutions, are an integral part of an enabling environment for Global Gateway investment and key principles integrated in EU interventions. They are also at the heart of the EU's enlargement policy. To further them, the EU collaborated with the Council of Europe on flagship programmes such as the Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Türkiye and the Partnership for Good Governance in the Eastern Partnership, both in their third phase.

The EU remained a steadfast supporter of international human-rights law and international humanitarian law (IHL). This commitment was reflected in its support for multilateral accountability mechanisms, including the International Criminal Court, hybrid tribunals and transitional justice efforts. The EU also worked with civil society to address international crime, for example through the Global Initiative Against Impunity, and supported transitional justice initiatives in countries such as the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, the Gambia and South Sudan. It also rolled out targeted corporate social responsibility programmes and projects.

[81] Council Conclusions 13573/20, 7 December 2020. https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-13573-2020-INIT/en/pdf

To uphold human rights and democratic principles globally, the EU implemented its Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy. It formalised partnerships with specialised NGOs under the Financial Framework Partnership Agreement (FFPA) to strategically advance human rights policies at the global level and enhance civil society engagement. Through the NDICI-Global Europe Human Rights and Democracy programme, the EU supported the protection of human-rights defenders at risk and the work of national human-rights institutions, enabling the implementation of human-rights law and standards locally.

The compound challenges of conflict, climate change and health crises have significantly impacted children and youth. Numbering over 1.8 billion, young individuals are crucial agents of change in building peaceful, just societies and making progress towards global commitments such as the 2030 Agenda. Implementation of the Youth Action Plan in EU external action (2022-2027), continued in 2024 with the creation of new country-level Youth Sounding Boards and a Youth Dialogue Platform. In addition, two new initiatives – Africa-Europe Youth Academy, and Youth Outreach and Engagement (Alumni) – launched to engage, empower and connect young people.

Civil society and local authorities play a key role in Global Gateway and TEIs, ensuring inclusivity, adherence to key principles, and effective oversight. To support this, the Global Gateway CSO and Local Authorities Dialogue Platform were set up in October 2023, bringing together 57 members from various CSO networks, business associations and local authority groups involved in international development. The Platform operates as a working group under the Policy Forum on Development (PFD), which held 12 consultations in 2024 on topics like GAP III implementation and the mid-term review of the programming of NDICI-Global Europe across different regions. Additionally, the EU System for Enabling Environment (EU SEE), launched in 2023, developed a methodology and began contracting and inducting a network of local members to start monitoring.

At country level, civil society roadmaps continue to enhance structured dialogue and cooperation with CSOs. By December 2024, 87 roadmaps had been adopted, with six more in progress. Recent efforts focus on sectoral mapping, improved outreach, and strengthening local stakeholders' engagement around Global Gateway flagships.

The EU also continued to support local authorities' involvement in policymaking at all levels. In 2024, this included stronger dialogue with global local authority associations, collaboration with the Committee of the Regions, and participation in the EU-UN policy dialogue on localising the SDGs.

The Development Education and Awareness Raising programme supported projects that engage Europeans in global issues. 16 new projects started implementation in 2024, advocating for sustainable policies, community and individual behavioural changes, as well as CSR and institutional accountability, to empower citizens, in particular young people across Europe and the Global South.

50 million people benefited directly from EU-supported interventions that specifically aim to support civilian post-conflict peacebuilding and/or conflict prevention[82].

[82] Results achieved by interventions under the current multiannual financial framework (2021-2027). For further information, please refer to Chapter 6 on results.

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4. Geographic overview

4.1. Sub-Saharan Africa

4.1.1. Introduction (policy developments)

The EU is Africa's leading partner in many areas, from trade, investment and security to the green transition and digital transformation. It works with Africa in various continental, regional and national settings.

The EU's relations with the **African Union** (AU) focused on implementation of the Joint Vision for 2030, agreed on at the sixth EU-AU Summit in 2022 and covering four areas: the Africa-Europe Global Gateway Investment Package worth EUR 150 billion; peace, security and governance; migration and mobility; and multilateralism.

Through the Investment Package, the EU is contributing to the acceleration of the green and digital transition, sustainable growth and job creation and human development in Africa, as illustrated in the Joint Report by the European Commission, AU Commission and AU Development Agency published in October 2024[83]. The roll-out of the Package continued to focus on closing the financing gap by mobilising innovative financing, including private-sector financing, in a 'Team Europe' approach. The 2023 Global Gateway Forum exemplified the implementation of Global Gateway in Sub-Saharan Africa, which featured the signing of agreements worth more than EUR 3 billion, including 13 for Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2024, substantial progress was made in implementing the Global Gateway Africa-Europe Investment Package, with 116 flagship projects launched on the continent in 2023 and 2024 (out of 225 worldwide) and a total of 95 Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs) targeting the African continent (out of 165 worldwide).

The EU also provided a total of EUR 315 million in support for Sub-Saharan countries through the European Peace Facility (EPF), an off-budget instrument. This was in addition to its EUR 600 million contribution to African peace-keeping operations under the General Programme for support to the African Union.

The EU has also strengthened dialogue and cooperation with Africa in multilateral settings such as the G20, underpinned by a shared commitment to effective multilateralism within the rules-based international order.

The **Samoa Agreement**, signed with the members of the **Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States** (OACPS), was provisionally applied as of 1 January 2024. The EU and the OACPS have stepped up joint efforts for full implementation of the Agreement, including the preparation of the Rules of Procedure of joint institutions under the agreement, and of EU-OACPS guidelines for the partnership dialogue, to be adopted at the first joint meetings. The EU joined efforts with the OACPS in preparations for and follow-up to the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in Antigua and Barbuda in May[84]. The first session of the OACPS-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, and the inaugural meetings of the regional assemblies, took place in Luanda in February 2024, when they adopted their respective rules of procedure.

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83 https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/publications-library/joint-report-european-commission-auda-nepad-implementation-2030-vision_en

84 https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/26/joint-press-release-european-union-and-the-organisation-of-african-caribbean-and-pacific-states-join-forces-to-implement-outcomes-of-the-4th-international-conference-on-small-island-developing-states/

Relations with **West Africa** faced increased challenges with the weakening of regional frameworks (such as ECOWAS) and the crisis with Central Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger). The EU adapted its instruments and actions under the 2021 integrated strategy for the Sahel, including through Foreign Affairs Council discussions (February 2024), while increasing efforts on strategic communication. A new EU Special Representative (EUSR) for the Sahel was appointed in November 2024 to continue engagement in and beyond the region. The common security and defence policy (CSDP) instruments were significantly scaled down (notably with the end of Mali EU training mission and the EU Capacity-Building Mission in Sahel Niger). The EU applied an integrated approach to foster stability and long-term socio-economic development, and address root causes of the conflicts and migration in the region. This includes the CSDP initiative for the Gulf of Guinea (in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Benin) and increased use of the EPF in coastal countries and Mauritania. Sanctions frameworks remained in place in Mali and Niger. The EU also closely followed key electoral processes in the region, for example in Senegal, and Ghana and Mauritania, where the EU deployed electoral-expert missions. The visit by Charles Michel, President of the European Council, to Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire and Benin in April 2024 was key to consolidating the political partnership with the region.

The EU closely monitored developments in **Central Africa** and pursued its foreign policy objectives, including partnership dialogues and ad hoc exchanges with countries in the region, regional organisations and like-minded partners. The EU continued to implement its renewed Great Lakes Strategy, adopted in 2023, and increased its diplomatic engagement by appointing a new EUSR for the Great Lakes region. The EU supported local and international conflict resolution initiatives, including the Nairobi and Luanda processes, to solve the crisis in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The EU also supported certain strands of the transition process in Gabon, deployed an Election Expert Mission for the constitutional referendum in November 2024 and continued to support the difficult transition process in Chad. The EU reviewed and adapted its autonomous restrictive measure regimes against human-rights violators and conflict-drivers in the DRC and Burundi.

The **Southern Africa and Indian Ocean region** experienced a historic drought triggered by El Niño, leading some countries to declare national drought disasters. The EU continued to provide humanitarian aid for countries in the region, including Comoros, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The EU deployed an Election Observation Mission to Mozambique while Experts Missions were sent to Comoros and South Africa. The Commissioner for International Partnerships visited Angola in February. A Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreement (SIFA) between the EU and Angola entered into force in September. Zambia was in the spotlight of the EU Raw Material Week in Brussels in December and reiterated its commitment to unlocking its mineral potential. The Commissioner for Energy participated in the Global African Hydrogen Summit organised by Namibia in September. She also visited South Africa and confirmed the EU interest's in a substantial collaboration in clean energy, green hydrogen and CRMs. The EU further supported the implementation of the EU integrated approach in Mozambique's violence-affected Cabo Delgado province.

As regards the **Horn of Africa and East Africa** region, the EU has strengthened its economic, political and security partnership with Kenya, with the entry into force of the EU-Kenya Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) on 1 July. The third EU-Kenya security and defence consultations under the Strategic Dialogue took place on 23-24 October in Nairobi. On 6-8 July 2024, former EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President Borrell visited Djibouti, accompanied by the Greek Defence Minister. The visit helped to strengthen the ties with this key

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partner country and to appraise the impact of the EU naval operation, EUNAVFOR ASPIDES, launched in February 2024. The EU has further strengthened its relationship with Somalia, through implementation of the Joint Operational Roadmap concluded in 2023, and through the support the EU and its Member States gave to the adoption of the UN Security Council Resolution in December 2024[85], mandating the new African Union Support and Stabilisation Mission in Somalia. The Structured Dialogue with Ethiopia continued in 2024. The transitional justice policy framework, including accountability for human-rights violations, still needs to be finalised. The war in Sudan continued unabated during 2024, despite international efforts (USD 2 billion were pledged at the International Humanitarian Conference in Paris in April) to broker ceasefires without positive or tangible results. The humanitarian crisis further widened, and the conflict became increasingly polarised.

4.1.2. Implementation

Human development and inequalities

In April 2024, the 'Opportunity-driven Skills and VET in Africa' TEI was launched at the Global Gateway High-Level Event on Education. This EUR 75 million initiative will orient VET interventions towards decent employment opportunities in selected sectors and value chains under the Global Gateway strategy and other flagship initiatives, through a technical assistance facility, regional exchange on public-private-partnerships and a competitive funding mechanism to finance regional and multi-country VET initiatives. Under the competitive funding mechanism, worth EUR 50 million, a first call for proposals was launched in the autumn of 2024 for projects of between EUR 1 million and EUR 2 million. The implementation period for the selected proposals is 24 months, starting in April 2025. As part of the Youth Mobility for Africa Global Gateway flagship initiative, a EUR 15 million contribution to the Africa-Europe Youth Academy will provide young leaders with opportunities in their respective fields and communities to connect, exchange and improve their leadership skills and create a network of change-makers. In addition, the first call opening up the Erasmus+ Youth Capacity-Building action to Sub-Sahara Africa was published at the end of 2024.

In the field of culture, two new actions were adopted in 2024. Firstly, a EUR 19.9 million action 'Strengthening Africa-Europe Museum Partnerships' brings in funding from four EU Member States and will strengthen the role of the EU as a reliable partner in protecting and promoting cultural heritage and cultural diversity through a 'Team Europe' approach. Secondly, the EUR 15 million 'Creative Africa: Audiovisual' action will enhance cross-border EU-African cooperation in the audiovisual sector across the entire value chain (from development to distribution).

In **Somalia**, policy dialogue with the government continued through the budget support operation, sector-specific projects and field missions, incentivising reforms in education financing and teacher recruitment. Notable progress included the government's merit-based recruitment of 2 198 teachers in 2024, complementing the 2 600 hired in 2023, as part of its plan to recruit 10 000 teachers. The EU-funded Education Access and Quality Improvement Programme (EAQIP) positively impacted 100 000 learners through its holistic approach. The EU Delegation, as the coordinating agency for Global Partnership for Education (GPE) funding in Somalia, facilitated dialogue on implementation-monitoring, decision-making, and risk management. This oversight supported two key GPE-funded initiatives – the System Transformation Grant (STG) and the Girls' Education Accelerator (GEA) – with a combined value of USD 79.5 million.

[85] UN Resolution S/RES/2767, 27 December 2024. https://docs.un.org/en/S/RES/2767(2024)

In **Sudan**, since the beginning of the conflict, the EU has advocated for a continuation of development projects. In 2024 the EU remained steadfast in its support for Sudan, aligning with operationalisation of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and maintaining development projects that foster resilience. In 2024 the EU has completed the contracting of EUR 130 million for health, nutrition, and food security.

In **Madagascar**, EU-supported platforms such as *Jeunes & engagés* provided a voice and leadership training for youth, fostering their active participation in society.

In **Mozambique**, the E-Youth TEI, involving Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Spain, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland and Sweden, focuses on three key areas: education to address skills mismatch; creation of employment opportunities in high-growth industries; and empowerment through influence over decision-making, and digital communication. This TEI promotes, among other things, inclusive education, youth entrepreneurship and the inclusion and empowerment of women and girls in Africa.

In March 2024, under the umbrella of the EU-AU Health Partnership, three TEIs were launched at the AU-EU high-level event on health: the TEI on 'Sustainable Health Security following the One Health approach'; the TEI on 'Digital Health for Health Systems Strengthening and Universal Health Coverage'; and the TEI on 'Support to Public Health Institutes in Africa'. A TEI on 'Social Protection in Africa' was also launched. The TEI on 'Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies' (MAV+) made significant progress, creating an enabling environment with additional funding for the Africa Medicines Agency (AMA), increased demand and improved supply, for example, by supporting mRNA technology establishment at Afrigen Biologics in South Africa through the WHO mRNA technology transfer and research hub and network. As part of the TEI on 'Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights' (SRHR), in May 2024, the new programme 'SafeBirth Africa' was launched and is a Global Gateway flagship project for 2025 (implementation period 2024-2027). The TEI will accelerate access to new and underused maternal health medicines.

In **Ethiopia**, the EU continues to be a reference partner in the health sector. Concrete achievements this year include the completion of the rehabilitation of the Dessie hospital serving 10 million people and the provision of equipment and staff training to 160 facilities.

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**, the EU was able to provide a rapid response to the new (MPOX) health crisis in the second half of 2024, by committing, within three months, EUR 20 million for initial support. This provided an opportunity to further improve coordination with EU humanitarian aid actions and is a textbook case for nexus.

In Southern Africa, specifically in **Zimbabwe**, the EU advocated for increased domestic financing in healthcare, leading to improved primary healthcare services through the Health Resilience Fund, as well as an increase in the number of village health workers for 5.4 million people through various health services, resulting in a 4% increase in access to quality primary healthcare services.

The EU provides substantial support for the vaccine ecosystem in **Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda** and **Senegal**. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU has been strongly supporting the Dakar Institute Pasteur by cofinancing the MADIBA vaccine production plant in Senegal. This support has been extended to other components of the national pharmaceutical plan: the pharmaceutical ecosystem, regulatory framework, skills, and research and development. Thanks to support from the EU and other partners, at the end of 2024 Senegal reached maturity Level 3 for pharmaceutical regulation, illustrating the country's willingness to guarantee access to quality pharmaceutical products for its population and the wider region.

In **Cabo Verde**, the EU further supported the government's efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. The halving of extreme poverty over the last 10 years is mainly due to the government's decisive operational and financial efforts, supported by an EU Budget Support operation.

In **Burundi**, the EU supports the health sector through the third phase of the Health Sector Support Programme (PASS III), which has been in implementation since April 2022 with a budget of EUR 55 million. This programme aims to improve access to healthcare by providing free services for pregnant women and children under five years old. Additionally, a second phase of the programme (EUR 29 million) was contracted at the end of 2024 to support the resilience of the Burundian population and to improve the nutritional health of the population in the most vulnerable provinces.

In Burundi, malnutrition remains a significant problem, affecting over 50% of children under the age of five. Two programmes addressing food security concerns aimed to strengthen the banana and cassava value chains (SESA programme, supporting entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector with a budget of EUR 17 million). These are yielding positive results, with a promising approach that involves the private sector. Value chains and their potential for exporting produce will be further developed in the Annual Action Plan (AAP) scheduled for 2025.

Green Deal

With the TEI on '**Adaptation and Resilience in Africa**', the EU displayed its commitment to responding to the request for funding for particularly vulnerable countries hit hard by climate disasters. To that end, two programmes were launched aimed at minimising losses and damage through services, applications and data to support disaster risk-financing and transfer. The TEI also aims to strengthen African partners' capacity to access meteorological and climate satellite data and deliver adequate information, particularly for early-warning systems.

On energy, several milestones were reached in implementation of the '**Africa-EU Green Energy Initiative**' TEI. In Zambia, a financing agreement was signed with Zambian authorities for the start of work on rehabilitation of the Kariba Dam. In South Africa, the 'Green Deal' TEI aims to support a just and green recovery by transforming the country's economy and society to be climate-resilient and sustainable. The Green Deal TEI focuses on three key areas: policy reform, green investment, and knowledge-based transformation, with the goal of minimising risks to South Africa's credit opportunities and investment environment. This TEI is supported by Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Finland, and Sweden.

The **NaturAfrica** programme (EUR 160 million) is at the core of the EU efforts on biodiversity in Africa through an innovative, people-centred approach. It identifies key landscapes for conservation and development where the EU focuses its support on creating jobs, improving security and sustainable livelihoods, while preserving ecosystems and wildlife.

Four regional ocean programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa were adopted for a total amount of EUR 170 million. These programmes cover international ocean governance, sustainable blue economy and conservation/restoration of marine ecosystems and coastal areas. The first two programmes, adopted in 2023, cover 13 countries in West Africa (West Africa Sustainable Ocean Programme, EUR 59 million) and three in Southern Africa (Blue Benguela Current Programme, EUR 11 million). The other two, adopted in 2024, cover nine countries in the Western Indian Ocean (Sustainable Western Indian Ocean Programme, EUR 58 million) and six countries in Central Africa (Ocean Durable et Economie Bleue en Afrique Centrale, EUR 42 million). A regional ocean project supporting ocean forecasting in Sub-Saharan Africa was also adopted end of 2024 (Ocean Prediction Enhancement in Regions of Africa, EUR 7 million).

At regional level, actions are aimed at strengthening the resilience of surface water and groundwater systems to climate change, through better, more sustainable water resource management. The actions respond to growing public concern about environmental degradation (land salinisation, soil erosion, loss of vegetation cover, invasive plants, etc.) and to the reduction in the quality and availability of water, which contributes to desertification, affects agricultural and energy production, and hinders sustainable and socio-economic development.

Two programmes are under implementation. The Blue Africa programme aims to strengthen continental water organisations, such as the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), and the African Network of Basin Organisations (ANBO). Two contracts were signed in December 2023, a contribution agreement with the German aid agency GIZ to strengthen AMCOW and ANBO, and one with the African Union Commission (AUC), for the purpose of reinforcing its water division. The other programme is TAKIWAMA (Lakes Tanganyika and Kivu water management). A call for proposals was launched for improving the circular economy and preserving the water quality of the lakes, and three contracts were signed in 2024. In addition, in a 'Team Europe' approach, two more contracts were signed to strengthen water management and improve transport management on Lake Tanganyika.

Three programmes were identified and formulated and will be proposed for adoption in the AAP 2025. These programmes are: PROGIRESS (*Projet de Gestion intégrée des Ressources en Eau de Surface et Souterraines dans les bassins du fleuve Sénégal et de l'aquifère Sénégalo-Mauritanien*), with an EU contribution of EUR 15 million; LACHAWAMA (Lake Chad Water management) with EUR 20 million; and TWM-SA (Transboundary Water Management in Southern Africa) focusing on the Okavango basin.

In **Southern Africa**, a Global Gateway flagship in **Lesotho** is focusing on implementation of measures to tackle soil erosion and to restore land and water resources. In **Namibia**, a roadmap for the strategic partnership on green hydrogen and CRM value chains has identified concrete actions. In **DRC**, the EU continued to support the Virunga Conservation and Development Initiative, under the NaturAfrica approach. Building on the success of the EU's landscape programmes and the long-standing collaboration with the Virunga Foundation, the President of the DRC officially launched the Green Corridor initiative in the second half of 2024. The EU prioritised the Green Corridor, allocating it a contribution of EUR 42 million. The goal is to support the DRC in connecting the eastern regions with Kinshasa towards the Atlantic by supporting transport infrastructure, regulatory frameworks and agri-food value chains, in particular around the Virunga landscape.

In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the inauguration of the first solar power plant in Boundiali in April 2024 – using a 'Team Europe' approach – was a major milestone in materialising the Global Gateway. The solar plant located in the north of the country led directly or indirectly to the creation of 200-300 new jobs during construction. This power plant is a major boost to Côte d'Ivoire's energy mix and will avoid 27 000 tonnes of CO_2 emissions a year. The power plant enables access to clean energy for about 30 000 households, approximately 150 000 people.

In **Uganda**, a major achievement in 2024 was the roll-out of the EU-Uganda Forest Partnership flagship through the underpinning Partnering for Forests Programme. It was officially launched at a high-level event attended by the President of Uganda and the EU Commissioner for Environment. The programme's roadmap has been rolled out through four contracts worth up to EUR 40 million, with two additional contracts in the pipeline. The programme focuses on three main areas: value chain development in timber and non-timber forest products, improved governance, and

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conservation/restoration of forests. The Delegation also received an additional EUR 8 million from Denmark to boost the Forest Partnership.

Also in Uganda, the EU continued its work on climate-related matters, including climate finance at national and local levels, and green financing for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). Two climate finance programmes started implementation, and a third programme on green financing for MSMEs was signed. A mini-campaign during Green Week 2024 promoted cleaner air, waste management and road safety, featuring radio interviews, social media posts and a cycling event with EU Member States, youth groups and other participants. Finally, in conservation and biodiversity, the EU concluded a contract with the Northern Rangerlands Trust (NRT) under the NaturAfrica programme, providing EUR 5.4 million to support community conservation initiatives in the Kidepo landscape. This aligns with a similar programme in South Sudan and complements existing cross-border support for the Greater Virunga Landscape.

A Forest Partnership was signed with **Gabon**, during a visit by the President of the transition government to Brussels in December.

In **Cameroon,** the Local Development Support Programme (PADL) was approved, with Budget Support and accompanying measures worth EUR 44 million. By promoting local development, the EU aims to contribute to the sustainable growth of the rural sector. One way of doing this is to help local actors adapt to climate change and build capacity. More specifically, through the reforms agreed on with the government, this support will strengthen local development planning, sustainable management of natural resources and adaptation to climate change by municipalities. It will also improve the governance and human capital of those involved in decentralisation through a participatory, inclusive and gender-sensitive approach.

Sustainable growth and jobs

In 2024, **the EU pursued engagement with the public and private sector** to build economies which are more inclusive, sustainable, and dynamic. It did this through policy alignment and the promotion of efficient regulations under several regional programmes. The TEI **'Investing in Young Businesses in Africa' (IYBA)** – jointly developed by 10 EU Member States, their development policy implementing organisations and development finance institutions (DFIs) – aims to help early-stage businesses and young entrepreneurs, especially women, in Sub-Saharan Africa to launch, consolidate and grow sustainable, strong and inclusive businesses and create decent jobs. Since 2022, the TEI has been launched in eight countries (Nigeria and Senegal in 2022, Comoros, Kenya and Togo in 2023, Benin, Cameroon and Uganda in 2024), with several key programmes initiated, including IYBA SEED (EUR 23 million), IYBA WE4A (EUR 38.5 million), and IYBA MCP (EUR 25 million). Additionally, some ongoing and future guarantees under the European Fund for Sustainable Development+ (EFSD+) are labelled under IYBA, further strengthening its impact. These efforts actively drive Global Gateway priorities, fostering sustainable investment and development and ensuring a 360-degree approach to implementing EU strategy.

Special attention was given to promoting business-to-business and business-to-governments practices as the development of a permanent **EU-Africa Business Forum (EABF)** structure started in 2023 (EUR 15 million). The EABF permanent structure is instrumental in organising national-level business forums between the European and African private sectors, in African countries. At continent level, the EABF takes place back to back with the EU-AU Summit. The seventh and eighth summits are expected in 2025 and 2028. With regard to economic integration, as part of a EUR 1.1 billion TEI, the EU and its Member States continued to support the negotiation and implementation

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of the African Continental Free Trade Area **(AfCFTA) protocols**, and all aspects of trade facilitation under all agreements in place on the continent. This support consolidates the recognised position of the EU as strategic partner for Africa. In particular, the operationalisation of the EUR 29.5 million AfCFTA Technical Assistance Facility, operational since 2022, is a success story demonstrating the coordinated and effective action taken by the EU and its Member States to set up a flexible and rapid-response tool to support the AfCFTA Secretariat.

In **West Africa**, blending operations approved include support for the blue economy and sustainable ports for Cabo Verde, the construction of a solar power plant in Sérébou in Côte d'Ivoire, road rehabilitation in Guinea-Bissau, a sustainable energy project in the Gambia and the rehabilitation of the Kpong Hydropower in Ghana.

Under the EFSD+, the European Investment Bank (EIB) loans in West Africa reinforced the private sector to support Cabo Verde's digital connectivity and provide access to financing for SMEs in Mauritania and Senegal. EU guarantees also supported SMEs and larger companies active in agriculture value chains in Côte d'Ivoire, specifically targeting the sustainable cocoa value chain and aiming to impact positively on youth employment.

In **Cameroon**, the first 'EU-Cameroon Business Week' took place in February 2024. It attracted hundreds of European private-sector players and a dozen European financial partners (EIB, AFD, GSK, Proparco, etc.) to explore investment opportunities in the country. The event had a great impact with several thousand visitors and more than a million views on social networks. It benefited from the attention of the Presidency of Cameroon and confirmed Team Europe's firm commitment to deployment of the Global Gateway in Cameroon and the region. This world-class event has enabled the advancement of EU investments, particularly on the Kikot hydroelectric dam and the Yaoundé bypass.

In **Uganda,** the EU increased significantly its support for entrepreneurship and cooperation with the private sector. Under the 'Sustainable Business for Uganda' (SB4U) TEI, the SB4U Platform supported numerous events in 2024, including the highly successful and visible third Uganda-EU Business Forum. This three-day event was attended by 2 000 participants, including 200 EU and 800 Ugandan companies. 1 600 business contacts were made, resulting in over 400 potential transactions, valued at over EUR 1 million.

As a follow-up to the Business Forum, preparations for the next Uganda-EU Business Insights (UEUBI) 2025 have begun, focusing on agricultural technology (AgriTech) and sustainable mining. Under the leadership of the EU Delegation and in coordination with EU Member States, the new skilling and job creation (WeWork) action, worth EUR 50 million, completed its first year of implementation. A contract on trade facilitation was signed with the International Trade Centre (ITC), aiming to promote inclusive, sustainable, and green trade and investment between Uganda and the EU.

In Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean, significant progress has been made over the past year, for example in the 'Investing in Young Businesses in Africa' TEI (Comoros), the renovation and extension of Mauritius airport, and in implementing the three private-sector support programmes in Madagascar. In Seychelles, the EU's significant intervention through the Port Victoria Extension and Rehabilitation project, in collaboration with the EIB and the AFD, aims to enhance the capacity and efficiency of the commercial port within Port Victoria. This project is pivotal for the EU's Global Gateways strategy in the West Indian Ocean region, with the objective of fostering socio-economic growth in Seychelles.

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In **Madagascar**, various sectors including transport, energy, and private-sector development have seen notable advancements. Infrastructure projects like the rehabilitation and modernisation of roads RN6, RN13, and RNT12A are underway, contributing to improved connectivity. Additionally, efforts in the energy sector, with projects like 'Angovo' for rural electrification, highlight the EU's commitment to sustainable development. Moreover, support for the private sector through initiatives like CLIM-INVEST and INCUBOOST, along with trade facilitation programmes, illustrate the EU's comprehensive approach to fostering economic growth and social development.

The Global Gateway 360-degree approach is applied throughout. It is visible for example in the priority corridors, including the Lobito Corridor, connecting the Lobito port in Angola with the Lualaba and Katanga provinces in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the copper belt in Zambia. This corridor was included as a Global Gateway flagship in 2024. With the objective of upgrading critical infrastructure and unlocking the enormous potential of this region, the Memorandum of Understanding for the Lobito corridor was enhanced in October 2024 with Italy joining. The Memorandum had been signed in October 2023 by seven parties (Angola, DRC, Zambia, EU, USA, Africa Finance Corporation - AFC, and African Development Bank - AfDB). Under NDICI-Global Europe, the EU is committing about EUR 520 million in grants, benefiting the three countries through projects that support growth and diversification of local economies: climate-smart energy, agriculture value chains, CRMs, trade and transit facilitation, education, and skills development.

In Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean, the EU has invested in economic diplomacy, promoting market access, improving the business and investment climate, and encouraging broadening and deepening of economic partnership agreements (EPAs)., such as the eastern and Southern African EPA with five eastern and the Southern African partners (ESA5): Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Zimbabwe; and Southern African Development Community (SADC) EPA comprising Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Eswatini (with Angola negotiating to join).

The Global Gateway was promoted, and valuable stakeholder engagement achieved, at the following events:

- Zambia-EU Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Forum: 1-3 March 2023, Lusaka, Zambia;
- EU – Botswana Business Forum (EBBF): 11-12 October 2023, Gaborone, Botswana;
- EU-Namibia Business Forum: 24-25 October 2023, Brussels, Belgium;
- second EU-Angola Business Forum: 17 November 2023, Luanda, Angola;
- Mozambique-EU Global Gateway Investment Forum: 22-23 November 2023, Maputo, Mozambique;
- Zambia Business Forum on Value Addition in the Copper Sector, 10-12 April 2024;
- Malawi (GG Investment Forum) Business Forum, 26-28 November 2024.

And preparations have started for following events:

- 'European Union-Zimbabwe Business Forum', Harare, 20-22 May 2025;
- Namibia-EU Business Forum, 22-24 October 2025

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

In the digital sector, the **D4D Hub** is further strengthening the coordinated partnership between European and African actors and ensuring the promotion of European human-centric values and standards. Several programmes have been launched as part of the regional 'Digital economy and

society in Africa' TEI, aimed at establishing conducive regulations and promoting regional convergence for affordable, secure, reliable and high-speed connectivity infrastructure and services, notably for the research and education networks.

In **Kenya**, the Global Gateway flagship on digitalisation achieved key milestones, both operational and policy-related. On the operational side, the last-mile connectivity action with UNICEF completed its inception with the selection of 1 000 schools to be newly connected or upgraded in 14 counties.

On digital governance, the EU furthered its presence and offer with the launch of an adequacy dialogue on data protection, which may lead to an adequacy decision in 2025, a first on the African continent. Through the Digital Transformation Centre, the EU delivered key support to the ICT policy review and drafting of Kenya's first national artificial intelligence strategy. Further support was given to the digital transformation in **Botswana** as well as to the enhancement of governance and an enabling environment in the information and communications technology sector in **Zambia**.

Migration and forced displacement

On **migration** management, The EU hast priorities protection, assistance with voluntary return and the sustainable reintegration of migrants along the Atlantic/western Mediterranean and central Mediterranean routes . In 2024, it also prioritised support for the African diaspora in order to boost entrepreneurship and job creation through South-South cooperation (EUR 5 million). The EU and its Member States have been joining efforts in two TEIs to address migration challenges on the Atlantic/western Mediterranean and central Mediterranean routes. The TEIs are specifically concerned with the protection of migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), and fighting trafficking in human beings and smuggling.

In 2024, the EU adopted new actions to respond to the challenges of irregular migration and migrant smuggling in **West Africa**. New programmes will focus on migration management systems and on addressing the root causes of irregular migration, while focusing on youth and the green transition. The EU also established a migration partnership with Mauritania for effective and mutually beneficial cooperation on prevention and migration management.

On **forced displacement,** the regional programme focused in 2024 on protecting, assisting and facilitating durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced populations, to implement the Global Compact for Refugees and support nationally owned sustainable solutions for IDPs in ways that fully respect human rights. In that sense, the EU deployed its support in the Sahel, the West African coastal countries, the DRC and Chad to respond to forced-displacement crises (EUR 140 million in total).

The **flexible mechanism for migration** financed initiatives in seven countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, either to support the outcome of EU migration dialogue with those countries or to encourage the adoption and implementation of appropriate migration management and forced displacement policies. Initiatives were approved in Cameroun, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, the Gambia, Mauritania, Senegal, and Uganda.

2024 saw the organisation of the first Partnership Dialogue in **Cameroon**, with a focus on migration and fisheries, following the ratification of the Samoa Agreement by Cameroon in July 2024. These exchanges were accompanied by a strengthening of 'migration' support: a new EUR 10 million programme with the IOM was signed in December 2024. At the same time, the EU Delegation has engaged on a more political level by supporting the voter registration process, as a prelude to the electoral processes expected at the end of 2025.

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In **South Sudan**, the EU played a significant role amidst the arrival of 954 616 displaced people by December 2024, 70% of whom were South Sudanese returnees, affected by climate change and conflict. Efforts supported vulnerable populations and host communities with health, education and livelihoods, especially in regions like Upper Nile, Unity, and northern Bahr el-Ghazal, as well as Juba and Central Equatoria. Using a nexus approach, the EU integrated community reconciliation and peacebuilding amid extreme poverty and food insecurity, ensuring access to essential services for IDPs, refugees and returnees. Policy-level support facilitated the development of the National Area-Based Durable Solutions Roadmap and action plans for Upper Nile State. By the end of 2024, over 18 000 refugee returnees and individuals at risk of statelessness had received civil documentation, including national identity cards, through collaboration with national authorities.

Governance, peace and security

On **peace and security**, the regional programme supported ECOWAS in implementing its peace, security and governance mandate, with a specific focus on support for elections and the early prevention of conflicts. A new programme was also adopted to support multidimensional security and stabilisation efforts in West and Central Africa, aimed at reinforcing African law enforcement agencies, judiciary institutions and non-state actors. The regional programme also supported prevention and mitigation of the impact of local conflicts and the resilience of communities in borderland areas specifically in Burkina Faso/Togo/Benin, and in Central African Republic/Chad/Cameroun/Sudan.

In **Somalia**, the 'Security and Justice Governance and Accountability Project' (SJGAP) aimed to promote human security and rule of law through a better-managed and more accountable security sector, more effective justice institutions and strengthened conflict resolution mechanisms. The project continued its efforts to institutionally strengthen and build capacity in the Ministries of Justice, Internal Security and Defence. SJGAP was able to provide significant capacity-building support, notably in the development of key policies, legislation and strategies, including the Defence Bill and Police Bill. With the project at its mid-point, its work plan is being reviewed and expanded support for two federal member states of Somalia is being assessed. In 2024, the EU also finalised the contracting of a new project on IT equipment delivery, to further strengthen capacities in these key ministries.

In **West Africa**, the EU applied a humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach to its engagement towards partner countries particularly in the Sahel and the coastal countries. The EU continued to support local populations in Burkina Faso and Mali and to reinforce state presence in the northern regions of the Gulf of Guinea suffering from spillover of terrorism and insecurity from the Sahel. To promote stability in **Guinea-Bissau**, the EU recently launched a EUR 6 million programme to support the government in strengthening the justice sector. This initiative focuses on enhancing institutional capacity and ensuring the delivery of quality services, including at community level, contributing to greater stability and governance in the country. In **Lesotho**, the EU trains police officers on human rights and helped create the first-ever child-friendly courts in Lesotho to ensure better access to justice for children.

In May, in **Tanzania**, the EU Delegation launched the Youth Sounding Board with 25 young Tanzanians to enhance youth participation in EU cooperation policies. Members actively engaged in EU events, training, programme monitoring, and awareness campaigns, promoting opportunities like Erasmus+ scholarships and youth-focused funding initiatives, while amplifying EU priorities on social media and at grassroots level.

In **Central African Republic,** the EU adopted a comprehensive EUR 52 million package contributing to good governance, peace and security. The EU will work simultaneously on strengthening the rule of law and justice, with the aim of improving the independence and accountability of judicial personnel, increasing access to justice (particularly for women), improving respect for human rights, and strengthening transitional and traditional justice. In line with this support from the EU, a TEI initiative for the Special Criminal Court was launched at the end of 2024. It brings together 11 partners (including Belgium, Germany, France and Switzerland). The EU will also support reform of public finance management aimed at increasing own resources and improving budgetary transparency. Finally, the EU will support the modernisation of the civil register (*état civil*) and support independent media in the country.

Under the European Peace Facility, the EU has also supported the armed forces of Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Republic of the Congo and Somalia by providing equipment and training for the fight against terrorism, including for maritime security. The support totals approximately EUR 315 million in ongoing assistance measures. This comes in addition to Peace Facility contributions to the peace-support operations led by the African Union (EUR 600 million), such as the Multinational Joint Task Force for the fight against Boko Haram and the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia.

Food security and nutrition

Concerning **agri-food systems**, at regional level the livestock-pastoralism package was completed: the West Africa pastoralism programme (2022 AAP: EUR 60 million) was complemented by a similar programme in the Horn of Africa (EUR 40 million) and a transversal action of EUR 8 million on the eradication of PPR (*Pest des Petits Ruminants*).

The EU's engagement in improving the capacities of West African countries to face recurrent food crises was channelled through two programmes. The Strategic Food Reserves in West Africa programme (2022 AAP: EUR 20 million) helps strengthen the capacities of the West Africa regional organisation to ensure food security for the population. This action supports the regional food stock strategy, one of the pillars of the West African response to recurrent food crises. The second programme is 'Information systems in food and nutritional security in the Sahel and West Africa' (2024 AAP: EUR 10 million). This will focus on strengthening crisis management, prevention systems and information systems, taking an inclusive and gender-based approach. It aims to improve the quality, transparency, accountability and efficiency of those mechanisms and tools.

The EU promoted the agro-ecological transitions of **food systems** in Sub-Saharan Africa through the EUR 150 million DeSIRA+ programme. This will help boost investment in efforts to improve understanding and use of ecological processes, to develop agro-ecological technologies, to stimulate and scale up innovation, to mobilise and strengthen the capacities of national research, farmers' organisations, NGOs and the private sector, and to improve enabling policies for agro-ecology and sustainable food systems. Furthermore, two contracts were signed in 2023 under the Great Green Wall (GGW) Initiative (EUR 13 million), to support the development of a mosaic of green and productive landscapes across 18 countries in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa.

The Farmers' Organisations for Africa (FO4A) programme, connecting farmers with agribusiness and agricultural value chain support (2024 AAP: EUR 30 million), will promote inclusive, sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural value chains through policy support, technical assistance and the empowerment of key actors linking agribusiness to African farmers. The European Commission supports food security and nutrition initiatives in Kenya, Cameroon and Zambia. For instance, in

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Zambia, under the Agriculture Value Chain Facility, an agreement was signed with First Capital Bank Zambia, as the second-biggest local financial intermediary bank, for a EUR 20 million investment to provide loans for SMEs in the agriculture and aquaculture sectors, with an additional EUR 2.6 million grant from the EU.

Case study

Rehabilitation feeder and farm roads – an EU-Africa flagship project

In June 2024, at an official ceremony, the EU and the Ghanaian government handed over 670 kms of rehabilitated roads to beneficiary communities in the Upper West Region.

The rehabilitation of feeder roads will help boost agriculture, facilitate market access and increase farmers' incomes in northern Ghana. During the inauguration ceremony, the EU Ambassador to Ghana said that *'This project, representing EUR 35 million (…) is an important part of the European Union Global Gateway initiative (…). The roads that we are commissioning today provide vital links to the areas of agricultural production and market centres. This project will unlock new economic opportunities for communities in the Upper West Region as well as help reduce transport costs and travel time'.*

This project, funded under the 11th EDF – 'Productive investments for development of sustainable agriculture and better market access in northern Ghana' is part of a wider package encompassing: improved access to healthcare (rehabilitation of Community-based Health Planning Centres); irrigation schemes (eight new dams and over 45 boreholes to be constructed; 10 existing dams to be rehabilitated); support for agribusiness and for resilience to climate change; and access to finance. All these actions contribute to development and stability in northern Ghana.

4.1.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

Sub-Saharan Africa has the EU's largest humanitarian budgetary envelope. In 2024, EUR 956 million was allocated to humanitarian assistance in Sub-Saharan Africa, responding to some of the world's gravest crises.

The conflict and humanitarian crisis in Sudan has become the world's largest displacement crisis, with 11.5 million internally displaced persons – about 30% of the entire population and 15% of all IDPs worldwide. In addition, over 3.3 million people have crossed the borders into neighbouring countries. Over 24.6 million Sudanese, more than half of the population, are experiencing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above) and, in December, the IPC-Famine Review Committee Report identified famine in at least five areas. The conflict has brought massive violations of IHL and human rights, including war crimes and likely crimes against humanity.

In 2024, the EU allocated close to EUR 260 million to the humanitarian response to the Sudan crisis, including over EUR 147 million in Sudan alone, providing life-saving assistance to those affected by the crisis, both in Sudan and in neighbouring countries. The EU also mobilised its European Humanitarian Response Capacity to support the response to the Sudan crisis, including warehousing and logistics support in Chad, at the border with Sudan, a helicopter to facilitate movements during the rainy season, seven EU humanitarian air bridge (HAB) flights for the response in the East of Chad and across the border into Sudan, and a multi-modal bridge operation transporting medical items into the city of Port Sudan.

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The severe humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa continued in 2024, with close to 35 million people requiring humanitarian assistance in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Conflicts and the impact of natural hazards, such as localised droughts, floods and landslides aggravated by climate change, are driving internal displacement, food insecurity and cross-border flows. The EU continued to support the most vulnerable through multi-sectoral humanitarian action and mobilised additional funding throughout the year to respond to cholera outbreaks, floods and new population displacements. More than EUR 185 million was allocated in 2024, and the Commission devoted considerable efforts to improving the accountability of aid in the region, and continued its policy dialogue with the African Union as part of efforts to develop its Humanitarian Agency.

In 2024 the EU continued its support for life-saving activities in South Sudan, where over 70% of the population needed humanitarian assistance – a situation exacerbated by the arrival of close to a million people fleeing the conflict in neighbouring Sudan. Continued assistance was also provided to address humanitarian needs in Uganda, which hosts over 1.7 million refugees and asylum seekers, the largest refugee population in Africa.

The Democratic Republic of Congo experienced a further aggravation of the conflicts between the Congolese army, the FARDC, various armed groups, and the M23 insurgency supported by Rwanda. This brought a dramatic increase in humanitarian needs, particularly in the eastern provinces. In 2024, the integrated UN Stabilisation Mission in the DRC, MONUSCO, withdrew from South Kivu, while M23 encircled Goma and made further inroads into north Kivu. Violations of human rights and IHL are a daily occurrence, as are widespread sexual and gender-based violence. The extreme vulnerability of civilians to protection incidents is one of the factors justifying the holistic approach to gender-based violence pursued by the Commission in implementing its aid in DRC. As part of this response, Commission funding provided, among other things, medical and psychosocial support for survivors of violence[86], as well as emergency livelihoods for survivors and at-risk populations. In 2024, the EU response included EUR 112 million to address humanitarian needs in assistance, logistics support, EU HAB flights, and strong advocacy efforts, including a visit by (former) Commissioner Lenarčič to the country.

The situation in Central Sahel, characterised by violence against civilians and IHL violations, is fuelling forced displacement into coastal countries in the Gulf of Guinea. The worsening of the situation in Mali, with the withdrawal of the UN integrated mission (MINUSMA) and the termination of the Algiers Peace Process at the end of 2023, has caused an even greater refugee influx into Mauritania. Numbers have increased by 142%, since early 2024 (to more than 262 000 people). Despite facing growing humanitarian access restrictions, the Commission provided a total of EUR 130.6 million in multisector assistance for the people most exposed to the crisis in Central Sahel and neighbouring countries (coastal countries and Mauritania) in 2024.

The Lake Chad Basin crisis, which results from a regional conflict affecting north-east Nigeria, the far north of Cameroon, Chad's Lake region and Niger's Diffa region, is an acute and protracted crisis, now in its fifteenth year. Of the 10.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, about 6.1 million people were severely food-insecure (IPC3+) and 299 000 children were admitted for treatment against severe acute malnutrition in 2024. Significant protection threats and large-scale population movements characterise this complex crisis. Multisector emergency assistance for the people most exposed to the crisis totalled over EUR 200 million in the countries affected in 2024

[86] Including SRHR support, health facilities, mobile clinics, Women and Girls Safe Spaces, etc.

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(Chad, Cameroon, Nigeria, and Niger), with most funding going to food security, nutrition and rapid response.

Southern Africa faces a complex array of humanitarian challenges driven by environmental, social and economic factors. Tropical cyclones, such as Chido which hit the region in December 2024, are frequent, as are floods and droughts. These cause significant damage on a yearly basis. In 2024, a prolonged El Niño-induced drought scorched crops in a region where 70% of the population rely on income from agriculture to survive. More than 30 million people across 14 countries are facing acute food insecurity and six countries have declared a state of emergency due to the El Niño-induced drought: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Several countries have also been affected by cholera outbreaks. Conflict and violence have continued in northern Mozambique with 1.3 million displaced people over seven years of conflict. In Mozambique, the EU funded new actions in the areas of food security, nutrition, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), education in emergencies, protection, rapid-response mechanism and disaster preparedness. In Madagascar, the EU supported cash transfer, nutrition, protection and disaster preparedness operations in the 'Grand Sud' and south-east. Finally, EUR 900 000 was allocated in December to provide relief assistance for the population in northern Mozambique affected by tropical cyclone Chido. Regionally, the EU continued to support disaster preparedness capacities, and an additional EUR 25 million was allocated in response to the El Niño-induced drought.

In 2024, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) was activated four times to provide support and assistance for Sub-Saharan countries (Burundi, Cabo Verde, Ethiopia, and Rwanda) in response to natural disasters and health emergencies. In Central Africa, the UCPM was activated to support Burundi, by sending technical experts following the severe floods caused by heavy rains. The Mechanism also helped Rwanda by providing personal protective equipment and epidemiologist expertise following the Marburg virus outbreak in the country. In East Africa, the UCPM channelled assistance to Ethiopia in response to the severe landslides that affected the country. The Mechanism also cooperated with the UNEP/OCHA Joint Environmental Unit to address the environmental impact. In West Africa, in the central Atlantic Ocean, the UCPM channelled COVID-19 vaccines to Cabo Verde, in order to help the fight against the virus. In addition, the Commission provided rapid support for people affected by natural hazards, epidemics and human-induced crises in 34 countries, mobilising EUR 17 million from the Emergency Toolbox and EUR 7 million through its contribution to the International Federation of the Red Cross's Disaster Response Emergency Fund operations in Sub-Saharan Africa.

4.1.4. Crisis response and preparedness

With 16 new crisis response actions related to Sub-Saharan Africa launched in 2024 under the rapid-response pillar of the NDICI- Global Europe, the EU responded to the numerous crises in the region.

Crisis response actions continued to address some of the main emerging and acute conflicts and, post-crisis contexts in the region, including in Nigeria, the Great Lakes and the Greater Horn of Africa. Significant actions were launched covering human security, stabilisation, confidence building, cyber security, hybrid threats, disinformation as well as accountability and prevention of electoral violence.

Actions were also deployed to prevent and reduce gender-based violence in Sudan and Chad, and to prevent radicalisation and violent extremism in Senegal and Guinea.

After a year of devastating war in Sudan, the EU has adopted three new actions to strengthen the role of local responders for assistance delivery and help build trust, and to support the International

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Criminal Court in monitoring and investigating any alleged violations in Darfur to protect the most vulnerable and ensure justice. In the Great Lakes, an action on local peace efforts in eastern DRC and cross-border mediation were initiated. To reduce the risk of violent electoral processes, crisis response measures were taken in Ivory Coast and Gabon. Support for social cohesion and the role of civil society in Burkina Faso was another key action taken in 2024. In Nigeria, a new action aimed to facilitate peace, reduce violence and enhance resilience among conflict-affected communities. Another priorities was addressing the risk of increased tensions due to the influx of refugees from Mali into Mauritania. In Somalia, an action was adopted to support civilian stabilisation, consolidate peace and enhance social cohesion in areas liberated from violent extremism. Further support was provided for the transitional justice process in Ethiopia. Particular attention was given to ensuring consistency between crisis response actions and CSDP missions in all countries where they are deployed. This includes actions in the Central African Republic, the Sahel and Somalia. In addition, the EU also supports Sub-Saharan countries through the European Peace Facility, an off-budget instrument, in their fight against terrorism.

In 2024 the EU supported peace and security in sub-Saharan Africa through, amongst others, five civilian CSDP missions and three EU Special Representatives.

The European Union CSDP Mission in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali), launched in 2014 and extended to January 2025, continued to support the Malian internal security forces. The Regional Advisory and Coordination Cell (RACC), embedded within EUCAP Sahel Mali, continued to enhance regional cooperation and operational capabilities in the field of defence and security.

The EU CSDP Mission in Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger) had to cease activities and withdraw from the country after the Nigerien de facto authorities revoked the Status of Mission Agreement (SOMA).

The European Union Advisory Mission to Central African Republic (EUAM RCA) continued to support the establishment of rule-based governance, increase capacities within the Ministry for Interior and Public Security, and foster a sustainable transformation of the Central African Republic's internal security forces and their effective operational functioning and deployment.

In 2024, the EU Capacity-Building Mission in Somalia (EUCAP Somalia) continued its work to enhance Somali maritime civilian law enforcement including by providing the necessary mentoring, advice, training and equipment for Somali maritime civilian law enforcement entities. The Mission also started to focus on advising, training and equipping the Somali police force.

In 2024, the civilian pillar of the 'European Union Security and Defence Initiative in support of West African countries of the Gulf of Guinea' supported the capacities of the civilian security forces of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana though training, workshops and equipment.

The EU Special Representative (EUSR) for the Sahel's mandate, extended until 31 August 2026, actively contributed to regional and international efforts to achieve lasting peace, security, stability and sustainable development in the region. Furthermore, the EUSR aimed to enhance the quality, impact and visibility of the EU's multifaceted engagement in the Sahel in an integrated way.

The EUSR for the Horn of Africa actively contributed to regional and international efforts to achieve peaceful coexistence and lasting peace, security, and development within and among the countries in the region. The EUSR also engaged with the countries of the Red Sea and Nile Basin as well as with relevant regional or international entities as appropriate. The mandate of the EUSR was extended until 31 August 2026.

A new EUSR for the Great Lakes region was appointed in 2024, with a mandate to contribute to peace, stability and security in the Great Lakes region by promoting the de-escalation of tensions and the prevention of conflicts, and supporting dialogue and long-term regional solutions to crises and conflicts, in particular for the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The EU increased support for biosecurity in the region through the EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Centres of Excellence initiative, with actions focused on enhanced early detection and preparedness for emerging viral diseases, strengthened epidemiology response and enhanced capacity of public health laboratories to produce reliable test results and establish quality management systems.

4.2. Asia and the Pacific

4.2.1. East Asia and South Asia

4.2.1.1. Introduction (policy developments)

Pakistan continued to be marred by a series of simultaneous crises, in the political, economic and social spheres. Following an overdue and heavily disputed general elections, which finally took place in February 2024, a coalition majority formed a stable government. The Election Experts Mission (EEM) deployed by the EU formulated a set of recommendations to address the very controversial electoral process. An already fragile political and economic situation has been further compounded by increasing security challenges stemming from Afghanistan-based and local terrorist groups. Furthermore, the EU continued to monitor the implementation of governance, human and labour rights conventions connected to the General Scheme of Preferences (GSP+).

The EU continued to use its diplomatic presence in **Afghanistan** to reach out to the Afghan people and to ensure a communication channel with the Taliban de facto authorities in Kabul, notably on restoring the basic rights of women and girls and implementing assistance in line with an overarching 'for women by women' principle. The EU actively contributed to the UN-led political process aiming to keep unity in the international community and engaging with the Taliban de facto authorities on a number of topics.

2024 marked the 20th Anniversary of the EU-**India** Strategic Partnership. Wide-ranging relations – captured in the EU-India Roadmap to 2025 – continued to expand, including in relation to trade, technology, the green transition, digital transformation, connectivity, and security and defence. Negotiations on an EU-India Free Trade Agreement and an Agreement on Geographical Indications (GIs) continued. Numerous sectoral dialogues were held during the year, alongside foreign policy and security consultations and the Strategic Partnership review, which took stock of implementation of the EU-India Roadmap. President von der Leyen announced a new strategic agenda on India in the Political Guidelines for 2024-2029 (from 24 July 2024). It will focus on prosperity and sustainability, technology and innovation, security and defence, connectivity and global issues, and deepening people-to-people contacts. This will form the basis for further intensifying of ties. The EU and India address key trade, trusted technology and security challenges through the EU-INDIA Trade and Technology Council (TTC), which was set up in 2023.

The EU deployed an EEM for the parliamentary elections held in **Bangladesh** on 7 January and its report was made public. The EU has engaged with Bangladesh's interim government – installed following the overthrow of the Awami League government – including on the extensive reform process. The EU and Bangladesh launched negotiations on a new Partnership and Cooperation Agreement.

The EU supported the democratic process in **Sri Lanka** by deploying a full-fledged Election Observation Mission (EOM) to observe the presidential election and an EEM to observe the parliamentary election. The EU supports the country's reform agenda, and monitors Sri Lanka's compliance with its GSP+ commitments to ensure continued access to the European market for Sri Lanka's export industries.

The EU continued to engage with **China** to promote EU interests, and on global challenges in line with the Council Conclusions of June 2023, in particular with regard to climate and the environment. The objective to maintain constructive and stable relations remained, as well as keeping a robust and realistic approach towards China, through a 'multifaceted approach' (partner - competitor - rival)[87]. The three priorities in the EU engagement are: (i) addressing China's support to Russia; (ii) rebalancing the economic and trade relationship; and (iii) continuing engagement on global issues, especially climate change. The EU-China Summit on July 24 was a key moment to convey these messages to the Chinese leadership in a frank and constructive manner.

In **Mongolia**, following parliamentary elections and the forming of a new coalition government, 2024 saw continued EU efforts to support the country's economic and institutional reform processes through Budget Support, Twinning and TAIEX projects (to support judicial reform). With Mongolia being one of the first countries to conclude a Forest Partnership with the EU, in 2024 the EIB prepared a loan to fund implementation activities. Increasing the share of renewable energy in a carbon-based economy and, through the prolonged GSP Regulation, reducing the country's economic dependence and supporting its diversification continued to be important priorities for the EU. However, Mongolia increased the volume of its coal exports to China. Critical raw materials (CRMs) remain high on Team Europe's agenda with Mongolia. An investment agreement for a substantial uranium project with France was signed at the end of the year.

Laos was the ASEAN Chair in 2024. The EU-ASEAN Plan of Action to Implement the Strategic Partnership (2023-2027) was taken forward. The High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission (HRVP) reviewed progress at the EU-ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference in Vientiane in July, where he also took part in the ASEAN Regional Forum.

Brunei became the EU's ASEAN Coordinator for the next three years, after three fruitful years working hand-in-hand with the Philippines.

The EU-**Thailand** Partnership and Cooperation Agreement entered into provisional application on 20 October 2024. Free trade agreement negotiations were accelerated with **Indonesia** and **Thailand** and resumed with the **Philippines** and **Malaysia**[88]. The EU finalised negotiations on a digital trade agreement with **Singapore** to improve legal certainty for end-to-end digital trade. The EU intensified its dialogue with **Vietnam**, with the HRVP visiting Vietnam twice, underlining the strengthening of bilateral relations. The Human Rights Dialogue with **Indonesia** was resumed. The EU continued to implement the Decision on the partial withdrawal of Everything but Arms (EBA) trade preferences from **Cambodia**.

The EU continued to closely follow the situation in **Myanmar** and to stand by its people. The EU adopted new targeted sanctions against the military regime in Myanmar, while avoiding harm to the civilian population. The EU continued to support the **ASEAN** Five-Point Consensus to address the

[87] In line with the Council Conclusions of June 2023.
[88] In January 2025.

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crisis in Myanmar, and deepened its engagement with the National Unity Government and other anti-coup stakeholders.

In 2024, the EU and **Japan** strengthened their partnership through key milestones, including the inaugural EU-Japan Strategic Dialogue, the EU-Japan Security and Defence Partnership, and high-level dialogues on economic, digital and climate issues. They also launched negotiations for Japan's association to Horizon Europe. These engagements reaffirmed our shared commitment to upholding common values, tackling global challenges, and a strong convergence on economic security, as well as the green and digital transitions.

The EU and **South Korea** (**Republic of Korea** – ROK) strengthened their partnership in a very similar manner, through the inaugural EU-ROK Strategic Dialogue, the EU-ROK Security and Defence Partnership, and high-level dialogues on economic, digital and climate issues. They also launched negotiations for ROK's association to Horizon Europe. These engagements reaffirmed our shared commitment to upholding common values, tackling global challenges, and a strong convergence on economic security, as well as the green and digital transitions.

4.2.1.2. Implementation

Human development and inequalities

In 2024, the European Commission implemented a range of projects aimed at promoting human development and reducing inequalities in the region. Here below a few examples.

In **Afghanistan**, throughout 2024, the EU continued to deliver basic needs and livelihoods assistance to the Afghan people despite the increased complexity in the operating environment. Challenges included the adoption of the so-called 'morality law', a ban on women's studies in medical fields, and the reinforcement of the 2022 ban on women working in NGOs, all of which further restrict fundamental human rights, especially for women. The Commission adopted a new support package of EUR 146 million to strengthen basic services and livelihoods, with particular attention to women, children and vulnerable populations including internally displaced persons, refugees, minorities and returnees. This support will ensure continuity of essential services such as healthcare, education, access to food and nutrition, water and sanitation. It is also used to provide community-based safety nets and enhance income-generating activities, market access and microfinance. The assistance will continue to meaningfully involve women both in the design and delivery of aid.

Continuing the Commission's commitment on gender equality and women's empowerment, in November 2024, the Commission launched an action on gender equality in **India**, focusing on women's economic empowerment in key Global Gateway sectors like energy and digital including gender-related data, and on textiles. The programme aims to create synergies and alliances for gender action, including with the private sector.

In **Bangladesh**, despite the political unrest, the Commission resumed implementation of the budget support programme for primary education and technical and vocational education and training (TVET). Significant progress was made in expanding online platforms for training and improving TVET sector monitoring and assessment, including through building quality primary school infrastructure. Support through Budget Support was also resumed for social protection, with a top-up of EUR 44 million for 2025-2026. As a result, progress was made, amongst others, in the development of a single registry of workers and the expansion of the Government to People (G2P) payment system.

In Vietnam, the Commission signed a financial agreement for the second phase of the EU JULE project. EU JULE II will strengthen the rule of law and promote human rights through a qualified, transparent, more inclusive, and independent justice system.

Green Deal

The European Commission is committed to supporting the transition to a green economy in the region, and in 2024, several initiatives were launched to promote sustainable energy practices and reduce carbon emissions.

During 2024, a wide range of Green Deal-related actions were carried out in **India**, in fields like water management, sustainable urbanisation, resource efficiency, circular economy, energy transition, and disaster risk management. Some of these were funded through a top-up. Indicative activities include the following.

- The Commission actively engaged with the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), representing the European constituency on the CDRI's Executive Committee. A EUR 5 million contribution from the EU currently supports 11 ongoing projects in 13 small island developing states (SIDS), under the IRIS initiative, and the second call for proposals in May 2024 led to the selection of 12 new projects.
- The sixth India-EU Water Forum, held in September 2024 during India Water Week, tackled critical water challenges and explored technological solutions. It involved India, Team Europe and East Africa stakeholders, and initiated a collaboration with the Brahmaputra River Board under the India-EU Water Initiative (IEWI), starting in December 2024.
- In December 2024 the first programme steering committee meeting of the Resource Efficiency Circular Economy (RE/CE) programme approved 10 pilot projects focused on plastics, textiles and e-waste.
- In late 2024, a new support programme was signed with India to apply just transition principles in coal mine closure and repurposing in India. The programme aims to improve the mine closure framework and promote sustainable development in coal regions, marking the EU's first political engagement with the Ministry of Coal.
- A grant contract was signed with the European Telecommunications Standards Institute to support the 'Seconded European Standardisation Expert in India' project, that promotes awareness of the European standardisation system and keeps European stakeholders informed about Indian standardisation policies.
- Support worth EUR 1 million was approved for the International Solar Alliance (ISA) through the Solar Technology Application Research Centre (STAR-C) programme in non-EU countries, strengthening the Team Europe approach and building on France's existing support.

Following the signing of the **Bangladesh** Renewable Energy Facility in late 2023, the Commission provided an additional EUR 90 million funding for the Saidabad project and EUR 72 million for the Ghandarbpur project. The Circular Economy programme, as part of the SWITCH-2 initiative, assisted in tackling Bangladesh's vulnerability on export, supporting the garment sector with innovation and policy guidance on EU initiatives. The programme for safety reforms in the ready-made garment sector (SREUP-RMG) helped 62 factories to improve safety, environmental standards, and due diligence, investing in effluent treatment, energy-efficient machinery and solar power.

In **Nepal**, the Commission launched two important projects in the energy sector. The project GREEN+, Green and Reliable Energy for Economic Prosperity in Nepal, worth EUR 23.58 million, aims to help increase reliable, green and inclusive energy supply in Nepal, building the capacities of the Nepal Electricity Authority and strengthening electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure. The EUR 9 million 'Green Resilient Agricultural Centred Private Sector Economic Development' (GRAPE 2) is meant to build on a previous phase to further advance sustainable climate-resilient economic development, with a focus on climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector in Nepal, focusing on the far west of Nepal.

In **Sri Lanka**, the Commission agreed on two EUR 8 million actions for green recovery. The first, focused on improving biodiversity and waste management, will build capacity among stakeholders for sustainable practices. The second one promotes sustainable, climate-resilient farming practices with an emphasis on youth, women and policy strengthening. In addition, a EUR 15 million agreement was signed with the Asian Development Bank on renewable energy. In line with the Global Gateway strategy, the aim is to enhance **Sri Lanka's** climate resilience by reducing emissions and easing financial burdens on low-consumption consumers, while helping utilities develop virtual net-metering for rooftop solar and supporting SMEs and community groups without solar access.

In June 2024, the Commission and the **Maldives** signed a EUR 6.5 million agreement on improved biodiversity management to support a blue economy in the Maldives. This action aims to protect and regenerate the vital mangrove ecosystems in the country, contributing to biodiversity protection.

In **Laos,** the EU launched a Global Gateway flagship project aiming to increase sustainable and inclusive trade, investment, and connectivity in the agriculture and forestry sectors (TICAF), with a focus on coffee, tea, and forest-based value chains but also addressing deforestation and enhancing infrastructure for transport connectivity. This initiative is expected to have a positive impact on the environment, by promoting sustainable agriculture practices and reducing deforestation, while also improving the lives of people in the region by providing them with better economic opportunities.

In **Vietnam**, the Commission continued to lead the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), and further supported energy transition in Vietnam, promoting green growth and decarbonisation. In 2024, the EU mobilised additional funds to support the establishment of the JETP Secretariat, which will facilitate project implementation. The JETP is expected to have a positive impact on the environment, by reducing the use of carbon and promoting the use of renewable energy sources, while also ensuring a just transition and providing people in the region with better economic opportunities.

In **Indonesia**, the Commission launched the 'Attraction Plan for Future-Oriented EU Foreign Direct Investments', which aims to promote green growth and decent jobs, and support the country's transition to a higher middle-income economy. This initiative is expected to attract significant foreign investment to the country, creating new job opportunities and promoting sustainable economic growth.

In the **Philippines**, the Commission started implementing the EUR 60 million Green Economy Programme, which is the foundation stone for the EUR 466 million Green Team Europe Initiative. The Green Economy Forum, kick-starting the Policy Dialogue Platform on green economy, took place at the end of 2024. The programme supports circular economy, plastic waste reduction, waste management, decarbonisation, renewable energy and green skills enhancement. This initiative will promote sustainable practices and contribute to the reduction of waste, while providing the

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population with better job opportunities and improving their overall standard of living. Similarly, the Commission also decided to provide additional funds for the Climate Investors 2 project, with the aim of supporting improved water and wastewater management and waste-to-energy infrastructure.

In **Mongolia**, progress continued on sustainable energy in 2024. In October, the EU grant agreement for the Choir-Sainshand Energy Transmission Line project was signed with the Minister of Finance, thus paving the way for the actual start of the construction works in 2025. In addition, the Ulaanbaatar Solid Waste Modernisation blending project achieved a key milestone with the inauguration of the new solid waste plant, a significant step towards the sustainable management of urban solid waste. Finally, climate change remains at the heart of the Forest Partnership, which entered a new stage with the official launch of the Sustainable Ecosystem and Agriculture Management project (STREAM project phase 2 worth EUR13.8 million). This Global Gateway flagship project is implemented together with GIZ and the FAO.

The Council Conclusions of June 2023 reiterated the importance of cooperating with **China** on global challenges and of promoting EU interests. In the field of climate and building on the EU-China dialogue initiated in 2014, in 2024, the EU adopted a new action supporting international climate goals by facilitating the exchange of expertise between EU and China and sharing EU best practices in emissions trading. It will support monitoring, reporting, and verification in the world's largest carbon market, which is critical to improving the efficacy of China's ETS in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Sustainable growth and jobs

The European Commission is working to promote sustainable growth and jobs in the region by supporting the development of key sectors such as energy, trade and agriculture.

In 2024, through the **Asia Pacific Investment Facility**, the Commission deployed EUR 239 million in 'blending' funds to mobilise private and public finance for investment in Asia and the Pacific. This contribution leverages over EUR 3 billion in additional finance, with projects benefiting countries across Central Asia, South Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific, contributing to sustainable growth and jobs. Investments supported by the Facility contribute to the Global Gateway flagships in the region, such as the Just Energy Transition Partnerships in Indonesia and Vietnam. The Asia Pacific Investment Facility helped to scale up the projects of Team Europe members such as the EIB, the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank (FMO), AFD and the EBRD.

The EU's agenda on sustainable connectivity is a top priority of the EU's external action globally and in South-East Asia. This is reaffirmed at regional level through the **TEI on 'Sustainable Connectivity for ASEAN and South-East Asia',** which several EU Member States and the EIB launched in December 2022.

In 2024, several projects under the 'EU-funded Sustainable Connectivity Package (SCOPE)' TEI became operational, such as:

- the 'SCOPE Civil Aviation Partnership' project, worth EUR 7 million, which supports the implementation of the Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (CATA);
- the 'SCOPE Intellectual Property Rights' project, contributing EUR 3 million to promote harmonisation and convergence of practices;
- the 'SCOPE Higher Education' project, worth EUR 9 million, which aims to enhance people-to-people connectivity; and

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- the ‘SCOPE Trade’ support initiative, worth EUR 20 million.

In **Cambodia**, the Commission signed four key financing agreements to implement new EU programmes focused on sustainable agriculture value chains, sustainable energy practices in industry, technical education and trade. These agreements reflect a shared commitment between the EU and Cambodia to accelerate trade, boost economic growth and maximise the benefits of ASEAN integration, while also promoting sustainable development and reducing the country’s carbon footprint.

In **Myanmar**, the Commission implemented the EUR 20 million ‘Support to Education and Vocational Training’ project, which aims to improve access to quality education and vocational training for young people, particularly in rural areas. This initiative is expected to have a positive impact on the lives of young people in Myanmar, by providing them with better access to education and job opportunities.

In **Bangladesh**, the ‘Skills 21’ project implemented by the ILO was extended for three years to align training with EU needs, improve needs assessments, and support skills recognition. In July 2024, it also helped launch the Talent Partnership models to boost skills mobility and EU-Bangladesh cooperation. Furthermore, the Decent Work TEI launched a joint four-year programme, co-funded by the EU, Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden. This programme focuses on advancing decent work, promoting job creation and labour rights, and aligning with the EU’s support for labour reforms in Bangladesh.

The **regional SWITCH-Asia programme** has made significant progress in promoting sustainable consumption and production (SCP) across Asia and the Pacific, contributing to environmental protection, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change mitigation. The South-East Asia region continued to be a primary focus of engagement for the programme, driven by active interest and mediation from national focal points (NFPs) and requests originating from regional organisations. Engagement with three ASEAN countries on green public procurement (GPP) technical assistance helped to elevate GPP practices and implement the ASEAN SCP Framework. Support was also provided in organising the 12th ASEAN Plus-Three Leadership Programme on SCP and Circular Economy in **Laos**. With a view to boosting business commitment to the circular economy, over 75 business cases were developed for circular economy and engagements, including with national membership business associations under the ASEAN Circular Economy Business Alliance (ACEBA) Technical Assistance. The second stage of the ACEBA Technical Assistance is ongoing, with stronger commitments from business associations in the **Philippines**, **Indonesia**, and **Thailand.** The objective is to develop new communication strategies to enhance outreach and engagement. The programme policy support component further supported the EU-ASEAN Circular Economy Platform, coordinated by the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD), and developing support for operationalisation of the ASEAN SCP Framework.

Activities in South Asia focused on bolstering NDCs through SCP actions across five countries through the second stage of the technical assistance. Bangladesh is a part of the technical assistance on Circular Economy in the building and construction sector and Pakistan is preparing to join the technical assistance focusing on factors for enhancing extended producer responsibility (EPR) across Asia.

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Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

The European Commission is committed to promoting digitalisation, science, technology, and innovation in the region, and in 2024, several initiatives were launched to support the development of these sectors.

In **Indonesia,** the Commission launched the EUR 10 million 'Digital Innovation and Entrepreneurship' project, which aims to support the development of digital innovation and entrepreneurship in the country, particularly among SMEs. This initiative is expected to support the development of the digital economy, promoting e-commerce, and improving access to digital services, particularly in rural areas, and to provide businesses with better access to funding and resources.

In the **Philippines,** the Commission inaugurated the Copernicus Data Centre, under the first Earth observation programme for climate change mitigation and disaster risk reduction in South-East Asia. This Global Gateway flagship initiative is expected to have a positive impact on disaster risk preparedness and the environment, by promoting the use of Earth observation services and technology to mitigate the effects of climate change, while also improving the lives of people by providing them with better access to information and services. Building on the Copernicus programme, the Commission also adopted the Digital Economy Package with the objective of supporting improvements to digital infrastructure in the country, the development of secure networks, and better access to digital services, particularly in remote areas.

To enhance understanding of developments in **China** in a rapidly evolving digital landscape (including on artificial intelligence, semiconductors, 5G networks and cybersecurity), in 2024 the EU launched an action on 'European Perspectives on Digital China'. It aims to establish a network of European experts to conduct in-depth analyses of China's digital policies and investments to inform the EU's policy decision-making and enhance competitiveness.

Migration and forced displacement

The European Commission is working to address the challenges of migration and forced displacement in the region by supporting the development of safe and sustainable migration pathways.

Regarding the Afghan displacement situation, a new regional programme has been adopted to support durable solutions for displaced and returning Afghans and their host communities in neighbouring countries. The programme, implemented by UNHCR, aims to ensure that durable solutions are achieved for Afghan refugees in **Iran, Pakistan and Central Asia**, as well as for internally displaced people in **Afghanistan**.

During the second half of 2024, implementation began of the Rohingya Resilience Programme in Bangladesh, which aims at protection and empowerment of Rohingya refugees in the camps as well as of host communities in Cox's Bazar. The programme will also improve food security and livelihoods of vulnerable households.

To support legal migration, talent partnerships were rolled out in **Bangladesh** and **Pakistan**, aiming at providing opportunities for skilled labour to migrate to participating EU Member States, for work in selected sectors. In South-East Asia, the Commission implemented the EU-ILO **Ship to Shore Rights** programme, which promotes fair and sustainable employment in the fishing industries, and allows the EU to work and strengthen relationships with a variety of stakeholders to improve working and living conditions for migrant workers. This initiative is expected to have a positive

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impact on the lives of migrant workers in the region, by promoting fair and sustainable employment practices, and improving their overall standard of living.

In **Thailand** and **Malaysia**, the Commission supported implementation of the regional Migration, Business, and Human Rights (MBHR) project, implemented by IOM and co-funded by Sweden, which aims to achieve stronger coherence on labour migration governance and promotes regular migration pathways. The project results include improved conditions for targeted labour migrants.

Governance, peace and security

The European Commission is committed to promoting good governance, peace and security in the region, and in 2024, several initiatives were launched to support the development of these sectors.

At the regional level, the Commission strengthened its partnership with **ASEAN**, aiming to deepen and elevate relations to the level of a comprehensive strategic partnership. This initiative is expected to promote peace and stability in the region, by strengthening the EU's relationships with ASEAN member states, and promoting cooperation on key issues such as trade, security and human rights. A new **regional** project that started operations in 2024 is the Global Ports Safety Project which has contributed to improving safety at ports across the region. The project provided training on the topic of 'Gases and Flammable Liquids – Industrial Risks' for fire officers and university professors in Vietnam, and assessed ports in Thailand and the Philippines.

In **Myanmar**, the Commission worked to promote democracy and human rights, supporting the implementation of programmes aimed at promoting the rule of law and improving access to justice and human rights.

In the **Philippines**, through a variety of programmes, the Commission supported peace and reconciliation in Mindanao, social cohesion and socio-economic development, including improvement of resilience and livelihoods of the most vulnerable local populations.

In **Bangladesh**, the Commission signed contracts for e-governance and gender-based violence projects. The EUR 10 million e-governance project, launched in November 2024, aims to improve public service delivery through enhanced digital infrastructure. Two actions of EUR 5 million each will aim to strengthen protection against sexual and gender-based violence in workplaces, educational institutions, schools and public transportation. Political changes in **Bangladesh** have made public finance management (PFM) reforms a top priority. The Commission provided support for digitising tax processes, improving transfer-pricing, launching a tax awareness campaign, and enhancing audit systems. It also helped strengthen key institutions and fostered collaboration with think tanks and CSOs to increase public finance accountability, contributing to the White Paper on the State of the Bangladesh Economy. The Commission also confirmed the provision of the EUR 35 million 2024 tranche to address the Rohingya crisis. Decided on in 2023, the tranche focuses on protection, education and livelihoods in Cox's Bazar. The initiative, in collaboration with UNHCR, WFP, and the World Bank, will be supported by a BRAC[89] pilot project to improve the humanitarian response, set to start in early 2025.

In 2024, the Commission supported **India's** civil society with EUR 5.3 million for six ongoing projects focused on human rights, gender-based violence, tribal rights and access to justice. Two new projects, totalling EUR 1.69 million, were contracted to address business and human rights, and forced labour in the mica and shrimp industries, starting in 2025. Additionally, three multi-country

[89] BRAC is an international development organisation founded in Bangladesh.

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projects were contracted, covering the death penalty, freedom of religion and human rights in digital technologies. Furthermore, seven new projects to support **Indian** CSOs were signed, creating a portfolio of 25 CSO projects. Six of the projects signed in December 2024 align with the EU-India Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy (RE-CE) Partnership focusing on textiles, handicrafts, and livelihoods for women, girls and vulnerable communities. Finally, two new projects were contracted through the SWITCH-Asia instrument, focusing on textiles and sustainable practices, aligned with the RE-CE partnership. A total of EUR 12.2 million was allocated to new CSO and SWITCH-Asia projects.

Food security and nutrition

The European Commission is working to promote food security and nutrition in the region by supporting the development of sustainable agriculture practices and improving access to nutritious food.

In **Indonesia**, the Commission launched a programme to support implementation of the national food security strategy, aiming to improve access to nutritious food, particularly for vulnerable populations, including women and children.

Case study

Amongst the key initiatives launched by the European Commission in 2024 was the EUR 46.6 million project **'Post-Flood Rural Economic Recovery of Green Productive Assets in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)'** (PEACE II), implemented in partnership with the Pakistani government and other stakeholders.

The project is part of the Global Gateway flagship initiative 'Climate-resilient infrastructure and TVET centres' and provides the most vulnerable and remote mountainous communities in KP with renewable energy (micro-hydropower stations managed by the communities) and water for irrigation through sustainable water resource management. The project also supports the targeted communities by leveraging the availability of energy in communities for small and medium-sized enterprises and socio-economic development, and promotes sustainable agriculture practices, particularly among smallholder farmers. By rehabilitating some of the micro hydro power plants affected by the 2022 floods, the project is also part of the EU's and Team Europe's flood response in Pakistan.

This initiative is a prime example of how the Commission is working to implement the Global Gateway strategy, by promoting sustainable and inclusive growth, and enhancing the EU's partnerships with countries in the region.

4.2.1.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

In Afghanistan, the humanitarian situation is dire, with 22.9 million people in need of humanitarian assistance and close to 15 million people, one third of the population, experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity. The Taliban's repressive policies, disproportionally affecting women and girls, continue to hamper the activities of humanitarian organisations in the country. Despite the challenging environment, humanitarian actors have been able to deliver humanitarian aid with meaningful participation by women. In 2024 the Commission mobilised EUR 161 million in life-saving assistance and funded Humanitarian Air Bridge (HAB) flights, delivering 390 tonnes of medical relief items to support humanitarian organisations in the country.

The Afghanistan crisis is also affecting neighbouring countries. Pakistan is hosting an estimated 3.1 million Afghans of various statuses. Following the Pakistani government's decision to start

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returning foreigners without valid documents as of 1 November 2023, more than 800 000 Afghan nationals have returned to Afghanistan. Pakistan also faces a multidimensional crisis, with a political stalemate and a sharp rise in security and terrorist incidents aggravating the situation for 20 million people needing humanitarian aid and over 1.2 million displaced persons. The 2022 floods, followed by further monsoon shocks, severely impacted infrastructure and agriculture, worsening an already difficult economic situation. In 2024, the EU mobilised EUR 15.25 million in humanitarian funding for Pakistan to provide healthcare services, nutrition, education in emergencies (EiE), water and sanitation facilities and legal protection support.

In South-East Asia, the armed conflict in Myanmar increased in intensity, with some of the gravest IHL violations recorded globally. 20 million people in the country (almost 40% of the population) are in need of humanitarian assistance, of which 3.5 million are IDP's. Due to the wide-ranging needs, the EU funds multiple humanitarian sectors, including food, nutrition, health, WASH, shelter, protection, EiE and disaster preparedness activities, which helps the population build resilience to natural-hazard-induced shocks. Since the Tatmadaw military coup in 2021, tens of thousands of people have fled Myanmar into neighbouring countries to seek refuge. This includes the Rohingya, who undertook risky sea journeys in large numbers. The EU has continued to respond to the regional implications of the Rohingya crisis with current programmes, including provision of a protection-centred response, ensuring access to basic necessities and services.

In Bangladesh, Cox's Bazar is home to the world's largest refugee camp, hosting almost a million aid-dependent stateless Rohingya refugees. In 2024, the EU continued to respond with comprehensive multi-sectoral assistance in the refugee camps and host communities, totalling 1.5 million people. Additionally, the EU also strengthened disaster preparedness against fire by engaging in policy efforts demonstrating the relevance of scalable anticipatory action, promoting their replication into state-led safety net programmes.

At regional level, the EU responded to a growing number of climate and nature-induced disasters, drawing EUR 12 million from the Emergency Toolbox to support people affected by natural hazards. To promote closer cooperation on disaster preparedness, the Commission also signed an administrative arrangement with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management in October 2024.

4.2.1.4. Crisis response and preparedness

New EU crisis response actions financed by the rapid-response pillar were launched in Bangladesh and Myanmar. A humanitarian mine action was extended in Afghanistan.

In **Myanmar,** a crisis response action aimed to enhance compliance with international humanitarian law among emerging armed actors and to improve the protection of vulnerable civilians, especially women, children and minorities.

In **Bangladesh**, an action was launched to empower Rohingya refugees by enhancing their awareness and pursuit of legal rights, mitigating tensions through international justice awareness, addressing disinformation, and providing gender-sensitive, trauma-informed legal, health, psychosocial and protection support.

In **Afghanistan**, the EU continued to support the protection of the Afghan population, the prevention of violence towards minorities and marginalised groups and seek opportunities to promote social accountability and inclusive dialogue. The EU has also continued its humanitarian mine action

helping to clear the country of unexploded ordnance in order to improve humanitarian assistance and mitigate risks for internally displaced people, returnees and marginalised communities.

In 2024, the 'Critical Maritime Routes Indo-Pacific II' (CRIMARIO II) project worked on enhancing maritime security cooperation throughout the Indo-Pacific. The year saw a marked increase in regional exercises employing the IORIS information-sharing platform, enhancing inter-agency cooperation, crisis management, and maritime security operations against many types of maritime threats. The use of IORIS notably expanded in Latin America for search-and-rescue incidents, and for coordinating counter-narcotics operations, combating Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and enhancing port security.

CRIMARIO supported partners as well as EU and EU Member States' operations in connection with the Red Sea crisis and the resurgence in piracy, for example by enhancing secure real-time communication between military units and merchant vessels. Additionally, CRIMARIO organised 33 regional maritime exercises in 2024. These efforts demonstrate the operational value and effectiveness of IORIS in addressing complex maritime security challenges, fostering international cooperation and strengthening maritime governance at multiple levels.

4.2.2. Central Asia

4.2.2.1. Introduction (policy developments)

High-level dialogue and cooperation between the EU and Central Asia continued to intensify throughout 2024, demonstrating a solid commitment by the EU and all five Central Asian countries to strengthen and deepen country and regional relations.

The EU Global Gateway strategy presents a strategic opportunity for deeper EU engagement with Central Asian countries, leveraging public and private resources for meaningful development and impact. In January 2024, the 'Global Gateway Investors Forum for EU-Central Asia Transport Connectivity' was successfully held in Brussels, mobilising EUR 10 billion in support and investment for Central Asia. This was followed, in October 2024, by the launch of the Coordination Platform for the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor (TCTC), with former European Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. To further strengthen transport connectivity between Europe and Central Asia, the EU and Kazakhstan initialled a Horizontal Aviation Agreement in October 2024 at the annual EU-Kazakhstan Cooperation Council.

In January 2024, former European Commission Vice-President, Margaritis Schinas, visited all five Central Asian countries as a testament to the EU's growing partnership with the region. In August 2024, former HRVP Josep Borrell paid a visit to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, demonstrating the EU's continued strong engagement with its Central Asian partners.

The EU continued to work on implementing the actions set out in five key priority areas identified in the 'Joint Roadmap for Deepening Ties between the EU and Central Asia' (2023), which complements the 'EU Strategy for Central Asia' (2019). The priorities were: inter-regional dialogue and cooperation; enhancing economic ties, trade and investment; engaging on connectivity under the Global Gateway and the European Green Deal; addressing common security challenges; and strengthening people-to-people contacts.

On 25 June 2024, the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (EPCA) between the EU and Kyrgyzstan was signed on the occasion of the first official visit by the President of Kyrgyzstan, Sadyr Japarov, to Brussels. In November 2024, negotiations on an EPCA with Tajikistan were

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successfully finalised. Progress was made in the preparations for the signing of the EPCA with Uzbekistan.

During the year, the EU continued to discuss human rights in annual human rights dialogues with all Central Asian countries. The EU Special Representative for Human Rights, Olof Skoog, participated in the EU-Turkmenistan Human Rights Dialogue in Ashgabat in June 2024.

The EU continued to address the impact of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and cooperated closely with Central Asian countries to address the challenge of sanctions circumvention.

The EU and Central Asia continued to strengthen cooperation and dialogue on common security challenges, including terrorism, extremism and radicalisation, illicit drug trafficking and trafficking in human beings, including at the EU-Central Asia High-Level Political and Security Dialogue which took place in Brussels in June 2024. Cooperation on the situation in Afghanistan continued, including through meetings of Special Envoys and Representatives for Afghanistan.

4.2.2.2. Implementation

The European Union continued to pursue the objectives of the **2019 EU Strategy on Central Asia**, aimed at fostering resilience, prosperity and regional cooperation.

Human development and inequalities

In 2024, the European Commission implemented a range of projects aimed at promoting human development in the region.

The regional programme on '**Dialogue and Action for Resourceful Youth in Central Asia**' (DARYA, EUR 10 million), implemented by the European Training Foundation in 2022-2027, supports inclusive and labour-market-relevant skills development opportunities for young people. As part of the programme, national and regional consultations were arranged, to map the current policy environment and the needs of key stakeholders, and identify main gaps and opportunities.

The new EUR 4.5 million regional programme, **EU Civil Society Facility for Central Asia,** started in 2024. Its overall objective is to foster and promote a conducive and well-functioning operating environment for CSOs through regional engagement.

In the health sector, the EU continued to support Central Asia's healthcare systems with a EUR 10 million WHO-led programme to boost immunisation resilience, expand vaccinations (COVID-19 and others), train healthcare workers, and enhance digital and surveillance systems for vaccine-preventable diseases. In **Tajikistan**, the EU-funded 'Health Development Programme' continued to deliver major achievements. Overall, the EU has invested over EUR 60 million in improved and strengthened health systems in Tajikistan over the last decade.

In **Kyrgyzstan** and in **Tajikistan**, the EU has been working on supporting the education sector via ongoing budget support programmes (EUR 32 million and EUR 30 million respectively) by enhancing school infrastructure and strengthening teachers' capacities and skills.

In **Uzbekistan,** as part of the 2024 AAP, a EUR 5 million programme was adopted covering women's reproductive health and economic empowerment.

Green Deal

Significant progress was made in implementing the **Water, Energy, and Climate Change** TEI in 2024. The EU signed three new regional grant projects totalling EUR 20 million. This includes the EU

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contribution to the fourth phase of the Central Asia Water and Energy Programme (CAWEP), led by the World Bank, to foster long-term, sustainable solutions to water and energy challenges, including support for the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS). Additionally, two projects with GIZ were launched focused on regional water cooperation, renewable energy and the setting-up of a secretariat for the TEI.

The **regional SWITCH-Asia programme** has made significant progress in promoting sustainable consumption and production (SCP) across Asia and the Pacific, contributing to environmental protection, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change mitigation. The Programme has successfully capitalised on earlier achievements by SWITCH-Asia grants in Central Asia, leveraging their outcomes to advance policy development supporting circular practices in the tourist industry (private sector). Technical assistance was deployed on several occasions in the field of circular economy, with a focus on the construction sector, green public procurement national determined contributions (NDCs) and enabling effective extended producer responsibility (EPR) systems.

The European Union has also been actively promoting the Green Deal through bilateral actions.

In **Tajikistan**, the new EUR 19.88 million grant programme 'Green transition through cotton value chain' was signed, and its implementation will start in 2025. Cotton is a critical sector for the country's sustainable development and jobs. Additionally, the ongoing EU-funded Rural Development Programme (EUR 59 million) continued strengthening local communities in the country, with a focus on sustainable agricultural practices.

In **Uzbekistan**, the EU's support for green transition continued with the signing of a grant programme on rehabilitation of the Aral Sea area (EUR 8.8 million as part of **EFSD+,** to be combined with loans from EIB and AFD).

In **Kyrgyzstan**, a new budget support programme on integrated water resource management was approved in 2024 (EUR 17 million) and a Resilient Water Programme was adopted (EUR 15 million, to be blended with an EBRD loan) to continue improving the country's irrigation infrastructure. Additionally, the EU continued supporting sustainable production and consumption practices with the Green Economy Programme (EUR 3 million).

The bilateral Cooperation Facility established by the EU in **Turkmenistan** provided GIZ with a EUR 4.5 million cofinancing contribution for implementation of the 'Green Turkmenistan' TEI. The programme supports the country in its efforts to reduce methane emissions, develop renewable energies and increase energy efficiency, in line with its national climate strategy (2019). In 2025, the programme will propose advisory support for aligning Turkmenistan's legislation with international and EU standards on energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Sustainable growth and jobs

Enhancing transport connectivity between the EU and Central Asia is important for sustainable growth and jobs. The **Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor** (TCTC) aims to establish a modern, competitive, and efficient route connecting Europe and Asia in no more than 15 days, while also improving cooperation between Central Asian countries and boosting economic growth. Significant progress was made in 2024 toward developing the TCTC, including the investors forum in January 2024, the launch of the TCTC Coordination Platform in October 2024, and the adoption of a EUR 30 million regional transport programme.

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Critical raw materials (CRMs) are another increasingly important cooperation area for Central Asia. The implementation of the regional prosperity programme (EUR 15.4 million) started with three components: trade facilitation; improvement of business/investment climate; and CRMs. In 2024, an additional EUR 13 million was allocated to the CRM component to further strengthen local value chains and explore investment opportunities across the region.

In **Uzbekistan,** a EUR 11.78 million programme was adopted (2024 AAP), covering territorial planning and urban development and sustainable growth and jobs through women's economic empowerment.

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

Preparations for the **regional** TEI **on digital connectivity** were completed in 2024, with the contracting of both components: a technical assistance programme for soft connectivity and enabling environment (EUR 20 million), and a blending programme to construct satellite connectivity infrastructure (EUR 35 million, to be blended with an EIB loan). This initiative aims to create an enabling environment for regulatory and legislative reforms, last-mile access and cybersecurity. It also sets the stage for satellite infrastructure investment, enhancing Central Asia's autonomy in internet connectivity. Implementation began in early 2025.

In **Uzbekistan**, the EU continued to promote e-government services with the signing of the 'Digital Uzbekistan' project (EUR 5 million). In **Kyrgyzstan**, the EU budget support programme on digitalisation is ongoing (EUR 21.7 million).

Migration and forced displacement

The European Union has been working to address migration and forced displacement in Central Asia, with a focus on supporting the region's efforts to manage migration and protect the rights of migrants, with a special focus on Afghan refugees.

Regarding the Afghan displacement situation, a new regional programme has been adopted to support durable solutions for displaced and returning Afghans and their host communities in the neighbouring countries. The programme, implemented by UNHCR, aims to ensure that durable solutions are achieved for Afghan refugees in Iran, Pakistan and **Central Asia**, as well as for internally displaced people in Afghanistan.

In 2024, the Turkmen CSO, Ynam, started implementation of an EU-funded project called 'Stop Human Trafficking' in Turkmenistan. The project intends to raise awareness on the risks and challenges posed by migration, explaining the rules of travelling to foreign countries and showcasing the risks presented by irregular migration and human trafficking.

Governance, peace and security

The European Union continued working on security in the region, mainly through two security-related programmes: the **Border Management Programme in Central Asia** (BOMCA) and the **Central Asia Drug Action Programme** (CADAP). These programmes have already achieved significant success in improving border management and addressing substance abuse, respectively. The next phases of these programmes were adopted at the end of 2024. BOMCA (EUR 12 million) will focus on security and border community living conditions, while CADAP (EUR 18 million) will expand to include fighting drug trafficking, in addition to demand reduction efforts.

Regular dialogue on the rule of law and human rights is an important aspect of our bilateral relations, especially in trade negotiations (e.g. in the Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation

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Agreement and the Generalised Scheme of Preferences), as well as in implementing the budget support modality (Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan). Human rights, democracy and civil society are also supported through EU thematic programmes, via open calls for proposals.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, the EU continued to support justice sector reform through improvement of probation services, e-justice and gender-centred judiciary processes ('Rule of Law programme', EUR 11.59 million).

In **Uzbekistan,** implementation of the good governance and anti-corruption programme continued (EUR 8 million).

Food security and nutrition

In **Uzbekistan**, implementation of a second budget support operation for the agri-food sector and sustainable livelihoods started in 2024 (EUR 27 million). In addition, two projects are ongoing to support green economy reform and ensure food security practices in the country (EUR 10.2 million).

Case study

Global Gateway flagship project on regional digital connectivity in Central Asia

– focus on Kyrgyzstan

In Kyrgyzstan, a landlocked lower-middle-income country that has made digital transformation one of the top priorities in its development strategy, the EU has built a holistic approach covering several sectors. This is based on a core Global Gateway flagship project with both hard and soft connectivity components.

The hard connectivity component concerns the construction of ground infrastructure for satellite connectivity, which is funded through EFSD+ including a corporate loan from the EIB to an EU satellite operator. This is complemented by 'soft' elements both at regional and bilateral levels, where digital connectivity is used as an entry point to prompt a more general digital transformation in sectors including e-governance, digital skills development, improvements in personal data protection, and cybersecurity.

The complementarity of bilateral and regional levels of action has been indispensable in achieving this comprehensive vision, with an efficient use of funds for the same goals. There is a focus on better and more inclusive access to the internet (services to the 'last mile') for groups living in vulnerable situations and rural communities, reduction of inequalities and ultimately increased employability for the workforce, both men and women. The gender dimension has been incorporated to increase women's access of women to ICT policy making, and to make systems more gender-responsive.

This flagship project in Kyrgyzstan is further strengthened by the mainstreaming of digitalisation into ongoing programmes in several sectors such as education, health, energy and rule of law. In particular, the Commission is preparing a new action on rule of law with a focus on digitalisation, as a tool for supporting transparency and the fight against corruption.

4.2.2.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

The more tangible effects of climate change (erratic rain patterns, extreme temperatures), combined with the region's proneness to threats, whether of natural origin or human-induced, make Central Asia highly vulnerable to disasters. In 2024, the EU allocated around EUR 2 million for Kyrgyzstan and

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Tajikistan under the Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) implemented by the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), and EUR 500 000 from its disaster preparedness budget heading to support evidence-based disaster and emergency preparedness. The EU also contributed EUR 200 000 to a Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) operation in Kazakhstan in response to floods.

4.2.2.4. Crisis response and preparedness

Actions carried out under the crisis response component of the rapid-response pillar of NDICI-Global Europe supported work with **Central Asian partners** in the fields of stability, social cohesion, border security and cross-border dialogue, directly implementing the priorities set in the new EU strategy on Central Asia.

A crisis response action supports capacities in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to reintegrate citizens returned from conflict zones, primarily from Iraq and Syria, and to hold perpetrators of international crimes to account. In addition, a crisis response action is being implemented to strengthen the capacities of the Tajik border troops to stabilise Tajikistan's southern border region with Afghanistan in a conflict-sensitive manner. A second action aims to increase community resilience and stability in concerned Kyrgyz/Tajik border areas by strengthening national emergency response capacity and improving access to shared community assets.

The **EU Special Representative for Central Asia** continued to promote good and close relations between the EU and the countries of Central Asia on the basis of common values and interests and contribute to strengthening democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in Central Asia.

4.2.3. Middle East/Gulf region

4.2.3.1. Introduction (policy developments)

EU cooperation with Gulf countries has developed significantly in recent years following the adoption of the Joint Communication 'A Strategic Partnership with the Gulf', in May 2022[(90)]. The Gulf region encompasses the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (Bahrein, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates) as well as Yemen and Iraq. As high-income states, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are committed to pursuing the social and economic transformation of the region, investing in transcontinental transport corridors and advancing stronger regional integration through dialogue and cooperation within the GCC.

The first-ever EU-GCC Summit on 16 October underlined the joint interest in a strategic trade and investment partnership, an enhanced business and investment environment, cooperation on the green and digital transitions, sustainable energy, connectivity, emerging technologies, human rights, and advancing on sectoral cooperation to deliver enhanced economic integration and diversification.

In 2024, contacts with GCC countries focused on preparing for the next steps in bilateral cooperation, namely setting the parameters for strategic partnership agreements with each of the GCC countries based on commonly identified priorities for cooperation. EU and GCC countries also remain committed to pursuing both the regional and bilateral paths for advanced free trade agreements with interested countries. For example, progress was made in discussions on a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United Arab Emirates, while dialogue resumed on the topic of a

[90] JOIN(2022) 13 final, 18 May 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/joint-communication-%E2%80%9Cstrategic-partnership-gulf%E2%80%9D_en

possible regional FTA. The EU opened the first ever European Chamber of Commerce in the Middle East and North Africa region, in Riyadh.

In addition, the EU-GCC Outreach Facility, funded by the Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), focused on enhancing people-to-people contacts, young people's and women's empowerment in Gulf countries, and promoting EU visibility in the region in addition to the EU sustained political engagement and regular human rights dialogues.

Cooperation on transport and energy/digital corridors remain a major priority, in particular the India Middle East Economic Corridor, the Trans-Caspian Road and the Development Road. Full use should be made of Global Gateway opportunities.

Yemen remains the most fragile country in the region, prone to instability and affected by the economic warfare between the North and the South. In 2024 Yemen benefited from an annual allocation focused on building resilience, saving lives and supporting economic recovery. In addition, the EU provided support for the peace process led by the UN Special Envoy, Track II diplomacy[91], governance in the South and the continuation of projects aiming to enhance maritime security in the Red Sea.

However, the space for action has been severely reduced by the detention of more than 100 humanitarian aid and international organisation staff by the Houthis.

The EU's engagement in Iraq has gradually moved from a post-conflict recovery approach to a development phase, focused on green job creation and economic diversification, human development and social contract, and digital and participatory governance and democracy. Additionally, the EU remains engaged in supporting Iraqi authorities in the fields of migration and forced displacement. The return and readmission of Iraqis from Europe also remains a key priority. As the country remains politically and economically fragile and heavily reliant on oil exports, the EU continued to focus on support for economic reforms; all EU-Iraq subcommittees (development, human rights, trade and energy) have met in preparation for 2025 EU-Iraq Partnership Cooperation Council. The agreement with the EBRD making Iraq a country of operation paved the way for future investment while agreement with EIB is still pending.

4.2.3.2. Implementation

Human development and inequalities

In summer 2024, the EU started a project to improve access and awareness to healthcare services among drug users and vulnerable women in **Iran**. It aims to increase access to sexual and reproductive health services for 1 700 female drug users, vulnerable women, and their sexual partners, helping to reduce the spread of infectious diseases and sexually transmitted diseases through mobile clinics in difficult-to-reach areas.

In 2024 the EU also launched a new project strengthening the capacity of CSOs in **Iran** to improve education for Afghan women and girls. The project trains CSO staff and provides learning opportunities for 2 000 Afghan children out of school.

In 2024, the EU's support for human development in **Yemen** focused on increasing community resilience by improving access to essential services. The Joint Programme 'Supporting Resilient

[91] Unofficial dialogue and problem-solving activities aimed at building relationships and encouraging new thinking that can inform the official process.

Livelihoods, Food Security, and Climate Adaptation in Yemen' (ERRY III) is a significant EU- and Sweden-funded initiative, worth EUR 54.7 million, aimed at strengthening resilience in vulnerable communities in Yemen. The Programme is due to end in the first quarter of 2025. In 2024, the ERRY III initiative allowed the Commission to foster community empowerment by creating jobs and promoting sustainable practices. 'Strengthening Institutional and Economic Resilience in Yemen' (SIERY) is a EUR 69.8 million EU-funded project aimed at bolstering local governance and economic resilience. In 2024, the SIERY project enabled local authorities to implement district resilience & recovery plans, benefiting over six million Yemenis by enhancing public services and infrastructure.

The EU's programmes in **Iraq** continued to support policy reform and system enhancement in various sectors, tackle root causes of fragility, including education, TVET and social protection, which also benefits all vulnerable populations, including IDPs, refugees and returnees.

Green Deal

The EU bolstered its commitment to programmes in **Iraq** that focus on climate change adaptation and mitigation, and the transition to a low-carbon economy. Through technical assistance, the EU has facilitated Iraq's advances, for example, in climate-resilient agriculture, climate-adapted urban reconstruction, sustainable water systems, energy transition and the promotion of green finance and private-sector development. Training programmes were delivered to micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises and government entities, ensuring long-term benefits. In 2024, a new technical assistance initiative was launched to assist the Ministry of Electricity in reforming the electricity sub-sector and improving its investment climate. This initiative focuses on critical areas such as renewable energy development, tariff restructuring for better financial management, and reducing non-technical losses in the energy system.

Sustainable growth and jobs

On 7 May 2024, in Kuwait City, the EU co-chaired an EU-Arab Coordination Group (ACG) meeting on transport corridors in the Middle East and Central Asia. The purpose of this meeting was to explore opportunities for parallel financing of Global Gateway projects with **Gulf** donors and members of the ACG, and promote investment in areas of common interest.

In 2024, the EU launched a comprehensive USD 13.4 million package to benefit **Yemen**'s economic resilience through targeted capacity building and private-sector support. Building on the previous achievements of the EU-OECD project, a second phase was launched to further support the Yemeni government's economic institutions in addressing their policy priorities. Furthermore, an EU-International Finance Corporation (IFC) trust fund was established to advance private-sector development over the next five years, with a focus on agribusiness, health, manufacturing and renewable energy.

Through its flagship SIERY project, the EU delivered training in business and technical skills to over 3 000 beneficiaries and provided grants to 2 023 smallholders and SMEs. It also initiated the construction of five new markets to boost economic activity. Additionally, the Support Youth Entrepreneurship and Financial Inclusion (phase 2) project created over 6 000 job opportunities through 1 500 micro-grants. The WATHBA project further scaled up entrepreneurial ecosystems, with a focus on youth and innovative start-ups, supporting sustainable growth and employment in **Yemen**.

To improve the overall investment climate in **Iraq**, in 2024 the EU and Team Europe continued to focus on economic governance, public finance management, the banking sector and financial

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inclusion. A technical assistance programme with the EBRD signed at the end of 2024 will build on these achievements by identifying opportunities for Team Europe to promote investment in Iraq, to further enhance job creation and sustainable growth.

Migration and forced displacement

In December 2024, the EU launched two projects supporting Afghans and host communities in **Iran** with a total value of EUR 12 million. These are part of the regional TEI which includes actions aimed at Afghan refugees in the region (Afghanistan, Central Asia, Iran and Pakistan). The projects increase access to essential services, improve protection and respect for refugees' rights, and support economic self-reliance and food security for refugees, with a focus on the most vulnerable. Further, they improve the well-being of Afghan children and their families in Iran by addressing barriers and facilitate access for Afghan children to key services in the fields of health and nutrition, education and employability, and child protection, while strengthening the continued provision of quality services for all children, regardless of nationality.

The EU launched two new contracts in support of IDPs in **Yemen**, worth USD 10.7 million. These focus on enhancing food security and resilience for vulnerable communities, including women, young people, persons with disabilities and displaced populations, within the context of climate change.

In 2024, EU-**Iraq** cooperation on migration continued to be a key strategic area. The EU reinforced its partnership on migration with the Iraqi authorities, supporting Iraq in creating the framework conditions for all IDPs, refugees and returnees to thrive in a more prosperous, shock-resilient and democratic Iraq. EU programmes supported core structural socio-economic and governance reforms, while responding to the root causes of migration.

Governance, peace and security

The EU continued to be instrumental in advancing peace and security in **Yemen** by supporting the UN-led political process and facilitating Track II dialogues. The EU's support for the UN Special Envoy for Yemen's office (OSESGY) led to significant local breakthroughs such as the reopening of water pumps in Taiz City.

Food security and nutrition

In **Yemen**, the EU continued to provide integrated climate-resilient support for food security and livelihoods. USD 4.3 million were disbursed to enhance food security for vulnerable populations, and 8 125 households benefited from seed distribution as part of the EU's support for sustainable agriculture.

Case study

In 2024, in **Iraq**, the EU provided support for the flagship project 'Reviving Mosul and Basra Old Cities', contributing to economic recovery and social cohesion.

Key achievements:

The project outperformed most of its key targets, such as creating 2 076 jobs, rehabilitating and renovating 36 historic houses and supporting more than 192 firms. This provided sustainable livelihoods for the population and provided much needed support for the cultural sector.

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4.2.3.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

After 11 years of conflict, Yemen remains one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, with its population suffering from acute food insecurity and malnutrition, recurrent epidemic outbreaks, displacement, and other severe protection concerns. Among the countries of the world, Yemen is the third most vulnerable to climate change and least prepared to deal with climate shocks. In 2024, the EU allocated EUR 125 million in humanitarian aid to support the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities in frontline governorates, hard-to-reach areas, and displacement sites across Yemen. The UCPM was activated twice to provide environmental support following the shipwreck of the Rubymar vessel. In addition, through the European Humanitarian Response Capacity, the EU organised 36 Humanitarian Air Bridge flights to contain the cholera outbreak in northern and southern Yemen. A total of 516 tonnes were transported, including medical and pharmaceutical material as well as WASH items.

Iran hosts more refugees than any other country in the world. It hosts up to 6 million Afghans, of whom 3.8 million are recognised by UNHCR as refugee/refugee-like. Due to the ongoing economic crisis, limited livelihood opportunities and restricted access to employment, vulnerable displaced Afghans and Iranians alike struggle more and more to meet their basic needs. Iran is also one of the most disaster-prone countries worldwide with frequent earthquakes, droughts, floods and landslides. In 2024, the EU allocated almost EUR 12.5 million in humanitarian assistance to support the most vulnerable in Iran with healthcare, nutrition, education, protection, and basic necessities.

Given the protracted nature of most humanitarian crises, in 2024, the Commission pursued actions in the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. The nexus is aimed at improving and strengthening the link between humanitarian and development aid and, where relevant, peace actions in order to better connect urgent relief and longer-term solutions and jointly address the causes of fragility and seek durable solutions for affected populations. This has led to more efficient responses. In Iraq, for example, the nexus has been operationalised through a comprehensive programme. The Commission is supporting undocumented IDP's in obtaining identity and civil documentation through legal and temporary multipurpose cash assistance, with the aim of transitioning them into the Iraqi social welfare system.

4.2.3.4. Crisis response and preparedness

Since October 2023, the EU has also mobilised nearly EUR 80 million from the NDICI-Global Europe crisis response for Israel and Palestine[**]. Some of this support was to help address the wider implications of the Gaza war, with assistance to actions in Lebanon, Egypt and the Red Sea. A significant part of that funding is focused on supporting Israeli, Palestinian and international civil society in their efforts to pursue sustainable peace. Furthermore, support is allocated for mine action with the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in the West Bank and Gaza and for reviving a political process for the implementation of the two-state solution.

New actions were swiftly mobilised in 2024 to address the situation and its spillover into Lebanon and Syria, addressing both the drivers and the consequences of instability and hostilities in the region, such as hate speech. In Lebanon, NDICI Crisis Response provided support for **governance reform and social cohesion** and for **mitigating the risks and impact of conflict escalation.**

[**] This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

Furthermore, the EU finances two civilian common security and defence policy (CSDP) missions: the EU Police Mission for the Palestinian Territories (**EUPOL COPPS**) based in Ramallah in the West Bank, and the EU Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point (**EUBAM Rafah**) based in Ramat Gan, Israel. In 2024, the EUBAM Rafah actively prepared for its redeployment to the Rafah crossing point. The **EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process** continued efforts towards a just, lasting and comprehensive peace that should be achieved on the basis of a two-state solution, with Israel and a democratic, contiguous, viable, peaceful and sovereign Palestinian State living side by side within secure and recognised borders.

In **Syria**, continuing support was provided for stabilisation efforts in north-east Syria, for UN-led peace efforts, and for a Syrian-led and Syrian-owned dialogue, aimed at ensuring an orderly, peaceful and inclusive transition.

In **Iraq**, in the field of counterterrorism and prevention of violent extremism, upgraded juvenile reformatories were handed over in Mosul and Baghdad in November 2024. The EU continued its support for security sector reform in Iraq through the **EU Advisory Mission** (EUAM Iraq), providing the Iraqi authorities with strategic advice and expertise on the civilian aspects of security sector reform, including the National Security Strategy.

Support was also provided for international efforts to ensure accountability for crimes committed by Da'esh through the work of the UN Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/ISIL (UNITAD).

Meanwhile, in **Yemen**, support continued for UN-led peace efforts. This included support for mediation and truce monitoring efforts, for Track II mediation, and for CSOs feeding into the work of the Office of the UN Special Envoy for Yemen. The EU naval operation, ASPIDES, launched on 19 February 2024, intervened successfully in the Red Sea to protect commercial vessels from Houthi attacks and escorted over 350 vessels over the course of the year. It also played a major role in escorting the oil tanker, Sounion, to safe docking, averting a major environmental disaster in the Red Sea.

EU action in support of the UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism (**UNVIM**) in **Yemen** contributes to efforts to restore the unimpeded free flow of commercial items to Yemen through the provision of a transparent and effective clearance process for commercial shipments destined for Yemeni ports which are not under the control of the government of Yemen and has been extended until September 2025.

4.2.4. The Pacific

4.2.4.1. Introduction (policy developments)

The **Pacific island countries (PICs)** are key partners for the EU Union in a number of important policy areas, including climate action and green transition, ocean governance and environmental protection. They are also important allies in upholding the international rules-based order with the UN at its core.

The EU is a dialogue partner in the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), the region's main political organisation, and participated in the 2024 PIF Leaders Meeting in Tonga with former Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen. The EU is the first, and so far only, permanent observer in the Pacific Community (SPC), the main technical and scientific regional organisation in the Pacific.

The EU's strategic priorities for the region are underpinned by the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, adopted in 2021, which highlights the strategic relevance of the region for Europe's prosperity and security. The Global Gateway strategy supports a number of priorities in the Indo-Pacific strategy, providing a viable and attractive offer for partner countries by boosting transparent and value-based investments for a sustainable, resilient and cooperative infrastructure development. The EU's priorities are also closely aligned with the priorities of the 2050 Strategy of the Blue Pacific Continent endorsed by PIF Leaders, notably in fields such as economic development, climate change, oceans and environment, people, technology and connectivity, and peace and security.

The new Partnership Agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific states (the 'Samoa agreement') includes a new Pacific Protocol which provides for stronger region-to-region engagement. The shared priorities of the Pacific Protocol will guide EU-Pacific cooperation for years to come.

At multilateral level, the Pacific countries unanimously supported most UN resolutions as regards Ukraine. Pacific countries suffered from supply chain disruptions as well as higher food and energy prices as a result of Russia's war of aggression.

The EU strengthened relations with the Pacific region in 2024, conducting ministerial meetings, senior official meetings and political dialogues. The EU advanced steadily in preparations for the 'Green Blue alliance for the Pacific and Timor-Leste' TEI, which promotes equal societies, fundamental values, human development, and peace and security across 18 partner countries and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs).

To enhance the impact for the benefit of Pacific Islands States, the EU also collaborates closely with Australia and New Zealand, two like-minded partner countries which are active in the region and with which the EU seeks to work in synergy.

The EU engaged in frequent political dialogue with Australia and with New Zealand, notably on their respective responses to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and security in the Indo-Pacific. The EU increased interaction on non-traditional security issues, including cyber, counterterrorism and foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI), while strengthening cooperation on climate action with both partners. The FTA with New Zealand started to be implemented.

4.2.4.2. Implementation

Human development and inequalities

The (regional) **Pacific Partnership** 'End Violence Against Women and Girls' programme, started implementing its phase II in January 2024. Phase II is funded primarily by the EU (EUR 8 million) and Australia (AUD 16 million). It is implemented by UN Women (which also contributes EUR 375 000) and the Pacific Community and is expected to run until December 2027. The new phase builds on the achievements of the previous Pacific Partnership programme and of the Spotlight Initiative under the Pacific Regional programme (2019-2023). The overall objective of the programme is to promote gender equality and prevent violence against women and girls in PICs.

Green Deal

The regional Pacific-EU Maritime Programme (an ocean flagship programme) continued in 2024 to deliver tangible outcomes contributing to sustainability, ocean governance, coastal community management and capacity building.

Support for developing trade policies was the focus of the Pacific Regional Integration Support Programme (PRISE), which in 2024 helped improve the business environment and facilitate exports to markets outside the Pacific region, with an increasing emphasis on fisheries products and value chains.

Several EU-funded programmes implemented in **the Pacific region**, continued in 2024 to support efforts on adaptation to climate change and on biodiversity. Among others, the Kiwa Initiative aims to strengthen the climate change resilience of Pacific Island ecosystems, communities and economies through nature-based solutions. The EU contributed EUR 13.9 million to this multi-donor programme, which started in 2020. France, Canada, Australia and New Zealand are also involved. Pacific BioScapes, a EUR 12 million initiative which started in 2021, aims to support Pacific small island developing states (SIDS) in managing and sustainably using their marine and coastal resources. Another initiative, the PacWaste Plus programme, worth EUR 16.5 million and part of the Pacific-EU Waste Management programme, aims to improve waste and pollution management in the Pacific region by helping to make waste and pollution management cost-effective and sustainable. PacWaste Plus is due to end in December 2025.

In 2024, the **regional SWITCH-Asia programme** made significant progress in promoting sustainable consumption and production (SCP) across Asia and the Pacific, contributing to environmental protection, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change mitigation. The Pacific region is a new area of cooperation for the SWITCH-Asia programme, presenting unique opportunities and challenges in integrating SCP into policy frameworks. In addition to strengthening nationally determined contributions (NDCs) through SCP, tourism has been selected as a key area of intervention, recognising its economic significance and potential for advancing circular-economy principles. Both approaches are designed to be integrated and to extend beyond a narrow sectoral focus, ensuring linkages with other key areas such as food systems, waste management and resource efficiency. This interconnected perspective was taken to maximise the impact of sustainability efforts across multiple sectors.

In **Timor-Leste**, implementation of the EUR 2.2 million action 'Technical Assistance to Support Carbon Farming' (TASCF) will end in the first quarter of 2025. The action delivered critical outputs, such as: adoption of the Climate Change Base Law; finalisation of the carbon farming policy and guidelines; preparations for a feasibility study for the measurement, reporting and setting-up of the verification (MRV) system for land; and adoption of the first-ever national agroforestry strategy.

In **Papua New Guinea (PNG)**, during its first full year of implementation, the EUR 54.7 million Forestry, Climate Change and Biodiversity programme (EU-FCCB) made some specific contributions to the PNG government's reporting and governance systems in the field of climate change and conservation, including: the preparation of PNG's Biennial Transparency Report (BTR), improvement of the Safeguards Information System (SIS) (under REDD+), and PNG's participation in the UN Biodiversity COP16 in Cali and Climate Change COP29 in Baku.

For the first time, two important blending projects were signed with development finance institutions under EFSD+ in PNG. The 'Rabaul Port Rehabilitation' project, implemented by AFD, will optimise operating conditions for the port, enhancing its resilience and helping to minimise negative environmental impacts, while increasing its overall attractiveness. The 'Water PNG Framework Loan' is an EIB project aiming to expand water supply services in urban areas of PNG and to enhance the country's prospects for human, social and economic development.

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Sustainable growth and jobs

The EU funded a two-and-a-half-year project (2022-2024) 'Central Islands Province Livelihoods Improvement Project (CLIP)', worth EUR 0.5 million, to sustain economic and social resilience to the impact of COVID-19 and improve the well-being of families in 10 communities of Small Ngella, in the **Solomon Islands**.

In **Timor-Leste**, the EUR 5.9 million Agroforestry Skills for Development project, which started in 2023, made significant progress in 2024 by delivering a key study on agroforestry value chains in Timor-Leste, such as coconut, cocoa and vanilla.

In **Papua New Guinea**, the Support to Rural Entrepreneurship, Investment and Trade project (EU-STREIT) achieved good results in terms of income generated from the supported vanilla and cacao value chains.

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

Under the Human Rights and Democracy thematic programme, the UNDP was granted an extension of the multi-country Pacific Digital Democracy Initiative, bringing its total financing to EUR 1.4 million. The initiative helps boost participatory digitalisation processes in four target countries (**Fiji, Micronesia (FSM), Solomon Islands and Tonga**), with a view to harnessing information and communication technologies for more inclusive, rights-based democracy and development.

Governance, peace and security

The two-year project, 'Strengthening the Electoral Cycle in the **Solomon Islands** (SECSIP) Phase III' (worth EUR 5.5 million) focuses on enhancing inclusive, informed and transparent electoral processes, including through accountable and effective electoral institutions. SECSIP III assistance will also help enhance and expand social inclusion, particularly for disadvantaged segments of the population including women, young people and people with disabilities. The overall objective is to create more sustainable and inclusive electoral institutions and strengthen practices to support inclusive and accountable democratic governance in Solomon Islands.

Case studies

The EU is currently in the initial stages of supporting the development of a multipurpose port on Christmas Island: a EUR 2.5 million Contribution Agreement was signed with the EIB in December 2024, alongside parallel technical assistance which will complete the preliminary Stantec studies (conducted in 2021-2023).

In Papua New Guinea the EU finances the project 'Support to Rural Entrepreneurship, Investment and Trade project (EU-STREIT)'. The project focuses on three key agrifood value chains – cocoa, vanilla, and fisheries, with the overarching objective of increasing sustainable and inclusive economic development in rural areas. This goal is pursued through two integrated outcomes: enhancing economic returns and opportunities and strengthening value chain enablers.

The project resulted in supporting investments in agricultural value chains, rural roads and airstrips, renewable energy, jobs, and access to financial services, aiming to boost development, income generation and access to international markets. One of the tangible examples is the rehabilitation of roads with a positive impact on local economies and communities : https://www.fao.org/in-

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action/eu-streit-png/news/detail/paving-future-yawasoro-niewanjie-road-rejuvenates-lives-livelihoods-rural-papua-new-guinea/en

Another example is the renovation of airstrips improving access to services, jobs, and markets for more than 19 000 people across 10 remote rural communities: https://www.fao.org/in-action/eu-streit-png/news/detail/mariama-airstrip-inaugurated-eu-global-gateway-papua-new-guinea/en

4.2.4.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

The UCPM channelled in-kind assistance and expertise following the destructive earthquake that struck Vanuatu in December 2024. It also facilitated evacuation flights for EU citizens affected by this disaster. Further, in 2024 the EU provided EUR 750 000 from the Emergency Toolbox to respond to earthquakes and landslides in Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea.

4.2.4.4. Crisis response and preparedness

In line with the EU's Strategy for Cooperation in Indo-Pacific, the Critical Maritime Routes Indo-Pacific (CRIMARIO II) project established new partnerships with **South and Southeast Asian partners** to boost interconnected maritime coordination to enhance maritime security.

In alignment with the EU Indo-Pacific strategy, the Commission has launched a new action aimed at enhancing the EU's security cooperation with partners in Asia and the Indo-Pacific region. This initiative focuses on maritime security, counterterrorism, cybersecurity, and hybrid threats, as well as FIMI.

4.3. The Americas and the Caribbean

4.3.1. The Americas

4.3.1.1. Introduction (policy developments)

The EU followed up on the commitments resulting from the third EU-CELAC (Community of Latin American & Caribbean States) summit in Brussels in July 2023, with the Joint Communication 'New Agenda for EU-LAC Relations' (June 2023) and the Council Conclusions on EU-LAC Relations (November 2023). Key milestones included the launch of the EU-CELAC consultative coordination mechanism in Tegucigalpa, Honduras (May 2024), aimed at ensuring continuity and structured follow-up between high-level meetings.

Another significant development was the gathering of foreign ministers from both regions during the High-Level Week of the UN General Assembly in September 2024. At this meeting EU and LAC representatives reaffirmed their commitment to the bi-regional partnership and endorsed the ambitious implementation of the 'Pact for the Future', while setting the stage for the fourth CELAC-EU Summit in 2025.

Throughout 2024, substantial progress has been made in implementing the bi-regional 2023-2025 roadmap across multiple sectors, as well as in strengthening the bilateral partnerships in the region, including with Brazil and Mexico, the EU's two strategic partners in LAC. Reaching a political agreement on the EU-Mercosur Partnership Agreement on 6 December 2024 was a major step

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forward. It is a ground-breaking partnership that strengthens geopolitical, economic, sustainability and security cooperation.

The Global Gateway Investment Agenda (GGIA) was consolidated in 2024, with strengthened financial commitments and prioritisation of key projects in renewable energy, digital transformation, human development and sustainable transport. The GGIA, a Team Europe effort to mobilise private capital and public funding for sustainable development, helped partner countries access EU capital and technology to bridge investment gaps, aligning with our shared priorities.

In 2024, the over 130 GIGA projects helped Team Europe focus its resources and efforts on common endeavours, improving internal coordination and enhancing policy dialogue. These improvements are essential to elevate the Global Gateway to the next level, as outlined in the political guidelines of the new Commission. The GGIA has transitioned from start-up to scale up, with most projects showing evidence of progress.

Six high-level dialogues within the Digital Alliance have strengthened digital cooperation, including the EU-LAC Digital Policy Dialogue in Colombia and the bi-regional Cybersecurity Dialogue in the Dominican Republic, which underscored the importance of digital resilience. Security cooperation also advanced, with the XXIV High-Level Meeting of the EU-CELAC Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism on Drugs in Bolivia introducing a new five-year strategy to combat illicit activities. Additionally, the launch of EL PAcCTO 2.0 in Panama reinforced cooperation on security, justice, and internal affairs.

The TEI on 'Inclusive and Equitable Societies in LAC' was launched to promote social cohesion and reduce inequalities across the region. At the High-Level EU-LAC Dialogue on Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Risk Management in Barbados, a Memorandum of Understanding on Disaster Risk Management and Preparedness was signed with the objective to jointly enhance resilience against natural disasters. Meanwhile, climate and environmental programmes, such as Euroclima and Amazonia+, reaffirmed sustainability as a core priority. The EU-LAC Foundation continued to support civil society engagement and knowledge exchange.

At country level, the EU continued reinforcing political dialogue and cooperation in strategic areas, such as security and defence, environment/climate change, digital transition and foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI), as well as supporting the consolidation of democracy and human rights. On Venezuela, the EU continued its strong political engagement in support of the restoration of democracy, rule of law and respect for human rights. The support to the implementation of the peace process in Colombia remained key in our strengthened partnership.

At sub-regional level, the entry into force of the EU-OACPS (Samoa) Agreement and of the EU-Central America Association Agreement comprehensive frameworks elevated the level of our political engagement with the Caribbean (through the dedicated protocol) and Central America respectively.

Looking ahead, ensuring effective implementation and measurable results will be crucial in sustaining economic growth and deepening EU-LAC cooperation. As geopolitical dynamics evolve, the EU remains committed to fostering a resilient and mutually beneficial partnership with Latin America and the Caribbean. The progress achieved in 2024 lays the groundwork for the upcoming CELAC-EU Summit in Colombia in 2025, marking a new phase in bi-regional relations.

4.3.1.2. Implementation

Human development and inequalities

The TEI **for Inclusive and Equitable Societies in LAC** was officially launched by former Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen in March 2024 to address three goals aligned with the EU's human development priorities: facilitating access to social rights and basic services to empower people; promoting social innovation and resilience for just transitions; and enhancing inclusive, accountable, and transparent institutions.

This collaborative effort brings together the EU and six EU Member States (France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain, and Sweden) with a combined indicative contribution of EUR 1.1 billion in grants. The initiative focuses on five priority areas: gender equality and youth empowerment, education and skills development, social inclusion, social protection and care policies and fostering social innovation to support just, green and digital transitions.

The EU's Inclusive Societies in LAC programme contributes EUR 60 million to the TEI. This programme tackles gender and other inequalities, poverty reduction and social exclusion, and social cohesion within and between LAC countries. With a strong emphasis on gender equality and women's empowerment, it addresses intersectionality with other forms of discrimination. It also seeks to advance social policies and inclusion, focusing on the bottom 40% of income households while encouraging social investment and innovation to foster fair economic transitions. Finally, the programme strengthens the social dimension of the EU-LAC Global Gateway Investment Agenda (GGIA).

Work under the **EU-LAC Health Resilience Initiative,** launched by President von der Leyen and Spanish Prime Minister Sánchez in 2022, continued to progress, focusing action on three key priorities: supporting regional efforts to align and integrate health regulatory frameworks, strengthening local manufacturing capacity for medicines and vaccines, and fostering local R&D and technology transfers through public-private partnerships. In 2023, a series of high-level and B2B matchmaking events were held, with follow-up activities continuing in 2024 to strengthen public-private collaboration and delivery on priority countries.

Green Deal

In 2024, **Euroclima**, the EU's flagship programme on climate change and environmental cooperation in the LAC region since 2010, was adapted to support the Global Gateway strategy and reinforced with an additional allocation of EUR 50 million, reaffirming the EU's commitment to sustainable development and climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean. The programme has been instrumental in implementing the 360-degree approach of several Global Gateway flagship projects, as well as catalysing private-sector interest and investment in the green transition.

Amazonia+ is the EU's regional programme dedicated to the Amazon Forest. The Belém Declaration, signed by Amazonian countries, outlines their shared ambition for the governance of the Amazon Forest. Amazonia+ supports this agenda by focusing on combating forest fires and degradation while strengthening the role of indigenous communities in forest governance. In 2024, the programme achieved significant milestones:

- facilitating exchanges between Amazonian countries and European counterparts;
- enhancing national capacities to respond to forest fires in the short- and medium-term through expertise and training;

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- advancing the work plans of two regional organisations: the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation (ACTO) and the Coordinator of Indigenous Organisations of the Amazon (COICA).

Sustainable growth and jobs

Efforts in 2024 across Latin America and the Caribbean centred on mobilising financing for the EU-LAC Global Gateway Investment Agenda (GGIA). Under the **EFSD+ Open Architecture**, an operation to upgrade the waste treatment plant in Cuenca, Ecuador was launched (EUR 25 million), supported by AFD as part of the 'Fast Cities' Guarantee Agreement. The Latin America and Caribbean Investment Facility (LACIF) was replenished, reaching EUR 151 million. Eleven contribution agreements were signed (total EU contribution of EUR 78 million).

These agreements – established with institutions such as EIB, AFD, AECID/COFIDES, IDB and CAF – targeted key sectors including health, critical raw materials (CRMs), digitalisation, e-mobility, bio-economy, and green recovery. The contracts are expected to mobilise EUR 1.25 billion in investment. Five additional projects were approved by the EFSD+ Blending Board in 2024 (EUR 21 million) for contracting in 2025. Concurrently, dialogue with development finance institutions continued to secure new financing for implementing the EU-LAC GGIA.

The **AL-INVEST Verde Programme** is a key component of Global Gateway. It demonstrates how to turn vision into action by supporting sustainable development and fostering responsible economic growth in Latin America. With a focus on sustainability and the green agenda, it continued to support LAC's public and private sectors, also developing and reinforcing Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in partner countries.

Concrete action includes: grants for the benefits of LA micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises to support deforestation-free sustainable value chains in the agri-food sector, as well as circular economy, low-carbon and resource efficiency; technical assistance to the public sector with a focus on the EU Deforestation Regulation (EU DR) (the programme implements several state-of-art projects on traceability systems for deforestation-free value chains of coffee, cacao, soy, beef (including leather), and planted forest/wood in Brazil, Argentina and Peru); and IPR.

In addition to raising public awareness and providing specialised training for the judiciary and customs systems, the programme implements a new concept of 'mentorships' which aim to support partner countries by providing technical assistance to prepare new geographical indications (GIs) and trademarks, and thus add economic value to local sustainable value chains; it also supports transfer of green technologies.

The programme's new edition **AL-INVEST Next** was approved in November 2023 and will continue to deliver on these priority areas, and in addition to absorbing additional action previously financed by the foreign policy needs component of the NDICI-Global Europe rapid response, for example market access, sustainable value chains on CRMs and the responsible business conduct (RBCLAC). For the first time in its history, the programme will cover the whole LAC region. As its budget is scheduled in two instalments, the programme will start its activities depending on the availability of funds. The RBCLAC project started its implementation in July 2024, and the rest of projects are scheduled for 2025 and 2026.

The LAC region has become a strategic partner for the EU in diversifying supply chains in **CRMs** and enhancing resilience. The EU adopted a proactive approach in 2024 by advancing partnerships and

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fostering collaboration. Roadmaps were developed for the Memoranda of Understanding signed with Chile and Argentina in 2023. Business missions to Brazil, Chile or from partners to Europe facilitated exchanges and collaboration, while the Commission helped to provide a platform for targeted dialogue among stakeholders. Meetings focused on project-oriented discussions to ensure actionable outcomes.

The EU deepened its cooperation with the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT) Raw Materials and EIT InnoEnergy through the CRM Facility, with additional resources planned for 2025. Discussions to expand the Transformative Global Value Chains PIP under EFSD+ Open Architecture also advanced, aiming to de-risk DFI participation in CRM initiatives. Dialogue with the EIB was intensified to optimise the use of their instruments.

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

In 2024 **the EU-LAC Digital Alliance** grew to 51 members, with Grenada, Belize and Guyana joining in 2024 and Bolivia in January 2025. All pillars of the Alliance developed actively, with successful implementation by Team Europe (Germany, Estonia, Spain, France, Slovenia).

Each of the six dialogues held in 2024 resulted in a set of operational takeaways, outlining concrete actions within the priority areas. The takeaways build on the operational conclusions of the Digital Alliance Days in Cartagena de Indias in 2023, which, together with the Joint Declaration on a Digital Alliance, serve as the guiding framework for EU-LAC digital cooperation.

Following the **e-governance dialogue** held in Costa Rica in May 2024, a series of training activities and pilots are being organised for the region. The **Data Governance Dialogue was held in Montevideo** at the end of September. In 2025, the Digital Alliance will provide legislative support to countries in the region that want to produce a national data protection law.

A high-level dialogue on connectivity and AI and supercomputing was successfully held following the eLAC Ministerial in Santiago in November 2024. It was agreed to focus on four key deliverables: continuing the establishment of the EU-LAC Network of Women Digital Policymakers; developing national and sub-regional 5G implementation guides; creating a LAC Meaningful Connectivity Toolbox; and designing a digital skills framework for the region.

Under the Connectivity pillar of the Alliance, the extension of the BELLA cable in 2025 to Peru, Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala was prepared in 2024, with further extension to the Caribbean planned in the coming years.

The EU-LAC Digital Accelerator for business and innovation has led to over 100 new joint ventures, with the participation of 1 500 companies from 86 countries. Regarding space and satellite digital services, the new regional Copernicus centre in Chile in 2024 continued to extend its services, while work on the new centre in Panama has continued.

Governance, peace and security

The EU regional programmes with Latin America and the Caribbean, such as **EL PAcCTO 2.0** on transnational organised crime, **COPOLAD III** on the fight against drugs and **EUROFRONT** on border management, have continued to be key tools to enhance bi-regional cooperation in these areas. Both EU and LAC have continued working closely together with the active support of these programmes, thus further enhancing the EU-LAC Partnership on Justice and Security (recognised at the EU-CELAC Summit in July 2023). The official launch of the EL PAcCTO 2.0 programme in March

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2024, with a higher budget (EUR 58.8 million) and covering the whole LAC region, showcased EU-LAC cooperation in fighting transnational organised crime.

Case study

Euroclima, the EU's flagship programme on climate change and environmental cooperation in the LAC region since 2010, has been adapted to the Global Gateway strategy and reinforced with an additional allocation of EUR 50 million, reaffirming EU's commitment to sustainable development and climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The programme has been instrumental in implementing the 360-degree approach of several Global Gateway flagship projects as well as to catalysing private-sector interest and investments towards the green transition. Concrete examples include:

- delivering capacity building and knowledge transfer on green and sustainable hydrogen in Chile;

- contributing to enabling conditions that promote the green transition of Brazilian industry, inspired by the European Green Deal;

- unlocking private-sector investment in the LAC region through the LAC Climate Bankable Projects Accelerator;

- building the capacity of Peru's regional authorities to enhance protected area management;

- developing a national energy generation forecasting system for renewable energy in Panama;

- supporting the development of the Global Gateway regional response to turn Sargassum invasion into an economic opportunity, including the development of a management system in Dominican Republic and studies to evaluate the industrial use of the algae.

4.3.1.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

In 2024, Venezuela's humanitarian crisis escalated significantly as political and social unrest increased following the July's presidential elections, with access to basic health, food and drinking water severely compromised and 20.1 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Displacement inside the country and regionally continued to be a primary survival strategy pushing 7.7 million Venezuelans to flee the country.

In 2024, the EU continued to provide integrated protection and humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable groups, inside Venezuela and in the region, across all relevant sectors. The EU continued its efforts to improve operating conditions and access for humanitarian actors through donor coordination.

The humanitarian situation in Colombia steadily deteriorated in 2024 due to persistent internal conflict and widespread violence, compounded by the impact of the Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the country. As a result of this, 13.5 million people needed humanitarian assistance, 8.3 million from conflict and disasters and 5.2 million refugees and migrants. To respond to these needs, the EU allocated EUR 30.1 million to help victims of the armed conflict and climate-related disasters and to respond to the Venezuelan and transcontinental mixed migration crisis.

In Ecuador, an unprecedent surge in violence in 2024 generated growing humanitarian consequences and 15% of the population is severely food-insecure. To respond to these needs as

well as the communities affected by climate-related events and indigenous communities affected by criminal extractive economies, the EU allocated EUR 34.2 million in 2024.

Central America and Mexico combine a high exposure to violence, natural hazards, poverty and inequality, in a context of continued migration flows from Panama to northern Mexico. In 2024, 9.4 million people in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador needed humanitarian assistance. The EU's response of EUR 31.2 million focused on addressing the critical needs of the most vulnerable: people on the move, victims and survivors of violence, including organised crime (notably women and children), through protection and relief assistance, provision of food assistance and short/medium-term livelihood recovery and protection.

In addition, in May 2024 the EU and the LAC region signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance cooperation on integrated disaster risk management, as agreed by the 2023 EU-CELAC Summit in Brussels. The signatories developed an Action Plan, aiming to strengthen the partnership on issues such as climate change adaptation, resilient infrastructure, early-warning systems and private-sector involvement.

In 2024, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism played a vital role in responding to various emergencies across the region. It was activated to help Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador address the devastating impact of wildfires, which posed significant threats to local communities and ecosystems. In Central America, the UCPM channelled assistance to Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador in response to health-related emergencies, floods, and wildfires that affected the region. In 2024, the EU provided EUR 4.4 million from its Emergency Toolbox to respond to floods, epidemics and droughts in Central and South America.

4.3.1.4. Crisis response and preparedness

In Latin America, two new EU crisis response actions financed by the rapid-response pillar were adopted - one for Panama and Colombia, the other for Bolivia. In **Panama** and **Colombia**, a new initiative was launched to enhance the protection and safety of displaced individuals when crossing the Darien Gap and to support the stability of host communities when faced with mass migration flows. In **Bolivia**, the action adopted aims to help prevent and mitigate electoral conflicts and violence in the run-up to, during, and following the 2025 Bolivian general elections.

Work on climate change, environment, peace and security has continued apace with the launch of the first regional grant programme under the EU-UNEP Climate Environment Security Partnership in Central America.

Through the Organisation of American States (OAS) the EU contributes to countering the illicit proliferation and trafficking of **small arms and light weapons** and ammunition, and at mitigating their impact in Latin America and the Caribbean. This is done as part of the EU strategy against illicit firearms, small arms & light weapons and their ammunition: 'Securing Arms, Protecting Citizens'. The EU is also actively contributing to strengthening **biological safety and security** in Latin America in line with the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004).

The EU's **Global Illicit Flows Programme (GIFP)** flagship initiative continued to support partner countries' law enforcement and criminal justice authorities in their efforts to tackle transnational organised crime, be it in relation to narcotics, illicit arms trafficking, wildlife crime or illicit financial flows.

A substantive example is the Trigger VI action led by INTERPOL in cooperation with UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in **13 South American countries**, which led to the recovery of around

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200 000 illicit firearms, ammunition and explosives, the arrest of almost 4 000 individuals and the destruction of 27 cocaine labs. Additional operational cooperation with Latin America is done through EMPACT[92] firearms and the EL PAcCTO project.

4.3.2. The Caribbean

4.3.2.1. Introduction (policy developments)

In 2024 the EU maintained its political engagement with the Caribbean as a distinct sub-regional bloc. Relations were further advanced by continued high-level engagement throughout the year, including the participation of former Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen in the SIDS Conference in Antigua and Barbuda in 2024, accompanied by the EU Special Envoy for SIDS, a bilateral between former HRVP Borrell and the Cuban Minister of Foreign Affairs at UNGA, and the visit to Barbados in May by former Commissioner for Preparedness and Crisis Management Lenarčič for the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the area of integrated disaster risk management, an event co-hosted by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA).

On 1 January 2024, the Samoa Agreement between the EU and its Member States and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) entered into force, providing the institutional framework for deepening further our partnership at country, regional and multilateral level.

It builds on the good cooperation with the OACPS SIDS in the region. In the Caribbean, Cuba is the only remaining non-signatory and hence will not be able to benefit from its provisional application. The Caribbean protocol of the Agreement, tailored to the sub-region's needs and dynamics, will allow for an unprecedented regional focus, with its own specific governance.

The EU maintained cooperation efforts with the Caribbean through three partnerships, designed to address the region's multifaceted vulnerabilities: Green Deal; Economic Resilience and Trade; and Governance, Security and Human Development. The partnerships are being animated via a 'Team Europe' approach and will be further implemented through the EU-LAC Global Gateway Investment Agenda presented at the III EU-CELAC Summit, with several initiatives being developed and gradually coming to fruition. In addition to the actions financed by the Caribbean regional programme, in 2024 a significant number of activities from country programmes were implemented.

Considering its severity and possible spillovers in the region, the EU has paid increased attention to the crisis in Haiti, where a consistent response was maintained along the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, complementing it with additional commitments to support the deployment of the Multinational Security Support Mission.

Consultations were held with Costa Rica, Guyana, Suriname, Belize, Bahamas, and several dialogues with Cuba under the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement (PDCA).

[92] European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats. https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/law-enforcement-cooperation/empact-fighting-crime-together_en

4.3.2.2. Implementation

Human development and inequalities

As part of the EU-LAC Health Resilience Initiative, the EU launched PharmaNext, an EUR 8.9 million programme adopted in August 2024 to strengthen the Caribbean pharmaceutical sector. The initiative focuses on modernising health regulatory frameworks in alignment with EU standards, promoting skills transfer and creating investment opportunities to enhance local pharmaceutical production and supply chains.

PharmaNext will support regulatory agencies, healthcare institutions, and local manufacturers through technical assistance, training, and policy reform, ensuring improved medicine safety, quality, and oversight. The programme encourages public-private partnerships to drive innovation and self-sufficiency in the region's pharmaceutical industry.

By fostering regional cooperation and knowledge exchange, PharmaNext aims to reduce dependence on external suppliers, strengthen medicine accessibility and contribute to a more resilient healthcare system in the Caribbean. The initiative aligns with the EU's Global Gateway strategy, reinforcing long-term health security and economic growth in the region.

Green Deal

Actions related to green transition under the Global Gateway Investment Agenda (GGIA) were identified and are being implemented across multiple Caribbean countries, with Euroclima providing support mechanisms.

Energy transition remains a shared priority and a key sector for Global Gateway investment, equipping both the EU and local private sectors with new tools to develop utility-scale energy generation and storage projects. Currently, the EU supports EU-LAC GGIA energy-related projects in 13 Caribbean nations, covering project development, risk mitigation, financing, and infrastructure.

In 2024, Caribbean Ministers of Energy visited Europe to engage with the EU on investment and procurement strategies, aiming to attract the European private sector. This initiative led to further collaboration with industry and sectoral organisations such as Solar Power Europe, Global Renewable Alliance, Greening the Island Foundation, and Redeia. Discussions on interconnection and aggregated energy demand, particularly within the OECS and Barbados, have gained significant traction.

Following Hurricane Beryl's impact on Barbados, Grenada, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on 1 July 2024, the EU Delegation coordinated the EU response, including humanitarian aid from the Commission, assistance from EU Member States, satellite mapping via Copernicus and a post-disaster needs assessment. Efforts have since been made to align reconstruction with EU-LAC GGIA priorities, such as securing an agreement with Prime Minister Mitchell in August to rebuild the energy grid in Carriacou and Petite Martinique, aiming for 100% renewable and resilient energy systems. Additionally, critical water sector investment, including a desalination plant, has been actively supported by the EU Delegation.

The EU has taken a leading role in addressing the growing socio-economic and environmental challenges posed by Sargassum in the Caribbean, acting as a convener and catalyst for sustainable, value-generating and bankable solutions. Through a clear 'Team Europe' approach, it has facilitated the deployment of EU technology and investment, aligning with a key Global Gateway priority. Over EUR 300 million in potential loans and EUR 60 million in grants have been identified to support these

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efforts. The second EU-Caribbean Conference on Sargassum in October 2024 successfully led to the creation of country Task Forces, such as in Grenada, where an expression of interest is underway, with a vision to scale up to regional solutions. Work is also advancing in Barbados and the Dominican Republic.

Sustainable growth and jobs

Under the Partnership for Economic Resilience and Trade, a EUR 14 million programme was approved to support the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). In November 2024, a contract was signed with PTB, CROS-Q, and INDOCAL to implement a key component addressing technical barriers to trade. This initiative builds on two successful previous phases that enhanced quality infrastructure, sanitary and phytosanitary measures and intellectual property frameworks for Caribbean firms and producers. As a result, businesses have been able to expand production, increase exports and create new employment opportunities.

Complementing this effort, an EUR 8 million financial package for the Caribbean Export Development Agency, launched in late 2023, continues to provide technical and financial support to small and medium-sized enterprises and business support organisations. The programme focuses on green transition strategies, digital transformation, and market intelligence to facilitate access to the EU single market. Additionally, the Caribbean Digital Accelerator Programme and the CARIBEquity blended finance programme with IDB Labs made significant progress in 2024, offering crucial support to Caribbean start-ups. These initiatives aim to drive innovation in digital and other strategic sectors, fostering investment and technological exchange with EU companies and investors.

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

Under the EU-LAC Digital Alliance, in February 2024 a cybersecurity dialogue took place in the Dominican Republic. The European Commission is engaging with Expertise France to provide technical assistance, including EU-compliant technological solutions based on the EU cybersecurity model.

Migration and forced displacement

In Haiti, more than 1 million people – equivalent to 9% of the population – were internally displaced by the end of 2024, according to IOM. Most displacements have occurred within the capital, with people seeking refuge in both designated sites and host communities, while more recently, movements toward other regions have increased. In response, the EU is actively working to strengthen the resilience of local communities as part of a broader strategy addressing the crisis, complementing ongoing security and humanitarian aid efforts. In 2024, three initiatives totalling EUR 40 million were launched to support Haiti's education sector, improve customs administration and foster local development in the north-east.

At the grassroots level, the EU is partnering with communities affected by armed violence to promote sustainable job creation and provide seed funding for local economic initiatives. Over 25 pilot projects – including bakeries, leather goods production and cleaning product manufacturing – have already been supported in vulnerable neighbourhoods of Port-au-Prince. These initiatives are empowering local stakeholders, fostering new economic opportunities and driving community-led development, particularly among young people.

Governance, peace and security

The EU collaborates with the Caribbean on justice and security through two main regional programmes: EL PAcCTO 2.0, targeting transnational organised crime: and COPOLAD III, focusing on drug policy. **EL PAcCTO 2.0** (EUR 58.8 million, 2023-2027) was officially launched in March 2024, expanding the scope of its predecessor by including the Caribbean and addressing a wider range of criminal markets and security challenges. This flagship programme underpins EU-LAC cooperation in the fight against transnational organised crime through four main components:

- Strengthening Regional & Bi-regional cooperation and political dialogues, supporting key mechanisms for justice and security (CLASI-Latin American Committee in Internal Security, Ameripol, Justice Policy Cycle);
- Economic Dimension of Crime, with a focus on anti-corruption, money laundering, asset recovery and penitentiary reforms;
- Institutional Strengthening of Justice and Security Institutions, by enhancing the rule of law, improving legislative frameworks and boosting Joint Investigation Teams and cross-border cooperation. There is a special focus on women and youth-specific concerns, for instance to avoid early recruitment to organised crime groups; and
- Addressing Transnational Organised Crime, targeting six key criminal markets: drug trafficking, firearms trafficking, human trafficking, environmental crimes, trafficking of cultural goods, and cybercrime.

The programme's formal launch in Panama (11-13 March 2024) gathered high-level representatives from 30 EU and LAC countries, reaffirming the need for deeper cooperation. The first strategic meetings for the Caribbean (Barbados, July 2024) and Latin America (Chile, October 2024) helped define regional priorities and develop specific strategies for 2025 and 2026, with an aim to unify efforts across LAC by 2027.

A concrete example of EL PAcCTO's impact is Operation 'Guyana Shield,' launched in November 2024, which brings together Guyana, Suriname, Brazil, and French Guiana to combat environmental crimes. A study visit to France and the Netherlands introduced participating countries to European cooperation models through Eurojust and Europol, paving the way for joint action in 2025.

COPOLAD III (2021-2025, EUR 15 million) supports 12 Caribbean countries in implementing national drug policies through technical assistance for 22 national actions, two regional initiatives and the participation of the Caribbean countries in COPOLAD working groups.

At national level, activities in the Caribbean are focused on: generating empirical evidence to build policy (strengthening drug observatories, evaluation of policies and early-warning systems); drug demand reduction (territorialisation and community treatment); drug supply reduction (alternative development options, fighting organised crime, controlling chemical precursors and alternatives to incarceration).

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At the regional level, the programme has facilitated initiatives to address stigma against people who use drugs and enhance institutional capacities within the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) and CARICOM IMPACS[93].

Food security and nutrition

The EU is enhancing food and nutrition security in the Caribbean, particularly for vulnerable groups, through a EUR 19 million programme aimed at strengthening the resilience and sustainability of food systems. This initiative was mobilised as part of the EU's global response to mitigate the impact of the 2022-2023 global food crisis in African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries.

To implement this programme, the EU signed contribution agreements at the end of 2023 with key partners, including the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP) and the Central Project Management Agency of Lithuania (CPVA).

Throughout 2024, the inception phase was completed, confirming the targeted countries and value chains. The programme and its components were officially presented during the Caribbean Week of Agriculture in October 2024 in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The EU also plays an active role in the Agriculture Regional Partners Coordination Forum, organised by CARICOM. This initiative aligns with the **EU Global Gateway** strategy, which seeks to enhance smart, clean, and secure connections in digital, energy and transport sectors – while strengthening health, education and research systems worldwide.

Case study

The EU's **Digital Transitioning Budget Support Programme in Jamaica** is a Global Gateway flagship project for digital development that has strengthened the country's digital infrastructure, expanded broadband internet access and integrated ICT skills into teacher training curricula.

Key achievements:

In 2024, the programme helped to connect 271 public schools and 18 children's homes to wide-area networks, ensuring that by 2025, all public schools and all 48 children's homes have safe and reliable internet access.

Additionally, 362 public schools received campus-wide wi-fi, and Jamaica's National ICT Competency Framework for Teachers was updated to align with international standards, including the EU's Digital Competence Framework for Educators. With 80% of Jamaica's 26 000 teachers being women, the initiative also has a strong gender dimension.

4.3.2.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

Haiti's humanitarian crisis continued to deteriorate in 2024. Gangs controlled 80% of the capital Port-au-Prince and have far-reaching influence in many other parts of the country. Access to basic services such as drinking water and services for people living in gang-controlled areas is very limited and a million people have been forced to flee their houses. In 2024, the crisis has seen the loss of

[93] The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Implementation Agency for Crime and Security.

5 000 people from violence, 5.5 million people are food-insecure and the number of children suffering from severe malnutrition has increased by 9% to more than 125 000 cases. The EU allocated EUR 36.5 million to Haiti to support people suffering from extreme food insecurity, to provide protection for displaced people and victims of gang violence and to provide education in emergencies.

In 2024, the EU mobilised a total of EUR 2.3 million from the Emergency Toolbox to respond to the consequences of floods, earthquakes and health crisis in Cuba and to support the response following the impact on Hurricane Beryl in Grenada and St Vincent and the Grenadines. In the Caribbean, the UCPM was activated in response to Hurricane Beryl, the earliest-forming category 5 hurricane on record, to support affected countries including Jamaica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Additionally, the UCPM collaborated with the UNEP/OCHA Joint Environmental Unit to address the environmental impacts of the hurricane.

4.3.2.4. Crisis response and preparedness

In the Caribbean, in response to the ongoing crisis in **Haiti**, the EU adopted a new crisis response action supporting the Multinational Security Support Mission (MSSM) in Haiti to improve security and re-establish the rule of law, respect for human rights and protect civilians.

'Operation Caribe' facilitated enhanced information sharing and coordinated rummage activities by Joint Maritime Control Units (JMCUs) on targeted vessels in the Caribbean region. This operation aimed to intensify law enforcement while evaluating the strength and capacity of SEACOP's Maritime Intelligence Units (MIUs) in real-time information sharing.

4.4. EU Enlargement (Western Balkans, Türkiye, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova and Georgia)

4.4.1. Introduction (policy developments)

The enlargement process entered a new phase with fresh momentum in 2024. Following the December 2023 European Council decision to open negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova, the first intergovernmental conferences opening the negotiations with both countries were held on 25 June 2024. Subsequently, the Commission started the bilateral screening meetings that are now in full swing. Upon the Council decision recognising that Montenegro had met the interim benchmarks for the rule of law chapters 23 and 24, the intergovernmental conference on 26 June communicated the closing benchmarks for these two chapters.

This also paved the way to provisionally close three negotiating chapters (Chapter 7 – Intellectual property law, Chapter 10 – Information society and media and Chapter 20 – Enterprise and industrial policy).

The bilateral screening sessions were completed with both Albania and North Macedonia at the end of 2023. The Fundamentals cluster was opened with Albania on 15 October 2024, followed by the external relations cluster on 17 December 2024.

In March 2024, the European Council decided to open accession negotiations with Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Commission was invited to prepare the negotiating framework with a view to its adoption by the Council the moment the country takes all relevant steps set out in the Commission's

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recommendation of October 2022[94]. In December 2023, the European Council granted candidate status to Georgia. However, the course of action taken by the Georgian authorities since spring 2024 jeopardises Georgia's EU path, de facto halting the accession process.

The Council remains aware of Kosovo's* membership application submitted in December 2022.

The European Commission examines policy developments in EU candidate countries and potential candidates on a recurring basis, and provides an assessment of the state of play and the progress made in its annual Enlargement Package. The 2024 Enlargement package was adopted in October 2024[95]. Enlargement momentum has been coupled with a reinvigorated engagement with the relevant partners, particularly through their progressive integration into the EU single market. This integration is a facilitator (and not an alternative) to accession, by bringing even before accession the tangible socio-economic benefits of EU membership to the enlargement countries that are ready in specific areas. To show its commitment to above-mentioned engagement, the EU has significantly boosted its financial support for partner countries.

On 1 March 2024, the Ukraine Facility entered into force. Against the backdrop of Russia's full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine, this financing instrument supports Ukraine's efforts to sustain macro-financial stability, promote its recovery and support reforms with a view to future EU membership. It will provide Ukraine with consistent, predictable and flexible support from 2024 to 2027, conditional on the country meeting pre-agreed reform requirements.

The Facility is endowed with EUR 50 billion in grants and loans, and its implementation is based on the Ukraine Plan (a reform and investment strategy) developed by the country and greenlighted by the Council on 14 May 2024.

The Commission presented the Growth Plan for the Western Balkans in November 2023. The EUR 6 billion Reform and Growth Facility, an integral element of the Growth Plan, entered into force on 25 May 2024. The new Growth Plan aims to complement the Economic and Investment Plan for the region, to help increase its economic convergence with the EU and accelerate reforms related to the fundamentals of the accession process. It provides for gradually integrating the region into specific areas of the EU single market, subject to progress in regional economic integration and alignment with the relevant EU *acquis*, as well as setting up sufficient administrative capacities and procedures.

Based on the logic of the NextGeneration EU initiative and the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the Reform and Growth Facility will further incentivise key socio-economic and enlargement-related reforms agreed in each beneficiary's tailor-made, ambitious reform agenda. Upon fulfilment of reform steps and essential conditions, financial rewards will be released to the national budgets, complemented by targeted investment in the green and digital transitions, the private sector and human capital development through the Western Balkans Investment Framework.

The implementation of the Growth Plan and the Facility is underway and has led to a significant political mobilisation in the region, recognising the substantive benefits the Growth Plan will bring. Five of the six beneficiaries[96] have submitted their reform agendas to date, and they were approved

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[94] COM(2022) 528 final, 12 October 2022. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52022DC0528

[*] This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

[95] COM(2024) 690 final, 30 October 2024. Commission adopts 2024 Enlargement Package - European Commission

[96] As of the date of writing, the following beneficiaries had submitted reform agendas: Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia.

by the Commission in October 2024. The corresponding pre-financing transfers are planned to be made when the Facility and the Loan agreements with each of the beneficiaries enter into force and the pre-financing conditions are met, including inter alia the upholding of democratic mechanisms, rule of law and respect for human rights, and – specifically for Serbia and Kosovo –constructive steps towards normalising their relations with one another.

The European Commission proposed in October 2024 a dedicated Growth Plan for Moldova to support its socio-economic reforms, investment and alignment with the EU *acquis* and values. The related financial instrument is being finalised by the EU Council and European Parliament.

Türkiye is a candidate country and a key partner of the EU in many areas of joint interest, and highlights EU accession as its strategic goal. Nonetheless, accession negotiations with the country have been at a standstill since 2018, in line with the decision of the Council. Following up on the recommendations of the Joint Communication on the state of play of EU-Türkiye political, economic and trade relations[97], the implementation of its recommendations is advancing, in line with the April 2024 European Council Conclusions[98], in a phased, proportionate and reversible manner.

Under the EFSD+ and Turkyie Investment Plateform, EUR 90.5 million of garantees were allocated to Turkyie under 7 projects implemented by EBRD, IFC, AfD and KfW to support SMEs, renewable energy and energy efficiency.

4.4.2. Implementation

Throughout 2024, the EU intensified its use of available financial instruments (the Ukraine Facility, the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III), NDICI-Global Europe and the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans) to support the enlargement process and to speed up socio-economic convergence, including by promoting sustainable investment through blending operations and budgetary guarantees channelled via international financial institutions (IFIs).

In total the EU committed around EUR 5 581 million in the enlargement region. Additionally, the EU committed EUR 1 070.7 million in 61 blending and guarantee operations. These operations had a total expected mobilised investment of EUR 4 720.1 million. Ukraine (49%) and Serbia (33%) were the primary recipient countries of blending and guarantee operations, with investment prioritising the transport (34%), private sector (27%) and energy (15%) sectors.

Human development and inequalities

The EU supports enlargement partners in developing their human capital, focusing on education, skills, employment, health, social protection and inclusion.

In the Western Balkans, the College of Europe opened a new campus in Tirana, focusing on European integration and policies. Supported by the EU, this initiative strengthens ties between the EU and the Western Balkans, fostering regional stability and integration. The fourth 'Bridging the Gap' event, jointly organised by the European Commission and the European Parliament's Young Political Leaders Programme, brought together MEPs and youth organisations to discuss key issues such as youth policies, EU enlargement and the impact of the green and digital transitions.

[97] JOIN(2023) 50 final, 29 November 2023. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52023JC0050

[98] Council Conclusions EUCO 12/24 of 18 April 2024. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/m5jlwe0p/euco-conclusions-20240417-18-en.pdf

The EU has also invested in strengthening health systems in the Western Balkans, allocating EUR 7 million since 2021 to enhance emergency response capacities, reform health financing and increase vaccination levels. In North Macedonia, the Youth Guarantee programme has shown promising results, with 21 300 participants in 2024 and a success rate of 38.2% in achieving employment and social inclusion.

The EU has also supported initiatives aimed at empowering women with minority backgrounds, in the Western Balkans and Türkiye, such as the 'Romani women power of change' project, which aims to increase participation by Roma women in local decision-making and education.

In the Eastern Partnership region, the EU has launched the Supporting Education Reforms and Skills (SER) programme. This programme has demonstrated significant progress and benefits within its first year of implementation, with diagnostic assessments being completed in Moldova and key findings and recommendations being shared at high-level policy dialogues and national events.

Green Deal

The EU is committed to supporting the energy sector in enlargement partner countries and territories, with a focus on reducing energy dependency and promoting sustainable development. Through targeted programmes and investment, the EU aims to diversify energy sources and supply routes, deploy renewable energy and synchronise electricity markets.

Under the EU4 Energy Transition project, the EU has allocated EUR 8 million to help 20 cities and towns in the Western Balkans and Türkiye develop and implement energy and climate action measures focusing on local solutions for energy efficiency and renewable energy. In Albania, the Vau i Dejës Floating Solar project, commenced in November 2024, will install a 12.9 megawatt floating solar photovoltaic power plant, the first of its kind in the region.

In 2024, for Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EU granted over EUR 17 million for renovations and investment in water and sanitation facilities in 16 municipalities and is also supporting a project to improve flood risk management. In Kosovo, the EU has improved the energy efficiency of 84 public buildings, including schools and municipal buildings in partnership with the World Bank and the Kosovo Energy Efficiency Fund. In Serbia, the 'EU Green Agenda for Serbia' platform has made significant progress in reforestation and conservation, with 173 hectares reforested and positive impacts on 200 endangered species and 216 habitats.

The EU4Environment programme promotes sustainable consumption and production in the Eastern Neighbourhood by increasing awareness and adoption of circular economy principles. It has aligned legislation with EU standards in green procurement, waste management and extended producer responsibility in Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. Moldova has introduced its own eco-label and incorporated sustainability criteria into public procurement. In Ukraine, nine companies have implemented Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production measures, resulting in annual savings of around EUR 200 000.

Sustainable growth and jobs

The EU is committed to fostering sustainable growth and creating jobs in its partners. Through targeted initiatives and programmes, the EU is working to promote economic development, improve trade and investment opportunities and support entrepreneurship and innovation.

The regional programme supporting the Central European Free Trade Area (CEFTA) Secretariat, funded with EUR 4 million since 2022, facilitates trade negotiations and strengthens trade

surveillance in the Western Balkans and Moldova. In 2024, CEFTA adopted nine new agreements to boost trade, jobs and consumer rights.

Under the EU4Culture programme, the Progress Foundation's 'Artisans between Past and Future' initiative offers training sessions for women artisans in Albania, focusing on digital marketing to preserve cultural heritage and empower artisans. In Kosovo, the Start-up Acceleration Support Project (STAR UP!) supported 28 start-ups, facilitated over 1 000 B2B connections, and enabled access to global platforms, strengthening the start-up ecosystem. In Türkiye, the EU-funded Facility for Refugees has created over 20 500 jobs.

Under the new Ukraine Investment Framework EUR 940 million in EU guarantees, coupled with EUR 400 million in blended finance grants, were mobilised with the aim to unlock EUR 6 billion in investment, benefiting private companies, micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises, municipalities and state-owned enterprises in Ukraine.

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

Digitalisation and the digital transition are crucial components of the common regional market action plan for the Western Balkans. The plan focuses on four key pillars of the Digital Compass: digital skills; secure and sustainable digital infrastructures (including roaming); digital transformation of businesses; and digitalisation of public services. To accelerate the digital transition in the Western Balkans, the Commission adopted the EU4Digital programme in 2024, allocating EUR 15 million in funding from IPA III, with a focus on pillars 2, 3 and 4.

In Albania, the EU is establishing 684 Smart ICT Labs in 627 schools to enhance computer programming skills for students. Moreover, the EU4Municipalities programme in Albania, which concluded in July 2024, supported 19 municipalities with EUR 1.7 million in investment grants, improving infrastructure and services in education, social inclusion, culture, environmental protection, youth empowerment and local economic development, benefiting over 49 332 citizens.

The EU is financing a EUR 22.9 million wastewater treatment plant in Podgorica, Montenegro, along with a sludge incineration plant and sewerage network extension. This project will improve wastewater management, health conditions and quality of life, while also creating jobs and stimulating economic growth. IPA III supports various digital initiatives, including the 'Rural Broadband Roll-out Phase 2' in Serbia, which connects 815 settlements, 305 schools and 128 000 rural households to the existing fibre backbone.

In 2024, Ukraine adopted a long-term national strategic plan for digital development, digital transformation and digitalisation of the State Customs Service, with the EU technical expertise support. The EU collaborates with Black Sea neighbours through the Common Maritime Agenda, with the EU4EMBLAS project improving marine environment monitoring in Georgia and supporting Ukraine through art and science initiatives like 'Black Sea diaries'.

Migration and forced displacement

EU assistance in the Western Balkans is in line with the Pact on Migration and Asylum[(99)], the Western Balkans Action Plan[(100)] and the EU strategy on voluntary return and reintegration. Between 2021 and 2024, the EU has adopted EUR 350 million in financial support for migration and border

[99] COM(2020) 609 final, 23 September 2020. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0609
[100] EU Action Plan on the Western Balkans

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management in the Western Balkans, focusing on implementing protection-sensitive migration systems, migration statistics, asylum and reception systems, returns management, alternatives to detention and legal protection for victims of human trafficking.

Key agencies Frontex, Europol and the EU Agency for Asylum (EUAA) play a crucial role in bringing the region closer to the EU. Throughout 2023, a total of 64 115 migrants were registered as staying in the four EU-funded temporary reception centres in the Una-Sana and Sarajevo cantons, with an additional 13 000 estimated outside centres. In North Macedonia, Frontex conducted an in-depth review, which provided an implementation plan to develop IT systems that are interoperable with EU IT systems and communication infrastructure to identify and register migration flows, in line with EU requirements.

In 2024, the EU continued to deliver on its commitment to support Türkiye in its efforts to host some 3 million refugees, allocating an additional EUR 1 billion in 2024 to provide basic needs, healthcare[101], educational support and social cohesion assistance. Support also included a substantial allocation to strengthen Türkiye's capacity to manage migration and control its borders. Support continued to be delivered in accordance with the March 2016 EU-Türkiye Statement[102]. It allows nearly 1.6 million refugees to meet their basic needs, has provided some 40.7 million primary healthcare consultations, has mobilised 3 700 healthcare staff, upgraded 603 healthcare facilities and built two major hospitals, provided close to 1 million refugees with protection services, and provided approximately 834 000 refugee children with access to formal education and built 176 new schools.

Comprehensive migration and border management remain key priorities for the EU in the Eastern Partnership region, particularly in the candidate countries. In Ukraine, the EU supported border management continuity and strengthened Ukrainian border management agencies through the Integrated Border Management programme.

Moldova faces the highest rates of labour and youth emigration in Europe. Since the start of the war in Ukraine, it has also seen an unprecedented influx of refugees, hosting the highest number of refugees per capita in Europe, with a significant proportion of women and children. The EU has been helping the newly established General Inspectorate for Migration implement its internal affairs strategy for 2022-2023. Given the specific refugees' profile (mainly women and children, including unaccompanied minors), immediate preventive measures were set up to disrupt organised crime engaged in traffic of human beings and/or identified victims of gender based violence. Gender based violence (GBV) response for refugees in Moldova is coordinated through the GBV Sub-Working Group under the Refugee Coordination Forum, co-led by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and UNHCR. While all GBV shelters are open to refugees, Moldova currently has only around 180 shelter places, below the Istanbul Convention benchmark of 250, leaving gaps in protection. Local NGOs and international partners help fill these gaps with counselling, legal aid, and small-scale shelters, many supported by EU and UN funding.

[101] Including 'Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights' related services. As noted in the Facility Monitoring Report No. 13 (December 2024), the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Family Planning awareness-raising activities have contributed to a significant reduction in the proportion of reproductive-age refugee women expressing an unmet need for reproductive health services.

[102] EU-Turkey statement, 18 March 2016 - Consilium

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Governance, peace and security

The EU's enlargement agenda is built on the foundation of fundamental democratic and rule-of-law reforms, which are crucial for enlargement partners to progress towards EU membership. These reforms focus on key areas such as justice reform, combating corruption and organised crime, ensuring democratic elections and parliamentary oversight, protecting fundamental rights and freedoms and promoting good governance.

The ongoing war in Ukraine has underscored the critical importance of unity and close cooperation within the EU and with its closest partners on security and defence issues. In 2024, the EU adopted Security and Defence Partnerships with Moldova, Albania, and North Macedonia, reflecting the determination of all parties to address shared security challenges in an increasingly complex global environment.

In addition, overall support provided under the European Peace Facility (EPF) amounted in 2024 to EUR 61 million for the Western Balkans, EUR 137 million for Moldova, and EUR 62.75 million for Georgia. In the case of Ukraine, support provided through the EPF amounted to EUR 6.1 billion. In July 2024, the EU also made available to Ukraine the first payment of EUR 1.5 billion of extraordinary revenues generated from immobilised Russian sovereign assets, accrued in 2024 (EUR 1.4 billion for the European Peace Facility support to Ukraine, and EUR 100 million for the Ukraine Facility).

In the Western Balkans, IPA III support has continued to strengthen alignment with the EU *acquis* and improved performance in key areas, including through hands-on support to organised crime investigations and prosecutions, capacity building of law enforcement bodies in addition to practical exercises in areas such as seizure of virtual currencies and identifying illicit goods at border crossings and at airports, as well as continued support in enforcing accountability for past crimes and reconciliation.

Regarding the media, EU assistance continued to enhance the media environment by ensuring the safety of journalists, promoting public service media, combating disinformation, improving media governance, ensuring quality production and fostering regional media networks. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EU, in partnership with the Council of Europe, supported the first-ever training of police officers from Brčko District on hate crime and hate speech towards the LGBTI+ community. In Kosovo, the National Centralised Criminal Record (NCCR) has successfully reformed court operations by providing a quick, secure, centralised and modern service to citizens.

In North Macedonia, the new Law on Whistleblower Protection was drafted and submitted to the Government for approval. In Serbia, IT equipment was provided to the National Anti-trafficking Coordination Office (NATCO), the National Rapporteur on human trafficking, the Centre for Human Trafficking Victim Protection and the NGO ASTRA. This equipment strengthens their capacities in monitoring and reporting human trafficking and protecting victims. In Türkiye, the EU supported the adoption of a new national action plan against trafficking in human beings and multiple anti-trafficking actions, as well as the launch of a grant scheme for legal aid services to vulnerable women (e.g., old, with disabilities, migrant, single mothers, women who cannot leave the house due the care responsibilities/perpetraton), and the training of 586 lawyers on women's access to justice.

Territorial and cross-border cooperation

Good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation are essential to the EU enlargement process.

Territorial cooperation programmes enable candidate countries to work together and with neighbouring EU Member States in key social and economic sectors. More specifically, Interreg

cooperation programmes in cohesion policy, create opportunities for dialogue, cooperation and development at local level, with the involvement of communities, the private sector and civil society organisations. The EU macro-regional strategies for the Adriatic and Ionian Region and the Danube Region have continued promoting cooperation between Member States and candidate countries for the development, cohesion and decreasing of disparities in these two macro-regions, with the goal of unlocking their economic and social potential, fostering administrative capacity on different EU policies and promoting development projects in key areas. This unique learning by doing that Interreg and the macro-regional strategies offer candidate countries, in addition to the targeted capacity building they provide, make them crucial contributors to the preparations for enlargement.

Between 2021 and 2024, approximately EUR 500.8 million was committed to support territorial and cross-border cooperation (CBC) programmes, which account for around 5% of the total EU funds under the IPA III instrument. By 2024, over 2 100 organisations, including local and national government bodies, civil society groups and businesses, had participated in cross-border networks and partnerships. This collaboration has led to the creation of 1 185 new jobs and the establishment of 459 new businesses.

The CBC programmes are focused on critical areas such as resilience and disaster prevention, environmental protection, equal opportunities and anti-discrimination efforts, clean energy, public health, entrepreneurship and professional training for young people. Notable projects funded through the cross-border programmes between candidate countries include enhancing community resilience to natural and man-made disasters, as well as climate change challenges, along the border between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.

Furthermore, investment in youth, education and skills aims to mitigate negative migration impacts in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, while vocational training supports youth and vulnerable individuals in Montenegro and Kosovo. Capacities for reproductive health are being built in Serbia and Montenegro, and efforts are underway to promote culture and natural heritage for sustainable tourism development in Serbia and North Macedonia, as well as Montenegro and Albania.

To strengthen oversight of EU funds management, Moldova established a National Working Group in the start of 2024. This group, comprising representatives from key ministries and government agencies, fosters improved coordination of cross-border, transnational and inter-regional cooperation programmes.

Food security and nutrition

The EU is working to enhance food security and nutrition in its enlargement partners by promoting best practices in food safety and sustainable agriculture.

In 2024, the EU committed EUR 12.5 million to help Albania align its food safety policies with EU standards, ensuring the highest levels of consumer protection. In Kosovo, the EU has helped establish five Regional Offices to strengthen the implementation of food safety measures and protect public health. Meanwhile, in North Macedonia, the EU's IPARD III programme is promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development, supporting farmers and irrigation schemes to boost the country's economic potential.

In Serbia, the EU is funding the ANTARES project, under Horizon 2020, which aims to establish the BioSense Institute as a European Centre of Excellence for sustainable agriculture, leveraging advanced technologies to drive innovation in the sector. In Moldova, following the 2023 reform of

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the National Agency for Food Safety, the EU has supported the implementation of a Human Resources Development Strategy 2024-2027 and a training programme.

In veterinary policy, a new law was adopted on transmissible animal diseases, enhancing the country's surveillance systems and diagnostic capabilities, successfully implementing EU programmes for African swine fever and rabies prevention and improving avian flu detection and response.

Case study

Fostering regional integration and leadership through education:

College of Europe - Tirana campus

In line with the EU's commitment to promoting regional stability and integration, the College of Europe's new campus in Tirana, Albania, represents a significant milestone in EU-Western Balkans cooperation.

The establishment of the Tirana campus was a key outcome of the 2022 EU-Western Balkans Summit, where leaders agreed to strengthen ties between the EU and the Western Balkans through education and cultural exchange. The campus is the third location for the College of Europe, following Bruges and Natolin.

The Tirana campus offers a master's programme in European Transformation and Integration, providing students from the Western Balkans and the EU with a unique opportunity to live, study and learn together. The programme aims to promote mutual understanding, foster regional stability and prepare future leaders for European integration. The EU supports the campus with a EUR 2.6 million grant, covering operational costs and scholarships for 15 Western Balkan students over three years, promoting diversity and inclusivity.

Key achievements:

1. The Tirana campus was officially opened in October 2024, with an inaugural class of 32 students from the Western Balkans and the EU.

2. The new master's programme provides students with a comprehensive understanding of European integration and policies.

3. The EU's support for the campus will enable the provision of scholarships for 15 Western Balkan students, promoting diversity and inclusivity.

The Tirana campus is expected to have a significant impact on promoting regional integration and stability in the Western Balkans. By providing a platform for students from the region to engage with their EU counterparts, the campus will foster mutual understanding, promote cultural exchange and prepare future leaders for European integration. As noted by President von der Leyen, the campus represents a 'watershed moment for Europe' and a step towards 'reunification' of the continent.

In addition to the Tirana campus, a new programme for junior diplomats from the enlargement region has officially started with the College of Europe (in Bruges) in 2024 and will train them in the field of the EU's external action, to develop and promote a common understanding on the EU's role in the world.

4.4.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

Throughout 2024, the Western Balkans experienced a series of climate-related disasters, with an especially severe wildfire season affecting the region during the summer of 2024. To support response efforts, firefighting aircraft were deployed to Albania and North Macedonia, who activated the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) four and two times, respectively.

Additionally, in response to severe flash flooding and a landslide in Bosnia and Herzegovina, four search-and-rescue teams were mobilised, along with shelter items and pumps from eight EU Member States and UCPM Participating States.

Furthermore, a special measure on recovery from flooding was adopted in December 2024, allocating EUR 20 million to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in the recovery efforts in the aftermath of floods and landslides, to re-establish vital public and private infrastructure and delivery of services.

Türkiye is hosting some 3.1 million registered refugees, of which about 2.9 million are from Syria and some 222 000 refugees from other countries, mainly Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran. Most live in protracted displacement. Despite the integration of the refugees into public social services and support schemes, humanitarian needs persist. In 2024, the EU allocated EUR 26 million in humanitarian aid in Türkiye, mainly in the protection, education and health sectors.

As regards UCPM regional cooperation, the regional initiatives that were launched in 2023 continued with implementing activities in the region. The On-Site Assistance (OSA) project in the Mediterranean (MENA countries), Western Balkans and Türkiye was extended to the Eastern Neighbourhood and topped up with EUR 900 000. The programme provides technical support to the national civil protection authorities in the region in building their disaster risk prevention, preparedness, and response, as well as interactions with the UCPM. Discussions on the UCPM financial contribution for 2020-2027 were finalised with Turkish authorities at political, managerial and technical level, with the aim of reaching a financial agreement aligned with other enlargement participating states.

Several civil protection programmes are currently ongoing, including a multi-country study covering the region. The study will identify cross-border and regional risks, and gaps in addressing those risks. The study will further help define priorities for future EU action and projects in the regions. The regional programme for the Western Balkans and Türkiye IPA CARE (Capacity for Risk Management of Earthquakes and Health Emergencies) continued with implementation in enhancing capacities in prevention, preparedness and response to earthquakes and health emergencies. Finally, the regional programme IPA Forest Fires and Floods, covering Western Balkans and Türkiye, was successfully completed in 2024.

4.4.4. Crisis response and preparedness

The EU continued to respond to emerging and ongoing crises in the enlargement countries.

Crisis response continued to respond to the war in Ukraine with six crisis response packages.

The activities in **Ukraine** focused on energy and societal resilience, further provision of satellite imagery and continued demining action. On demining, the adoption of the National Mine Action Strategy was a particular milestone achieved with EU assistance; its implementation had already led to successes returning contaminated land to productive use. By focusing on assessments and survey, Ukraine reduced the hazardous area from 174 000 km^2 to 139 000 km^2 between 2023 and 2024.

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Assistance also continued on accountability, with support to both international (ICC, ICPA) and national (notably Office of the Prosecutor General) efforts for war crimes prosecution and investigation. Assistance included also the delivery of key material like robotic mine clearing systems and vehicles for investigating teams. Outreach to global partners was firmly established and began yielding results such as the Bring Kids Back events in summer 2024 drawing attention to children forcefully abducted by Russia.

In **Moldova**, the focus was on implementation of EU support for cyber security, social resilience, strategic communication and independent media. This was especially important in the context of the election cycle in the country and the intensified Russian hybrid threats and attacks, which also highlighted economic vulnerabilities.

The **EU Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform** in **Ukraine** (EUAM Ukraine) assists Ukraine in the field of civilian security sector reform, including police and the rule of law. In 2024, the mandate of the Mission has been amended to include support for the smooth re-establishment of the Ukrainian government functions and the rule of law in liberated areas and a contribution to the international efforts to ensure accountability for international crimes by providing support for investigating and prosecuting them.

The EU supports **Ukraine's** efforts to combat illicit **trafficking in small arms and light weapons (SALW) including firearms, ammunition and explosives**, in cooperation with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the South-eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of small arms and light weapons (UNDP-SEESAC), thus enhancing the operational and supervisory capacities of national authorities, improving the legislative and regulatory framework and raising public awareness.

Following the adoption of the SALW roadmap for the Western Balkans in December 2018 and its effective implementation until 2024, all six Western Balkans partners now have SALW strategies in place and have adapted their national legislation to align with EU legislation. This is an important part of strong EU security engagement with the region.

In 2024, the **EU Partnership Mission in Moldova** (EUPM Moldova) helped increase the resilience of the security sector in Moldova in the areas of crisis management and hybrid threats, including cybersecurity and countering foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI), by providing advice at strategic level on the development of strategies and policies for countering hybrid threats and FIMI.

In 2024, the **EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia** (EUMM Georgia) continued to provide civilian monitoring of Parties' actions, including full compliance with the six-point Agreement and subsequent implementing measures throughout Georgia, to contribute to stabilisation, normalisation and confidence building whilst also contributing to informing European policy in support of a durable political solution for Georgia.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine also had implications for the **Western Balkans region**, where hybrid threats have significantly intensified. In this context, the EU has stepped up its crisis response initiatives in the areas of disinformation and cyber security.

The EU-Western Balkans Literacy Conference and the Connecting Communities Event organised by the European External Action Service in Pristina in October 2024 brought together journalists and media professionals from across the world to strengthen capacity in countering FIMI and promote collaboration.

In 2024, the **EU Ambassador in Kosovo – who is also the EU Special Representative for Kosovo and Head of the EU Office there –** supported Kosovo's European perspective and rapprochement with the EU, in line with its regional perspective, in accordance with the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, through targeted public communication and EU outreach activities designed to ensure a broader understanding and support from the Kosovo public on issues related to the EU.

Strategic policy advice was provided through the dedicated EU Office rule of law team, offering targeted support to the Kosovo rule of law institutions, to strengthen their capacity and ensure improved compliance with EU standards, particularly in the areas of integrity, efficiency, accountability and transparency as well as through a legislative review mechanism. The Mutual Legal Assistance mechanism facilitated judicial cooperation between Kosovo and countries who do not recognise the territory.

In 2024, the **European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo** (EULEX Kosovo) continued to support selected Kosovo rule of law institutions on their path towards increased effectiveness, sustainability, multiethnicity and accountability, free from political interference and in full compliance with international human rights standards and best European practices through monitoring activities and limited executive functions (second security responder after Kosovo Police).

EULEX Kosovo also supported the re-located judicial proceedings within a Member State (the **Kosovo Specialist Chambers**), to prosecute and adjudicate criminal charges arising from the investigation into the allegations raised in a report entitled 'Inhuman treatment of people and illicit trafficking in human organs in Kosovo'[(103)] released on 12 December 2010 by the Special Rapporteur for the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Council of Europe.

In 2024, the **EU Special Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina** supported domestic efforts in line with European standards for further constitutional and electoral reforms to ensure equality and non-discrimination of all citizens, monitored the executive and legislative authorities at all levels of government, and liaised with the authorities and political parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In 2024, the **EU Special Representative for the Belgrade-Pristina Dialogue and other Western Balkan regional issues** continued with efforts to achieve comprehensive normalisation of relations between Serbia and Kosovo, improve good neighbourly relations and promote reconciliation.

4.5. European Neighbourhood

4.5.1. European Neighbourhood East

4.5.1.1. Introduction (policy developments)

In the Eastern Neighbourhood (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus), 2024 continued to be marked by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on the one hand, and the deepening of EU's relations with several eastern partner countries on the other hand. EU relations with Ukraine and Moldova entered a new phase guided by the EU's enlargement policy and alignment with the EU *acquis*.

[103] Dick Marty, *Inhuman treatment of people and illicit trafficking in human organs in Kosovo*, AS/Jur (2010) 46, Council of Europe: Parliamentary Assembly, 12 December 2010, https://www.refworld.org/reference/countryrep/coepace/2010/en/98812
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Despite more diverse political choices by partner countries in the region, all Eastern Partnership partners (in the case of Belarus through its civil society) continued to benefit from the **Eastern Partnership (EaP)** policy framework. The Eastern Partnership remains a strong policy initiative that seeks to enhance cooperation and provides support to critical reforms across the Eastern Neighbourhood, including through regional cooperation formats. In 2024, resilience building remained a critical area of EU support in the Eastern Partnership agenda.

The EU continued to promote security, stability and peace in the region, including supporting the normalisation process between Armenia and Azerbaijan, together with promoting a regional policy that accompanies Moldova and Ukraine as they advance on the EU enlargement path. In several countries of the Eastern Neighbourhood, civil society organisations face increased barriers, while human rights defenders are often under threat and attack. Regional Eastern Partnership initiatives provide opportunities for continued engagement with Georgian, Azerbaijani and Belarusian society.

The **Economic and Investment Plan for the Eastern Partnership** remains the key instrument leveraging investment in the region, mobilising EUR 13 billion since 2021, further boosting socio-economic development and connectivity. Wider cooperation with the Western Balkans, Central Asia and other countries of the Black Sea region has been increasingly reflected in EaP events.

EU-Armenia relations continued to experience unprecedented momentum in 2024. Armenia made significant progress on its EU-supported reform agenda. In the summer of 2024, the EU and Armenia launched negotiations for a new EU-Armenia Partnership Agenda, setting ambitious priority objectives for cooperation across all sectors. To underpin the Agenda, the Commission announced a EUR 270 million resilience and growth plan for Armenia (2024-2027), increasing EU assistance to Armenia by 50%.

The EU provided a first assistance worth EUR 10 million under the European Peace Facility. The EU launched a visa liberalisation dialogue in September (by Vice-President Schinas during his visit to Yerevan), serving as a strong incentive for reforms and delivering on yet another long-time ask from Yerevan. The EU continued to support the integration of Karabakh Armenians.

The EU continued its support for humanitarian demining, as the largest international donor in this field in Azerbaijan. Since 2020, the EU and its Member States have committed around EUR 22.8 million for demining in Azerbaijan through a TEI. This includes an additional EUR 10 million announced for 2024-2025, announced in 2024. The EU supported efforts to reach a deal as part of COP29 hosted in Baku in November 2024. Azerbaijan did not sign the financing agreement for the AAP for 2023. The EU continued to stress the importance of human rights, gender equality, civil society, and freedom of expression and assembly, and has remained the largest donor to civil society in Azerbaijan.

The EU has also played a central role in facilitating the Azerbaijan-Armenia peace talks, demonstrating its commitment to a peaceful and prosperous South Caucasus. In this context, a new full-fledged civilian EU Mission to Armenia (EUMA) was launched in February 2023, with a two-year mandate. The mission is tasked to observe and report on the situation on the ground, contribute to human security in conflict-affected areas and contribute to building confidence. The mission was strengthened in 2024 following a decision by the Council in December 2023.

In **Belarus**, the rampant repression of all segments of Belarusian society continued. There are still around 1 300 political prisoners in detention, subjected to torture and ill treatment. Many have been held *incommunicado* for months. In 2024, the EU allocated an additional EUR 30 million for the support of Belarusian civil society and democratic forces. The EU hosted for the first time the Belarus

Days' event in Brussels, to highlight efforts made since 2020 to support a democratic Belarus through a series of cultural and political activities.

The democratic backsliding in **Georgia** led to the de facto halting of the EU accession process. In reaction to the adoption of the foreign influence law in June 2024, the EU suspended political contacts with, and financial assistance to, the authorities. Georgia entered a major political crisis following the contested parliamentary elections of 26 October 2024. The ruling Georgian Dream party's announcement on 28 November 2024 of its decision to suspend EU accession until 2028 sparked massive protests, which have been violently repressed by the authorities, with numerous reported cases of arbitrary arrests and violence. The EU condemned the violence and called on the authorities to reverse their course of actions, free all those arbitrarily detained, withdraw restrictive legislation and re-engage on the EU path.

EU-Moldova relations are at an all time-high. Accession negotiations with Moldova were formally launched at the first intergovernmental conference (IGC) in June 2024. Bilateral screening meetings, aimed at assessing Moldova's alignment with the EU *acquis*, have been ongoing since July 2024. Moldova's commitment to reforms remained strong. In October/November 2024, Moldovans voted in favour of a referendum enshrining EU accession in Moldova's constitution and re-elected Maia Sandu as President. Both votes saw unprecedented Russian interference, with Moldovan authorities successfully tackling anti-EU disinformation campaigns, illicit financing and direct vote-buying, as well as a range of other hybrid attacks.

The EU remained the largest donor in Moldova. In October 2024, during her visit to Chisinau, President von der Leyen announced the Moldova Growth Plan – the largest ever financial package for the country which will amount to EUR 1.9 billion. EU-Moldova cooperation on security and defence continued to intensify, as highlighted by the signing of the EU-Moldova Security and Defence Partnership in May 2024. Moldova was the first partner country to sign this type of partnership, which provides a solid framework for advancing cooperation and exploring further engagement opportunities. Support from the European Peace Facility (EPF) amounts to EUR 137 million for 2021-2024, making Moldova the second largest bilateral recipient after Ukraine. The EU Partnership Mission (EUPM), established in 2023, supports Moldovan authorities in crisis management and hybrid threat response.

Throughout 2024, the EU increased its political, military, financial, humanitarian, legal and diplomatic support to **Ukraine** and the Ukrainian people. By the end of 2024, EU's support amounted to over EUR 130 billion. This included a EUR 25.2 billion package of macro-financial assistance, including an EUR 18 billion package for 2023 (MFA+), making the EU the major source for Ukraine budget funding that year. Furthermore, EUR 19.6 billion were mobilised and EUR 16.4 billion disbursed under the Ukraine Facility in 2024. The Facility comprises macro-financial support, de-risking instruments to mobilise private investment, and technical assistance, with a budget of EUR 50 billion for 2024-2027. EU Member States' military support amounted to EUR 47.3 billion, of which EUR 6.1 billion was via the EPF.

The first intergovernmental conference opening the accession negotiations took place on 25 June 2024 in Luxembourg. In parallel, the EU and Ukraine further strengthened EU-Ukraine relations by exploiting fully the potential of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA).

Furthermore, in June 2024 the EU-Ukraine joint security commitments were signed by the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission and President Zelenskyy, with a

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view to helping Ukraine to defend itself, resist destabilisation efforts and deter acts of aggression in future. The EU continued and further intensified diplomatic outreach to non-EU countries in support of Ukraine and a just and lasting peace. In 2024, the EU supported Ukraine's Peace Formula, including the Summit on Peace in Switzerland in June 2024 and the process that followed it.

4.5.1.2. Support for Ukraine

Russia's war of aggression against **Ukraine** continued to cause unprecedented human suffering and destruction of physical infrastructure, especially energy and civilian infrastructure. The EU stepped up its engagement with Ukraine in all fields. A meeting of the EU-Ukraine Association Council took place in March 2024. The EU-Ukraine joint security commitments signed in June 2024 stated that security, resilience and defence support, as well as Ukraine's EU accession process, support for reforms, macro-financial, humanitarian and reconstruction assistance reinforce each other. For its part, Ukraine committed to continue reforms in line with its EU path, including in the security, defence and intelligence sectors.

Throughout 2024, the EU increased its political, military, financial, humanitarian, legal and diplomatic support to **Ukraine** and the Ukrainian people. By the end of 2024, EU support amounted to over EUR 130 billion. This included a EUR 25.2 billion package of macro-financial assistance, including an EUR 18 billion package for 2023 (MFA+), making the EU the major source of Ukraine budget funding that year. Furthermore, EUR 19.6 billion were mobilised and EUR 16.4 billion disbursed under the Ukraine Facility in 2024. The Facility comprises macro-financial support, de-risking instruments to mobilise private investment, and technical assistance, with a budget of EUR 50 billion for 2024-2027. EU Member States' military support amounted to EUR 47.3 billion, of which EUR 6.1 billion was via the EPF. In July 2024, the EU made available in support of Ukraine the first payment of EUR 1.5 billion of extraordinary revenues generated from immobilised Russian sovereign assets, accrued in 2024.

The EU also continued to support the Ukrainian security sector, including through the civilian EU Advisory Mission (EUAM Ukraine), and continued training Ukrainian soldiers via the EU Military Assistance Mission (EUMAM). By end 2024, close to 65 000 soldiers had undergone training. Crisis response measures also supported mine action, early recovery and support to social cohesion contributing to human security and resilience. In parallel, the EU and Ukraine further strengthened EU-Ukraine relations through exploiting fully the potential of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement including the DCFTA.

On EU accession, the first intergovernmental conference opening the accession negotiations took place on 25 June 2024 in Luxembourg. In 2024, the analytical examination of the EU *acquis* ('screening') started. The Ukraine's report as part of the 2024 enlargement package was issued in autumn in 2024. The report stated that subject to Ukraine meeting all the conditions, the Commission was looking forward to the opening of negotiations on clusters, starting with the fundamentals, as soon as possible in 2025.

4.5.1.3. Implementation

During 2024, EUR 251.57 million in budget credits were committed in bilateral and incentive-based funding. This includes bilateral contributions to the Neighbourhood and Investment Platform (NIP) and the Civil Society Facility, but excludes Ukraine bilateral contributions. These funds were utilised to support the activities described below. In relation to the AAP for Azerbaijan for 2023, the

financing agreement was not signed by the government before the deadline, thereby preventing its implementation.

Since 2020, no direct assistance has been provided to the Belarusian authorities, however assistance to the people of Belarus continues. A new assistance programme was adopted at the end of 2024, providing direct support to civil society, human rights defenders, independent media, educational and cultural initiatives and small and medium-sized businesses in exile.

Despite the fact that Belarusian authorities suspended the country's participation in the Eastern Partnership framework in June 2021, Belarusians continue to benefit from and have access to some of the EU's regional programmes which foster cooperation between individuals and bodies from all six Eastern Partnership countries. This includes programmes such as EU4Culture, EU4 Independent Media, EU 4 Gender Equality and the Partnership for Good Governance.

Due to the de facto halt in the accession process, along with the backsliding as described in the Enlargement report, all assistance directly benefiting the Georgian authorities has been withdrawn. Ongoing and planned assistance has been reviewed leading to the repurposing of over EUR 120 million and the suspension of a large number of activities and programmes. Support for non-government bodies, including CSOs, in Georgia is continuing.

Human development and inequalities

Support for youth engagement, well performing education systems, culture and resilient health systems continues to be provided. The EU4Youth programme has continued to support enhanced participation of young people in society and the economy and for better skills matching to the labour market. The EU also started the implementation of a regional programme on youth engagement and empowerment and another regional project on education reform and to strengthen the quality of the education systems. The construction of the 'School of Europe, Tbilisi' is ongoing, with a new date for the official opening currently being sought. Cultural cooperation and intercultural dialogue have also continued through the EU4Culture programme. Health resilience is supported by enhancing capacity in emergency preparedness and response to major cross-border health threats from infectious diseases.

In Armenia, the EU continued to support the implementation of reforms aiming to enhance access to quality education and strengthen the protection of labour rights, particularly for youth and vulnerable groups. Among activities promoting equality and non-discrimination, a new project on the protection of rights of people with disabilities started in February. Assistance for the integration of Karabakh Armenians was disbursed and a new budget support phase was designed and approved.

In Azerbaijan, assistance for the modernisation and reform of the education system to meet the needs of the labour market and align with skills-based education standards continued. Reforms in the education system, including vocational education and training, remained one of the most supported sectors.

In Georgia, phase II of the Skills for Jobs programme which played a pivotal role in supporting socio-economic development and global competitiveness by enhancing institutional capacities and improving service delivery standards was successfully completed. Activities were implemented to improve gender equality and women's economic empowerment and a new initiative focusing on safeguarding the rights of sexual, religious and ethnic minorities and people with disabilities started in December.

Support for the modernisation of Moldova's education system to improve the quality of education and lifelong opportunities for all continued throughout 2024. Specific support from the OECD has

also been mobilised to assist the Ministry of Education and Research to review the National Curriculum.

With regard to human development and inequalities, TAIEX organised a multi-country workshop on the Youth Guarantee in the Western Balkans, Moldova, and Ukraine. Experts from Finland, Belgium, Slovakia and Estonia exchanged best practice on outreach, guidance and counselling for young people not in education, employment, or training. In December a multi-country workshop on Employment of Persons with Disabilities brought together representatives from 10 NEAR[104] countries, to exchange strategies for increasing employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Green Deal

Investment continued to support renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste management and water management projects that support the EU Green Deal and contribute to our partners' efforts to meet their Paris Agreement commitments. The implementation of the EU4Environment 'Water and Data' programme is ongoing and includes components on COVID-19 monitoring in urban wastewater, annual water stakeholder conferences and the development of new as well as ongoing river basin management plans. The EU4Climate Resilience programme provided assistance to climate adaptation projects at municipal level across the region. The Covenant of Mayors East programme continued to assist municipalities to implement their Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans. Under the EU4Energy Phase II and Phase II+ programmes 33 workshops with 710 participants were organised and 21 legal acts were drafted contributing to both capacity building and strengthening of the legislative framework.

In Armenia, support was provided for renewable energy and energy efficiency in public buildings through the EIP. Technical expertise was provided for nuclear safety. Assistance approved in 2024 is destined to provide support to the water management of Lake Sevan, improving air quality and green agriculture.

COP29, which took place in Baku in November, created new momentum for stronger cooperation on green connectivity with Azerbaijan. In this context, water management support was adopted under the AAP 2024 and support for connectivity-related initiatives will be further explored.

In Georgia, support is provided to contribute to energy efficiency in public buildings. Two projects were signed, aiming to contribute to the improvement of air quality and to improve citizens' health as well as a contract to contribute to sustainable and inclusive agricultural development through the Zemo-Samgori irrigation project.

The EU has continued to provide substantial support for Moldova's energy sector, leading it to implement measures to diversify its energy supply sources and enhancing its resilience. Energy efficiency solutions and improved access to water and sanitation in public buildings were implemented and two new projects to support energy efficiency in residential housing were launched.

In April, TAIEX supported the European Green Deal through an expert mission to Azerbaijan to provide advice and guidance to the Baku International Sea Trade Port on how to establish a greenhouse gases emission inventory and carbon footprint reporting, in compliance with relevant EU legislation.

[104] Since 2025, DG NEAR was divided into DG ENEST and DG MENA. As the current report is covering 2024, throughout the document there are still references to NEAR.

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Sustainable growth and jobs

The EU continued to actively roll-out its EIP as part of the Global Gateway initiative to support the EaP countries in their efforts to stabilise their economies. The plan also contributes to deliver on the EU's connectivity agenda, supporting the extension of broadband networks, the construction of roads and railways and energy infrastructure. Since the launch of the plan, the EU through its bilateral cooperation, its financial guarantee and its blending projects has unlocked EUR 13.9 billion of investment in the region.

To support economic integration and closer trade ties, assistance was provided to help small and medium-sized enterprises' (SMEs) access financing and help the countries move towards more diversified and integrated economies and business environments. The EU continued to provide support for the full implementation of DCFTAs and CEPA as well as other trade agreements.

In Armenia, support to SMEs development and access to finance continued with investment. Specific projects included support for the wine making, textile and agri-food sectors to boost export and enhance quality control. A new project was implemented in December to establish customs and logistic centres to provide services to businesses simplifying import and export processes and customs procedures.

In 2024, support for development, economic growth, competitiveness and employment generation in rural regions of Azerbaijan continued. Implementation of the EIP as well as support to enhancing capacity, greening and financial sustainability of local businesses is ongoing. Karabakh Armenians and the host communities were supported in their business expansion through the EBRD SMEs Competitiveness programme. The second meeting of the High-Level Working Group on Investment was also held in Baku.

New projects were started supporting SME internationalisation and deepening value chains, further developing Georgia's national quality infrastructure and private-equity market development. Support to promote EU food safety standards and a favourable business environment in the agri-food sector was also continued.

In Moldova, enhanced support for SMEs was provided via a new national SME support programme for small producers as well as with the launch of the new Fund for Entrepreneurship and Economic Growth. The EU provided support to strengthen the national spatial data system as well as the national statistical system to successfully conduct the population and housing census.

TAIEX provided support for sustainable jobs and growth through a study visit on empowering women in circular entrepreneurship. This provided an opportunity for participants from Moldova to learn about France's experience in supporting women-led circular businesses, contributing to sustainable SME growth and the transition to a greener economy.

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

In 2024, the EU4Digital initiative continued to support strong cooperation networks between EaP countries, to drive their integration with the EU digital single market and promote investment under the EIP. The initiative continued to develop its e-commerce accelerator and a regional 'Ed Tech' platform. It also completed the mapping of the regional broadband network as well as undertaking key pilot projects in the fields of e-customs. Two new regional programmes were launched to facilitate the roll-out of secure and affordable broadband connectivity in rural areas and to support digital innovation and incubation for start-ups in high added-value sectors such as artificial intelligence, agri-tech and bio-tech.

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In January, the lowering of roaming charges for Moldovan and European citizens and businesses came into force. This emanated from an EU facilitated joint statement signed between major European and Moldovan telecom operators. A similar agreement covering Ukrainian citizens residing abroad was also renewed. The EU continued to support the preparation of a Regional Roaming Agreement, which will contribute to reducing roaming prices in the region by up to 87% in coming years. The EU successfully piloted with Moldova a ground-breaking initiative to develop an AI-assisted tool to help candidate countries accelerate regulatory approximation.

The second phase of the regional project 'CybersecurityEast' was launched in October, stepping up the EU's support on cybersecurity and cybercrime. Georgia became a signatory to the Second Additional Protocol of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, joining Armenia which signed in 2023, and Ukraine and Moldova, which signed in 2022. In addition, two grants supporting the digitalisation of women and students in Georgia were provided.

In Armenia, the EU4Digital facility started preparing a technical assistance programme to support alignment with EU standards in the field of eID. Under the EaPConnect project, the Armenian National Supercomputing Centre was launched in May to reinforce Armenia's position as a regional hub for digital technology development. The regional 'EU4Innovation East', launched in June, will support the incubation of Armenia start-ups in digital technologies, with a focus on women-led start-ups.

Azerbaijan continued benefiting from activities under the regional EU4Digital programme which included promoting and developing digital skills.

Support through the twinning instrument allowed Moldova to apply for SEPA membership and, with the entry into force of the revised TEN-T Regulation in July, Moldova became part of the Baltic Sea - Black Sea - Aegean Sea corridor.

In April, TAIEX organised a Regional Eastern Partnership Workshop on Geoportal development. The workshop focused on mapping white areas, the transposition of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive and provided an outlook of the Gigabit Infrastructure Act.

Migration and forced displacement

The EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) has continued to contribute to strengthening internal security at the Administrative Line with Transnistria, by mentoring Moldovan customs and police officers on risk profiling, document security and trade compliance with EU standards and inspection procedures, as part of its commitment to the Transnistrian settlement process.

EUBAM has supported the operation of the EU-UA Solidarity Lanes transport corridor in the lower Danube region by contributing to the establishment of joint control at one crossing point and for coordinated control at a second. EUBAM has provided technical equipment to support border control and trained over 500 officers in key areas. A third tender for the design and construction of the North-South branch of the Moldova railway under the Solidarity Lanes is under evaluation. This initiative complements the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Transport investments in the Solidarity Lanes, further addressing the transport infrastructure needs.

The EU supports the implementation of agreements on visa facilitation and readmission as well as continued cooperation on visa liberalisation and readmission with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. In December the Commission proposed to suspend part of the EU-Georgia Agreement on the facilitation of the issuance of visas for Georgian diplomats, officials and their families holding diplomatic and official passports.

The launch of the visa liberalisation dialogue in September will help Armenia achieve a visa-free regime for short-stays within the EU, provided that the relevant conditions for well-managed travel and security are in place. The EU continues contributing to strengthening migration management and providing capacity building to the Migration Service, including through cooperation with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex). The opening of a new centre for asylum seekers in line with EU standards was a milestone achievement for 2024.

Governance, peace and security

Throughout 2024, the EU continued its support promoting reforms in partner countries on democracy, the rule of law, public administration, anti-corruption and the fight against organised crime. A specific focus was placed on supporting civil society engagement, the resilience and financial sustainability of independent media and gender equality.

In addition to providing support on legislative and policy initiatives, operational activities focused on implementation and direct grants and financial support for conflict-affected communities, human rights defenders, pro-democracy actors and awareness raising activities on issues such as gender equality.

Despite significant efforts by the EU and its partners throughout 2024 and some progress on border delimitation, a peace deal between Armenia and Azerbaijan failed to materialise. However work is ongoing in this respect.

In 2024, the EU continued to provide budget support to Armenia to further strengthen judicial and legal reforms, as well as anti-corruption policies. Complementary technical assistance in the justice, law enforcement and security sectors in line with CEPA commitments is continuing. The EU Mission in Armenia (EUMA) continued its observation and reporting on the security situation along the Armenian side of the border with Azerbaijan.

In Azerbaijan, several ongoing projects continued providing assistance for judicial reform, including in the area of alternative dispute resolution. Azerbaijan continued to benefit from the Partnership for Good Governance, including in areas such anti-money laundering.

In Georgia, support continued for confidence-building measures in the occupied breakaway region of Abkhazia, in coordination with the EU Special Representatives' office and FPI. Two new projects to build community resilience and support basic health services were implemented in Abkhazia and South Ossetia. In response to the worsening political situation and shrinking space for civil society and the media throughout the year, especially after the adoption of the law on 'Transparency of foreign influence', new funds were mobilised to scale up support for civil society, human rights, media literacy and fight against disinformation and foreign information manipulation and interference.

In Moldova, the EU played a key role in supporting the implementation and revision of the 2022-2025 justice reform strategy and its action plan, including thematic reviews and policy recommendations, as well as enhancing capacity in the justice sector. Moldova also continued to implement the Public Finance Management Reform Programme, focusing on improvements in the Court of Accounts' legal framework, their governance, financial audit practice and engagement with external stakeholders.

A TAIEX workshop for Ukraine and Moldova on Non-financial Motivation and Retention of Civil Servants was organised in November. It provided advice on personnel assessment and retention strategies for civil servants, particularly in the context of martial law.

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A Twinning project supporting the Armenian Ministry of Justice and Corruption Prevention Commission to foster integrity and prevent corruption in the country's public sector was successfully completed in 2024. It contributed to the capacity building of the two institutions and also promoted general awareness raising of the role of civil society.

Case study

The Resilient Syunik TEI in Armenia is a joint undertaking of the EU, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and EU Member States (Austria, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland and Sweden), with Switzerland also joining as an external partner.

The main objective of Resilient Syunik TEI is to contribute to the sustainable socio-economic and institutional development of the Syunik region, taking coordinated action in line with the development priorities of the regional and local authorities and the Armenia-EU flagship initiative focusing on the area. In particular, it aims to contribute to:

- Improved business environment for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and enhanced private-sector competitiveness;

- Improved access to high-quality, people-centric public services; and

- Prioritised green regional development and increased protection, sustainable use and restoration of biodiversity.

The Resilient Syunik TEI has an approximate five-year budget of EUR 150 million, of which EUR 65 million is in grants and EUR 85 million in loans. The initiative is a flexible mechanism; it may be further expanded and is open for EU Member States to join with new initiatives to promote the development of the Syunik region.

Some of the main results of this TEI include:

In women's health, the provision of 35 theoretical and practical training courses attended by 182 midwives and nurses; 10 training courses attended by 56 trainee midwives and nurses; 12 accredited training courses for gynaecologists, and the organisation of 32 *café des femmes* focusing on women's health, planned parenthood and family relationships with 212 attendees.

In the renewable energy sector, the provision of three solar stations; energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions provided for 10 municipal buildings and 186 households were equipped with energy-efficient stoves.

In the field of local services, a newly furnished kindergarten for over 150 children and fully renovated and equipped Citizen Offices now provide over 60 administrative services in two locations.

In the agri-food sector advice and guidance was provided to 12 businesses on the preparation and implementation of investment plans; 20 veterinary points which received approximately 3 500 calls were supported and 14 rural settlements supported in relation to pasture and grassland planning and infrastructure works.

In the business sector, 32 aspiring entrepreneurs received coaching and grants to launch businesses in diverse industries, from food production to furniture manufacturing.

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4.5.1.4. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine has had a devastating impact on millions of Ukrainian citizens, resulting in civilian deaths and suffering, massive displacement, and large-scale destruction of critical infrastructure, and causing large humanitarian needs. The situation in areas closer to the frontlines and those under Russia's and Russian proxies' military control remains extremely volatile with more than 14.6 million people in need of humanitarian support in 2024. In 2024, EUR 165 million were allocated to address immediate humanitarian needs, bringing the total assistance to EUR 950 million since February 2022. The EU has responded with major humanitarian aid operations, mobilising all available tools, resources, and capacities to deliver assistance to populations in record time. Life-saving assistance has been provided mainly through multipurpose cash transfers, winter support and humanitarian protection to populations directly exposed to war and displacement.

Ukraine continues to be the largest UCPM operation with 34 updated requests for assistance in 2024, covering a wide diversity of sectors and a constant support for Medevac operations with nearly 900 patients supported in 2024 resulting in a total number of 4 000 patients since 2022. Under the rescEU programme, the Commission worked closely with the Emergency Medical Teams consortium to establish European 'EMT2' specialised care teams, which plans to develop three field hospitals and 18 medical teams. A medical evacuation hub in Poland was also financed for the medical evacuation of Ukrainians and others in Ukraine suffering from severe illness, war injuries and life-threatening conditions, who require urgent, specialised or long-term medical care.

Under the UCPM, the ERCC facilitated a significant number of offers, with energy supply being the primary focus in 2024, accounting for over 50% of the total. Specifically, the main energy-related offers included over 3 300 power generators and 943 transformers, which played an essential role in restoring and maintaining critical infrastructure. The remaining offers, which made up around 30% of the total, consisted of emergency response and infrastructure equipment, such as transport and medical supplies.

Other offers included shelter items, and technical equipment, highlighting the diversity of needs being addressed through the UCPM. Following a campaign by the ERCC to support the winterisation efforts, Member States and Participating States of the UCPM responded with significant energy donations, including an entire thermal power plant from Lithuania and a turbine set from Estonia, collectively capable of generating 560 megawatts of power. In total, the UCPM has delivered over 55 000 tonnes of life-saving assistance to Ukraine in 2024, reaching a total of over 150 000 tonnes of assistance since the beginning of the war.

The rescEU donation hub established in Poland remained operational during 2024, channelling resources from the private sector and non-EU countries and contributing to the comprehensive UCPM's response operation in Ukraine with overall donations worth more than EUR 10 million, further highlighting the UCPM's flexibility and innovation during major crises.

As for neighbouring Moldova, in 2024 the country hosted on average 130 000 Ukrainian refugees, for which the EU made available EUR 18 million to support, including cash assistance and protection services.

In Armenia, the EU also continued supporting the most vulnerable refugees from the Nagorno-Karabakh region with an amount of EUR 5.5 million, notably in the sectors of basic needs, shelter, health and protection. Following severe flooding in Armenia in May 2024, the UCPM deployed four

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civil protection experts to assist with structural damage assessments and post-disaster needs evaluation.

Regionally, the third phase of the flagship civil protection programme in the Eastern Partnership countries (PPRD East 3, 2020-2024), significantly strengthening the resilience to disasters and regional cooperation. A new capacity-building tool was initiated in 2024: the Technical Assistance Financing Facility (TAFF). TAFF allows national civil protection and disaster risk management (DRM) authorities of Member States, Participating States, Kosovo, and Georgia to access technical assistance and global knowledge on prevention and preparedness. As a result of a first call for expression of interest, eight projects were kicked off in 2024 in eight different Member States and UCPM participating states.

4.5.1.5. Crisis response and preparedness

In **Belarus** assistance to democratic civic engagement and leadership was stepped up amid a further deteriorating of the human rights situation and the regime's support to Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine. This resulted in further restrictions of citizens' fundamental freedoms and forced even more Belarusians to relocate abroad.

The EU continued its support to finding peaceful solutions to conflicts in the **South Caucasus**, including the conflict between **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan**.

The EU shares efforts with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to combat illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and conventional ammunition in south-eastern Europe continued. Within the region, the roadmap on comprehensive SALW control was adopted in 2018, and in 2023 it was decided to prolong activities until 2030. Activities aim to reduce the risks of SALW proliferation and mitigate security and safety risks related to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Serbia.

During 2023, the EU continued to provide humanitarian assistance, promote social cohesion and support mine action in Armenia and Azerbaijan. However, implementation in Nagorno-Karabakh was disrupted when the EU's only implementing partner on the ground, the International Committee of the Red Cross, lost access during the blockade of the Lachin Corridor. The Lachin Corridor was the only land route connecting Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia and was subject to various blockades by Azerbaijan between 12 December 2022 and the military operation on 19 September 2023.

The blockades impeded supplies of food and medicine for long periods and meant that a serious humanitarian crisis was already unfolding inside Nagorno-Karabakh when Azerbaijan launched its attack on 19 September to reclaim the region. Following the military operation, more than 100 000 Karabakh Armenians fled, primarily to Armenia. The EU mobilised EUR 12.6 million in humanitarian aid in the aftermath of the attack to cover emergency needs, and in-kind support under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism was also provided.

In 2024, the **European Union Mission in Armenia** (EUMA) contributed to confidence building between the populations of Armenia and Azerbaijan by observing through the conduct of routine patrolling and reporting on the situation on the ground, thereby contributing to human security in conflict-affected areas where life and basic human rights are endangered.

4.5.2. European Neighbourhood South

4.5.2.1. Introduction (policy developments)

Cooperation with the Southern Neighbourhood partners in 2024 continued in a challenging geopolitical context. The region notably faced the consequences of the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine, the 7 October 2023 terrorist attacks and conflicts in Gaza and Lebanon, as well as the developments in Syria. The rapidly changing geopolitical environment required a more strategic approach to the region, which was underlined in the Political Guidelines of President Von der Leyen for the new Commission in July. To this end, two strategic documents crucial for the Middle East and North Africa regions in the coming years were announced in the Guidelines: 'Pact for the Mediterranean' and a 'Middle East Strategy'.

In this volatile context, the EU has demonstrated its commitment to contribute to the stabilisation of the Southern Neighbourhood in both political and economic terms. The EU advanced on the mid-term review (MTR) of the 2021-2027 multiannual indicative programmes (MIPs) for Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Regional South MIP and multi-country MIP on migration. The mid-term review is expected to be concluded in the summer 2025. For the remaining countries, cooperation continued based on the individual or special measures. The MTR for Palestine[**] MIP was postponed due to the ongoing crisis.

The ninth **Union for the Mediterranean** Regional Forum was held in Barcelona on 28 October, focusing on the situation in the Middle East as well as on ongoing efforts to reform the organisation. On the latter, Ministers acknowledged the crucial role of the UfM in promoting regional integration and the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and tasked senior officials with setting out a new UfM vision and priorities, with a view to adoption at their next meeting.

Concerning the consequences of the conflict in Gaza, the EU focused on providing and securing access for humanitarian assistance and support to the mediators in the ceasefire negotiations. The EU continued to provide support to the Palestinian Authority (PA) and its reform agenda, also in the perspective of the future governance of Gaza. To ease the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, the EU increased its humanitarian assistance in 2024 to EUR 237 million. It also paid a EUR 382.5 million emergency aid package to support the PA, linking the payments to the PA's agreement to implement a far-reaching reform plan.

The EU also continued supporting, politically and financially, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), paying EUR 92 million in core funding, and lobbying against draft Israeli laws which will have a profound effect on UNRWA's ability to carry out its mandate. The High Representative/Vice-President engaged with relevant regional and international partners to call for de-escalation and revive the political process towards the two-state solution, including through the Global Alliance for the implementation of the two-state solution that the EU co-initiated.

Amid rising regional tensions and the escalating conflict between Hezbollah and Israel, the EU stepped up its external actions instruments to help stabilise **Lebanon** and enhanced its political dialogue, with multiple high-level visits throughout the year. EU development cooperation was increased with the definition of a EUR 1 billion package of support for 2024-2027, including an enhanced focus on the security sector and border management. Humanitarian assistance was

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enhanced to reach EUR 92 million to respond to the acute needs resulting from the conflict. In addition, EU support to the Lebanese Armed Forces under the European Peace Facility (EPF) gathered momentum with the adoption of a new assistance measure worth EUR 16 million in September and the swift preparation of an additional one, worth EUR 60 million, for 2025.

In 2024, the EU continued to provide strong support to Syrians and neighbouring countries hosting Syrian refugees. The EU maintained its efforts to find a lasting solution to the Syrian conflict in line with UN Security Council Resolution 2254[105], including by supporting the work of the UN Special Envoy for **Syria** and maintaining its restrictive measures on the Assad regime.

Furthermore, the EU and its Member States remained the largest donors to Syria, having mobilised more than EUR 37 billion in humanitarian and non-humanitarian assistance since 2011, while also engaging in international initiatives such as the Global Coalition to defeat Da'esh and efforts to ensure accountability for crimes committed during the conflict. The situation dramatically changed at the end of 2024, with the sudden fall of the Assad regime, ushering in a new era of relations between the EU and Syria.

EU relations with **Egypt** enjoyed a positive momentum in 2024, epitomised by the signing of the Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership in March 2024 in recognition of Egypt's key role for stability in the region. Various high-level visits, political and thematic dialogues in both Cairo and Brussels enhanced cooperation across key policy areas. The EU-Egypt Association Council was held in Brussels in January, while the High-Level Migration Dialogue took place in July. In 2024, Egypt was identified as a recipient country for EPF assistance, amounting to EUR 20 million, aiming to strengthen the capacities of the Egyptian Armed Forces and enhance the national security and stability of Egypt.

The EU has further intensified its engagement with **Jordan**, both bilaterally and in regional and multilateral forums, in the context of dramatic regional developments. In addition to the Association Council held in Brussels in July, 2024 has seen multiple EU high-level visits to Amman. The elevation of relations between the EU and Jordan was agreed upon at the Association Council, paving the way for negotiations on a new Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership aimed at intensifying political engagement, economic ties and cooperation across policy areas (finally signed in January 2025).

In view of Jordan's critical role in a challenging regional context, EU support for Jordan continued, including through the European Peace Facility (EUR 13.25 million), and a new MFA of EUR 500 million. The EU deployed an Election Observation Mission during the September 2024 elections, as part of its continued support for Jordan's political modernisation process.

Building on its cross-sector Partnership, the EU continued expanding the scope of its already broad and deep relations with **Morocco.** Among the new cooperation initiatives were the first EU-Morocco High-Level Dialogue on Regional Security and Counterterrorism, and the ad hoc informal consultations on Africa, held in May and June 2024. Throughout the year, the EU and Morocco remained committed to deepening their relations, including through political consultations, the EU-Morocco Macroeconomic Dialogue and discussions with the EU Special Envoy for the Mediterranean, all of which took place in Rabat. In October 2024, the EU took note of the European Court of Justice's rulings relating to the 2019 EU-Morocco agreements, while expressing its firm intention to preserve and continue strengthening close relations with Morocco in all areas of our partnership.

[105] UN Security Council Resolution S/RES/2254 of 18 December 2015. https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/814715/

In **Tunisia**, the key event of 2024 was the presidential election which took place on 6 October and resulted in the re-election of President Kaïs Saïed. Contacts at various levels were maintained during the year. Tunisia was discussed during the FAC of June 2024, during which the HRVP recalled the importance of engaging with Tunisia as a key, long-standing partner in the EU's Southern Neighbourhood. The implementation of the EU-Tunisia Memorandum of Understanding, signed on 16 July 2023, continued throughout the year. The Memorandum of Understanding provides a new framework for partners to advance a range of joint priorities comprising five pillars (macroeconomic stability, trade and economy, green energy transition, people-to-people contacts, and migration and mobility) for cooperation.

The EU continued strengthening the EU-**Algeria** Energy Partnership with a strong focus on renewable energies and supported the sustainable management of water resources. The EU also continued to support Algeria's economic diversification by promoting direct foreign investments in the country. The specific trade barriers imposed by Algeria remained a central issue to be resolved.

In **Libya**, the EU's efforts focused on fostering stability both in the country and the wider region. The EU remained engaged with both like-minded and regional partners, supporting the inter-Libyan dialogue as part of UN-led mediation efforts conducted by Deputy Head of UNSMIL SRSG Stephanie Khoury since the resignation of UN Special Representative Bathily in April 2024. The EU also continued its engagement in Libya through Operation EUNAVFOR MED IRINI, which enforces the UN arms embargo, and the EU Integrated Border Management Assistance Mission (EUBAM), which provides capacity building to Libyan authorities in the areas of border management and law enforcement.

4.5.2.2. Implementation

Human development and inequalities

The EU continued to provide assistance across Syria and in neighbouring refugee-hosting countries. Since 2011, over EUR 37 billion have been made available for the Syria crisis response by the EU and its Member States, including EUR 2.49 billion of EU assistance inside Syria. Since its establishment in 2021, the EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis (the 'Madad') has reached more than 11 million beneficiaries. Funded interventions delivered tangible benefits with over 5.8 million people receiving quality healthcare; over 1 million children and young adults gaining access to education; over 1.4 million people improving their livelihoods; over 15 900 local facilities (including schools, hospitals and clinics, water facilities, shelters, etc.) being upgraded, reconstructed and/or newly built.

As part of the response to the impact of the Syrian crisis on neighbouring countries, the EU adopted in 2024 for Lebanon and Jordan EUR 448 million of assistance including action on education, health and hygiene services, water and sanitation, social assistance and support to improve resilience and durable solutions for refugees from Syria and hosting communities in Lebanon and Jordan.

In Syria, the education portfolio of the financial assistance maintained a service-delivery-oriented approach, acting as a substitute for state functions. It focused on primary education, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), skills development, and psychosocial support. The EUR 4 million Contribution Agreement 'Sustaining and enhancing the delivery of basic education and TVET

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training to Palestine** refugee students in Syria – 2023/2025' was extended until September 2027 with an additional EU contribution of EUR 4 million.

The EU-funded health programmes focused on strengthening health systems, particularly human resources and pre-service training. Three interventions totalling EUR 3.7 million supported the redesign of curricula and launched innovative training programmes for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support personnel, two geography-specific interventions in northern Syria and regime held areas supported training and operational research.

In Palestine**, in an increasingly restrictive operational environment, the Office of the European Union Representative (EUREP) continued supporting civil society across the Palestinian territory, launching new initiatives focused on Gaza and vulnerable areas of the West Bank. After initial challenges following 7 October 2023, the Office re-established dialogue with key CSOs and platforms. Addressing human development and inequalities, it led the Gender Action Plan (GAP) III Country-Level Implementation Plan (2025-2027) with Member States and civil society, advancing gender equality and the fight against gender-based violence. Despite the challenging context, the EUREP actively engaged with Palestinian youth through initiatives such as the Jerusalem Youth Forum, a national volunteerism platform and an art competition. In the health sector, the EU provided EUR 18 million to support the Palestinian Authority for payment of arrears of medical referrals to East Jerusalem hospitals, benefiting thousands of Palestinian patients in need of essential medical care, particularly cancer care.

In Algeria, the EUR 43 million 'Action Covid' programme, implemented by the UNDP, was successfully concluded in 2024. Throughout the pandemic, it funded critical equipment, patient screening and care, public health training and awareness campaigns.

In Libya, the 'Baladiyati' programme ('My Municipality') has worked with nearly 40 Libyan municipalities since 2018, implementing around 300 critical interventions. The project has improved access to essential public services such as healthcare, education, water and sanitation, while promoting social cohesion and resilience, addressing the needs of local communities and migrants. Currently, over 270 new activities are being implemented by the *Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo*, the UNDP and UNICEF.

Green Deal

The EU-Algeria cooperation achieved key milestones aligned with the Green Deal through a strengthened Team Europe approach. The EU and Algeria signed the financing agreement for the EUR 15 million 'TaqatHy+' programme, with an additional EUR 13 million from Germany, to support renewable energy and energy efficiency via German technical assistance. In addition, the EU adopted an EUR 18 million financing decision, co-funded by Germany (EUR 20 million), to build Algeria's first reference plant for green hydrogen and derivatives while boosting sectoral capacity and technical expertise.

The activities of the 2022 EU-Morocco Green Partnership were pursued across all components of the Action Plan including the energy transition and decarbonisation of the Moroccan economy, the

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adaptation and resilience to climate change, the environmental protection and the green and blue economy.

Within the 2024 AAP, the EU adopted the 'EU Jordan partnership for a green transition' programme to advance decarbonisation, promote green growth and create green jobs.

In Lebanon, amid escalating conflict, the 'Sustainable Energy for Public Services entities, entrepreneurship and innovation' project was designed to provide renewable energy and energy efficiency to the Lebanese armed forces, the internal security forces, justice institutions and schools, particularly those used as shelters. In addition, support for the Ministry of Energy and Water and the Water Establishments has contributed to ensuring drinkable water provision to most of the Lebanese population during the escalation of conflict.

The 'Sustaining Continuity of Wastewater Treatment Services within a Multiple Crisis Context' project responded to the crisis by supporting the operations and maintenance of nine wastewater treatment plants in areas hosting many people displaced by the conflict. The 'Hawkamaa' project funded by EU Regional Trust Fund Madad supported water establishments under pressure.

In Palestine[**], despite difficulties linked to the geopolitical context, the EU has maintained cooperation with the new Palestinian government and relevant stakeholders, working to implement existing projects and conduct policy dialogue to address key economic and environmental challenges. The translation of sectoral strategies (environment, agriculture, climate etc.) into action was challenging due to the volatile security and political context. Priorities have been altered by the realities on the ground, including rising levels of food insecurity, immense damage to agricultural assets and agricultural activity, increased violence by Israeli settlers in the West Bank, inaccessibility to natural resources and the partial availability of Palestinian civil servants due to irregular partial salaries. The Palestinian Authority has nevertheless committed to undertake several reforms in energy and water management in the context of the Palestinian Authority reform agenda that was agreed with the EU in November.

Sustainable growth and jobs

In Morocco, the current EU cooperation pertaining to sustainable and inclusive growth aims to enhance the country's stability by addressing its key social priorities, with a focus on reducing unemployment, promoting gender equality, and improving the effectiveness and accessibility of social services.

In June 2024, the investment conferences organised jointly with Jordan, Tunisia and Egypt and numbering from 500 to over 1 000 participants per conference, boosted investment and economic cooperation, and promoted efforts made to improve the business climate in partner countries.

The EU boosted the Lebanese private sector's resilience during the escalating conflict. The 'Innovation as an engine for SMEs competitiveness and economic growth in Lebanon' project supported SMEs through capacity building and technical assistance, including crisis response. The EU supported the Lebanese government in the implementation of economic reforms needed to address Lebanon's economic crisis and promote post-conflict recovery, through supporting the preparation of the 2025 national budget. The EU is also engaging with the Lebanese government on banking restructuring, offering expertise from the EU's post-2008 financial restructuring efforts.

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Prime Minister Mustafa's new government brought new impetus to the Palestinian Authority's reform agenda while faced with the deterioration of the economic and fiscal situation. To support these reform efforts and the delivery of basic services, the EU increased its financial support to the civil servants' salaries and pensions from about EUR 44 million in 2023 to about EUR 172 million in 2024. The EU contribution benefited about 46 000 civil servants (out of over 110 000 on Palestinian Authority's payroll) over several months. However, due to the withholding of Palestine's[**] tax revenues by Israel and economic recession, the Palestinian Authority was not able to reach more than a 70% payment level for monthly salaries.

Through its regional economic cooperation, the EU continued to support resilient, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and job creation in the Southern Neighbourhood, in line with the Agenda for the Mediterranean of 2021 and its accompanying Economic and Investment Plan, as well as with the shared priorities under the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) policy framework.

In 2024, regional UfM platforms, notably on Trade and on Employment, helped advance the UfM agenda and prepare upcoming ministerial meetings planned for 2025. Under the regional TEI on 'Jobs through trade and investment in the Southern Neighbourhood', the EU joined forces with five Member States, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Training Foundation, to boost economic development and employment in the region, collectively mobilising up to EUR 2.9 billion.

As concrete achievements in 2024, the TEI notably led to the establishment of the first regional impact fund to support social enterprises in the Southern Neighbourhood, jointly with Germany (EUR 16 million from the EU, EUR 35 million from Germany) and to a EUR 10 million joint new regional initiative supporting job creation through e-commerce co-funded by the EU and Germany.

The EU launched new regional programmes promoting green and circular economy, women entrepreneurs' access to finance, and youth economic engagement particularly for young people not in education, employment or training. The EU also further supported economic governance and public finance management, notably partnering with International Monetary Fund - METAC, as well as budget transparency, participation and oversight in collaboration with civil society.

The EU concluded and took stock of regional trade and investment support programmes with significant achievements in terms of analytics and policy advice, notably to enhance the impact of trade and investment on job creation, and it built on the recommendations with a new project to work with the International Labour Organisation on mainstreaming employment in trade and investment.

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

The 2024 regional programme 'Support for Digital Transition in the Southern Neighbourhood' addresses enhancement of digital skills and literacy in the private sector across the Southern Neighbourhood, to promote equal business opportunities and foster job creation. It aims to align digital skills with the European Digital Competence Framework, standardise digital service quality in collaboration with service multipliers and establish a regional digital skills platform to address skill gaps and enhance coordination among stakeholders. Additionally, it seeks to train private-sector service providers and develop SME training networks.

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In Morocco, the digitalisation, science, technology, innovation, and infrastructure areas have been addressed in a uniform manner across a large portion of ongoing cooperation programmes, starting with budget support for public administration reform.

Migration and forced displacement

In 2024, the Southern Neighbourhood faced complex challenges impacting migration and forced-displacement patterns, driven by geopolitical, socio-economic and environmental factors. Conflicts in the Middle East and Sudan, coupled with the ongoing repercussions of Russia's aggression against Ukraine and regional economic downturns, have fuelled irregular migration towards Europe as well as forced displacement in the region.

In 2024, the EU followed up the four action plans tackling migration challenges across the four main migratory routes, the implementation of the EU-Tunisia Memorandum of Understanding in the area of migration, the migration and mobility pilar of the Strategic and Comprehensive Partnership signed with Egypt, and continued engagement on migration and forced displacement with other partner countries in the Southern Neighbourhood. 2024 also saw a rapid development of the EU's migration policy with the adoption of the New Pact on Migration and Asylum on 11 June 2024.

The 2024 adopted regional migration programmes (EUR 208 million) targeted border management, anti-smuggling and combating trafficking in human beings, protection assistance, return and reintegration and legal migration and travel. The latter funding support was also provided under the Talent Partnerships launched in North African countries to boost mutually beneficial international mobility based on better matching of labour market needs and skills between the EU and partner countries.

In the Middle East, the EU continued to provide support in response to the Syrian crisis, ensuring access to basic services to refugees from Syria in neighbouring countries, internally displaced people in Syria and their hosting communities in the region. Following the escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, the EU extended its support to the internally displaced people, including refugees from Syria, and reoriented a part of its assistance to the emergency response, addressing arising needs in access to health, education, water and social services. The EU continued to support Palestinian refugees in the region.

Governance, peace and security

In Syria, the EU continued supporting access to international justice mechanisms for survivors of international crimes and human rights violations while backing efforts to monitor and report abuses inside Syria through human rights defenders and investigative journalism. Support was also extended to organisations working on the Missing Persons file starting with capacity assessments and training plans for assisting victims' families.

Following the events of 7 October 2023, EU-led initiatives, such as the Peace Day efforts, have gained further urgency in view of reviving the stalled Middle East peace process. The EU also prioritised leveraging the Global Alliance for the implementation of the two-state solution as a platform to coordinate international support towards achieving a sustainable solution to the conflict.

The EU, United Nations and World Bank conducted a Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (IRDNA) of Gaza, which estimated over USD 50 billion in damages. This assessment will guide the Palestinian Authority's Gaza Relief and Recovery Plan.

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Regarding the rule of law, the appointment of a new Minister of Justice to the Palestinian Authority brought positive momentum to the sector, marked by a strong commitment to reforms and renewed energy within the Justice Sector Working Group that brings the donors and the Minister of Justice together at regular intervals. Justice-related milestones have been integrated into the Palestinian Authority reform agenda that will be supported by EU programmes. Two grants were attributed to support training programmes for judges and prosecutors and to establish an institute for studies in international humanitarian law and human rights.

Under the first half of the EUR 1 billion financial support package for Lebanon announced by the President of the European Commission, EUR 70 million were allocated for Lebanon's stability and security through support to the Lebanese Armed Forces and other security forces. Further overall support to the Lebanese Armed Forces under the European Peace Facility (EPF) amounted to EUR 22 million in 2024.

In addition, EUR 20 million were allocated to support post-conflict recovery in the areas worst impacted by the crisis. In Lebanon, the EU continued supporting the government in the implementation of urgent governance reforms needed for addressing the country's economic and institutional crises. In response to a request by the Prime Minister, the EU drafted a Reform Roadmap outlining priority reforms, together with Lebanese and international partners under the 'Reform, Recovery, and Reconstruction Framework - 3RF'.

To promote public administration reform and anti-corruption policies in Lebanon, the EU worked with the National Anticorruption Commission, Civil Service Board and the Court of Accounts to strengthen their oversight role and supported the implementation of the public procurement law. In the context of the escalating crisis, the 'Building Integrity and National Accountability in Lebanon – BINA' project adapted its advocacy campaigns to ensure transparency in aid distribution to foster accountability and build public trust in the process.

Similarly, in Algeria, a twinning project with the Court of Auditors reinforced capacities in financial auditing, public policy evaluation and digital transformation, contributing to greater transparency and accountability of public finance.

Furthermore, military support to Jordan and Egypt under the EPF amounted to EUR 20.25 million and EUR 20 million in 2024, respectively.

At the regional level, the EU continued to work in close partnership with Justice and Home Affairs agencies within the programmes 'Euromed Police', 'Euromed Justice' and 'EU4MONITORING Drugs'.

Food security and nutrition

In Syria, the food security portfolio continued to focus on building resilience, fostering innovation, and promoting sustainability in agriculture and livelihoods. The EU supported agricultural transformation and modernisation by encouraging sustainable practices and diversification while enhancing community resilience through local agri-food systems and rural adaptation efforts. In Lebanon, to strengthen food security amidst the escalating conflict, the 'Promoting the local economy in Northeast Bekaa' project distributed food parcels to people displaced by the conflict.

In February 2024, the EU launched the EUR 25.6 million 'Gaza Water Supply' project to improve water availability, quality and management in Gaza. In partnership with UNICEF, the EU has implemented critical action to provide immediate relief. The project ensured access to safe drinking water for 600 000 people across three governorates for at least 120 days. It kept South Gaza and

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Middle Area desalination plants operational, delivered essential supplies and supported urgent repairs to wells and the damaged water network.

Case study

In the context of the Middle East peace process, the regional programme **EU Peacebuilding Initiative** (EUPI) continued to be jointly managed by the EU Delegation to Israel and the EU Representative Office for West Bank and Gaza, with the inclusion of civil society bodies, to ensure improved relations and to build sustainable peace, based on the two-state solution and respect for human rights, tolerance and mutual understanding.

Under the 2023 decision, EUR 5 million was allocated to the EUPI with the global objective of enhancing public and political support for the two-state solution among specific constituencies and groups in Israel and Palestine[**] through positive engagement by civil society. The call for proposals published in mid-January 2024 attracted significant interest from civil society organisations in Israel and Palestine[**].

4.5.2.3. Humanitarian aid and civil protection – responding to the emergency needs of people affected by conflicts and disasters

The massive escalation of violence in the Middle East following the terrorist attack on Israel of 7 October 2023 has led to large-scale destruction in the Gaza Strip and resulted in a catastrophic humanitarian crisis of unprecedented scale and severity. Humanitarian needs in all sectors are massive. The entire population of Gaza (2.1 million) is exposed to security and protection risks and forced displacement. They have scant access to food, water, or basic services. Violence has also escalated on the West Bank, including in East Jerusalem. The EU committed over EUR 237 million in 2024. To complement the funding effort, the Commission continued the operational support to partners with 32 EU humanitarian air bridge (HAB) flights, which transported 2 705 metric tonnes of aid, including 554 metric tonnes of EU stockpiles donated to partners.

Since the beginning of the crisis, the UCPM has been activated 14 times in support of affected countries and international organisations operating in a very restrictive environment. Seven of these activations occurred in 2024. The UCPM has provided critical support to Egypt's healthcare system with specialised medical equipment for Gaza evacuees in need of medical services. Additionally, the UCPM has supported the WHO's Emergency Medical Team Coordination Cell (EMTCC) in Cairo by deploying experts.

Furthermore, the WHO requested UCPM assistance to medically evacuate Palestinian patients from Egypt and Gaza. In 2024, 51 Palestinian patients and 118 of their companions were evacuated from Cairo, while 23 Palestinian patients and 63 companions were evacuated from Gaza. Further, in March 2024, a UCPM logistical hub was established in Cyprus to facilitate the delivery of in-kind assistance to Gaza.

In 2024, the EU continued to address the humanitarian needs of the Syrian population, as well as those of Syrian refugees and vulnerable host communities in neighbouring countries (Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq). With 16.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance inside Syria, the EU maintained its focus on life-saving and humanitarian early recovery

[**] This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.
[**] Ibid.

interventions, with an overall funding allocation of over EUR 163 million. This included additional funds to address the critical humanitarian needs resulting from the influx of people fleeing hostilities in Lebanon and the escalating conflict inside Syria, which ultimately led to the collapse of the Assad regime in December 2024.

In Lebanon, beyond the regular programming to address the pre-existing crises, the EU allocated an additional EUR 25 million in humanitarian funding to provide crucial support (in terms of food, protection, shelter, and health services) to populations affected by the conflict between Hezbollah and Israel, which led to large-scale displacement. The total EU humanitarian funding in 2024 exceeded EUR 92 million. In October 2024, the UCPM conducted assisted departures for EU Member State and UCPM Participating state citizens, evacuating 1 037 people (867 passengers from EU Member States and UCPM-participating states and 170 from other countries) from Lebanon. Additionally, the UCPM has delivered medical supplies, donated by nine EU Member States.

Libya remains a major departure point for migrants seeking to reach Europe. Since April 2023, an estimated 385 000 Sudanese refugees have fled to Libya. 56 000 are registered with UNHCR in Tripoli. About 4 700 out of the 56 000 registered refugees are estimated to be held in dire conditions in detention centres in Libya. The EU provided an emergency allocation of EUR 1.5 million in humanitarian funding to tackle the most urgent needs of the people affected, focusing on health, water and sanitation.

Egypt is also a country of destination and transit for refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants from the Middle East and East Africa. Since April 2023, a significant number of people fleeing the conflict in Sudan (over 1.2 million) have entered the country. Refugees and asylum seekers face severe and multiple barriers in accessing registration and basic services. The continued influx of refugees and migrants coincides with Egypt's worst economic recession in decades. Around 38% of all refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt are children, with increasing numbers of unaccompanied minors and separated children. In 2024 the EU's intervention in Egypt of EUR 9 million focused on cash assistance and education.

Still without a resolution for the five-decade long political conflict, tens of thousands of Sahrawi refugees remain stranded in a forgotten and protracted humanitarian crisis. Gathered in five camps around Tindouf in the Algerian Sahara Desert, the Sahrawi refugees depend on external humanitarian assistance. The political sensitivities, as well as extreme conditions thwart any short-term perspectives for return, integration or resettlement and deter the interest of development organisations. In 2024, the Commission deployed projects amounting to EUR 9 million to respond to the basic need of Sahrawi refugees in camps. This amount includes EUR 5 million provided for food and nutrition assistance. Other assistance included support to improve the quality of primary education, the supply of essential medicines and the provision of safe drinking water.

4.5.2.4. Crisis response and preparedness

In **Libya**, the EU maintained its engagement to support the political processes, including through the strengthening of joint security efforts and emphasis on human security. Already before the war in Gaza, the EU was supporting efforts to promote a **Middle East peace process**. This response was increased following the 7 October attacks and the military response in Gaza. In addition to promoting peace efforts, the response focused on preventing the spillover of full-scale conflict into the West Bank; healthcare support (including mental health) and de-mining action.

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In addition to action in **Israel** and **Palestine**[**], support was also provided to Egypt to build up medical capacity to cater for medical evacuees from Gaza. Earlier during 2023, support was also provided to **Egypt** for its response to the significant number of people fleeing the civil war in neighbouring Sudan.

Under the thematic funding for global and trans-regional threats, specific facilities established to support partner countries' efforts to counter terrorism and violent extremism were instrumental in mobilising expertise and increasing the preparedness and response capacities of countries such as **Jordan**, **Morocco**, and **Tunisia**, and supporting the organisation of live exercises to test and improve operational response and inter-agency coordination.

In 2024 the EU integrated border management assistance mission in **Libya** (EUBAM Libya) continued to contribute to enhancing the capacity of the relevant Libyan authorities and agencies to manage Libya's borders, fight cross-border crime, including human trafficking and migrant smuggling, and counterterrorism.

4.6. Overseas countries and territories (OCTs)

4.6.1. Introduction (policy developments)

The 13 Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) are non-sovereign entities that maintain special constitutional links to Denmark, France and the Netherlands. The territories embrace an increasingly strategic role for the EU, as ambassadors of European values in their regions, and bring with them important assets, such as vast exclusive economic zones; the potential to host strategic infrastructure (Galileo); and access to many critical raw materials.

Due to their geographical location and historical background, these territories hold strong historical, social, environmental, cultural and economic ties with the EU and its outermost regions (ORs). In addition, the new Partnership Agreement between the EU and the Organisation of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States, signed in 2023, encourages regional and intra-regional cooperation between ACP-countries, ORs and OCTs.

Despite the significant diversity among them, the OCTs share similar characteristics and challenges: geographical isolation resulting in high transportation costs, small economies and local markets, high dependency on imports, poor diversification of exports, insufficient transport and digital networks, low competitiveness and limited institutional capacity. In the context of globalisation, efforts to enhance the OCTs' competitiveness and unlock their potential are necessary to ensure they can capitalise on their assets.

The EU-OCTs partnership is framed by the Decision on the Overseas Association including Greenland (DOAG)[(106)]. The DOAG contributes to the economic and social development of the territories and helps tackling challenges, such as climate change and biodiversity loss. For 2021-2027, the EU has earmarked, under the DOAG, financial support to the value of EUR 500 million for the OCTs. Priority sectors for cooperation are education, biodiversity, digital development, climate and energy, in line with the EU twin transition goals, and the objectives of the Global Gateway strategy.

[**] This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

[106] Council Decision (EU) 2021/1764 of 5 October 2021. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2021/1764/oj/eng

The institutional dialogue between the EU and the OCTs is provided for in Article 14 of the DOAG. While the annual OCTs-EU Forum brings together OCT authorities, Member State representatives and the Commission, tripartite consultations between the parties are organised to follow up on issues of common interest. In 2024, the institutional EU-OCTs dialogue took place regularly, including through three tripartite meetings and the holding of the OCTs-EU Forum. The Forum highlighted, once more, that the territories belong to the European family, with shared values, and contribute to the EU's global ambition to consolidate alliances, address mutual challenges and exploit common opportunities.

Relations with Greenland were particularly active in 2024, with the opening of an EU Office in Nuuk, a significant milestone in a rapidly evolving international context. The EU and Greenland held regular policy and political dialogue meetings throughout the year and broadened their cooperation from the traditional education sector to the area of green growth, including the development of the critical raw materials (CRM) sector. A first-ever EU business mission took place in October 2024 and allowed for the tightening of EU-Greenland economic relations and a stronger involvement of the private sector in the partnership.

4.6.2. Implementation

Human development and inequalities

A good education for all is the best equaliser in society, allowing citizens to improve their livelihood opportunities.

Aruba concluded the implementation of its 11th EDF territorial programme on higher education with the roll-out of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) curriculum of the University and the completion of the infrastructure works for the physical set-up of the new faculty and laboratories, that were inaugurated in May 2024.

In Bonaire, the 11th EDF budget support programme on youth ended with the adoption of the Youth Policy, to engage young people and assist them in becoming active educated citizens involved in democracy and society.

In Greenland, the EU budget support to education for 2023-2024 under the DOAG focuses on re- and up-skilling, improved curricula for vocational education and student well-being. One of the objectives is to enhance learning outcomes as well as entrepreneurial and innovation skills to respond to projected labour market demands, especially in emerging sectors of the economy such as sustainable raw materials and renewable energy.

Gender equality is an important cross-cutting theme of the EU-OCTs cooperation. New action during 2024 included the development of gender-sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated data in the programmes, whenever possible.

Green Deal

The EU-OCTs partnership promotes long-term sustainable economic development and welfare. Green Deal principles have been pivotal for the partnership, given the specific vulnerabilities and needs of the OCTs.

The 11th EDF thematic programme 'Green Overseas' (GO), covers the current EU OCTs and the former British Overseas Territories (BOTs). Started in 2019, the programme focuses on advancing adaptation and resilience to climate change, including via support to the roll-out of renewable energy projects. In 2024, the demand-driven GO Facility helped the territories to prepare investment

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projects, with a total of 34 projects for studies or technical assistance on action directly related to climate change. The programme organised a Climate Finance Forum in Brussels in October 2024 bringing together over 120 participants to discuss climate finance, covering themes such as accessing multilateral and bilateral funds, unlocking private finance, creating an enabling environment and building financial resilience.

In the Pacific, the 11th EDF regional programme PROTEGE (Pacific Territories Regional Project for Sustainable Ecosystem Management, EUR 36 million), that came to its end in 2024, successfully supported the fight against climate change and ecosystem degradation. It also promoted the sharing of best agricultural and fisheries practices among the Pacific OCTs. A new regional action of EUR 36 million, adopted in 2024 under the DOAG for the blueing[107] and greening of food systems, will continue these efforts.

In the Caribbean, the 11th EDF regional programme RESEMBID (Resilience, Sustainable Energy and Marine Biodiversity, EUR 42.7 million) focuses on resilience building, sustainable energy and marine biodiversity. In 2024, implementation continued at an accelerated pace through 47 grant projects. Building on this experience, a new regional programme of EUR 21 million under the DOAG was adopted in 2024 to support sustainable management of natural capital in the Caribbean OCTs.

In the Indian Ocean, the 11th EDF RECI programme (Restoration of Island Ecosystems, EUR 4 million) ended in December 2024, with significant achievements on enhanced biosecurity, ecological restoration activities and the eradication of invasive species in the French Southern and Antarctic Territories (TAAF). A new action worth EUR 4 million has been prepared under the 2021-2027 DOAG budget for this region, to further promote the preservation of marine ecosystems and sustainable management of natural resources.

In addition, in 2024, a dedicated component of the 2021-2027 BESTLIFE programme for outermost regions and OCTs continued to scale up its activities on biodiversity and nature conservation in the OCTs.

Access to water and sanitation, healthier drinking water, integrated management of water resources and the construction of water collection systems and treatment facilities are all addressed through bilateral cooperation with French Polynesia (EUR 31.1 million), Bonaire (EUR 4.6 million) and Curacao (EUR 18.6 million) under the DOAG.

Sustainable energy transition receives support under the DOAG in New Caledonia (EUR 30.9 million), Saba (EUR 4.1 million), Greenland (as part of the EUR 22.5 Green Growth programme) and Sint Maarten (EUR 7.7 million). For New Caledonia, the territorial programme contributes to the decarbonisation of the mining industry, a main driver of the economy and responsible for 77% of the territory's total energy consumption. In Saba, the EU is helping to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and a substantially improved energy mix, with more renewables and increased energy efficiency. In Greenland, the target is to increase renewable energy in public electricity provision to 90% of the total in the coming years.

Since 2023, the EU has also been teaming up with Greenland in the domain of sustainable raw materials, critical for the clean energy transition. Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on establishing sustainable raw materials value chains between the EU and

[107] https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/publication/vital-roles-blue-foods-global-food-system_en

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Greenland in November 2023, a first-ever and successful business mission took place in Greenland in June 2024.

Sustainable growth and jobs

Sustainable economic growth, full employment and decent work are supported through dedicated programmes under the DOAG: on sustainable tourism (Saint Pierre et Miquelon, EUR 27 million, and Wallis and Futuna, EUR 20.4 million), sustainable agriculture (Sint Eustatius, EUR 2.9 million), green growth (Greenland, EUR 22.5 million) and e-government (Aruba, EUR 14.2 million).

The OCTs are currently eligible for the InvestEU initiative, which supports private and public investment in four policy areas: sustainable infrastructure; research, innovation and digitisation; small and medium-sized businesses; and social investment and skills. Under InvestEU, OCTs are also eligible for the Advisory Hub, which furnishes advisory services to support project preparation.

Digitalisation, science, technology, innovation and infrastructure

Connectivity is one of the priorities of the EU's strategic partnership with the OCTs, leading to more prosperous, open, and inclusive societies.

Cooperation with Aruba is a good example of how the EU fosters innovation. Building on previous achievements, the EU is teaming up with Aruba for 2021-2027 through a EUR 14.2 million programme under the DOAG, to roll out its ambitious e-government-strategy, including the setting-up of e-government work processes, an e-ID system and a cybersecurity policy framework, as well as the introduction of digital payments. Aruba's digital transformation aims to ease online access to government services and unlock new economic opportunities for all, including women and young people.

The intra-regional cooperation budget under the DOAG, adopted in late 2023, also represents a perfect opportunity to deepen our ties on sustainable connectivity (including submarine cables), driving the green and digital twin transition under the Global Gateway strategy, in cooperation with EU partner countries in the respective regions.

Governance, peace and security

All EU-funded action in the OCTs intends to reinforce the capacity, accountability and inclusiveness of their institutions. This is often best achieved through a mix of budget support, policy dialogue on sector reforms and cooperation on public financial management.

Funded under the 11th EDF Technical Cooperation Facility, the OCTs' Youth Network (OCT-YN) was launched in 2022. It enables a group of 25 young people to embark on a one-year learning path, to explore the EU-OCTs partnership and the functioning of the European institutions, while networking with EU experts and policymakers and like-minded young people from other OCTs. In 2024, the second cohort successfully finished their mandate, and a new cohort of 25 young people was selected and took part in a study visit to Brussels.

Food security and nutrition

The OCTs share particular vulnerabilities, resulting in a complex set of food security and nutrition challenges. In 2021-2027, the EU is supporting sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition in several OCTs.

The regional Pacific programme for the blueing and greening of food systems, adopted in 2024 (EUR 36 million), will promote sustainable production and healthy food consumption. The regional

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Caribbean programme for the sustainable management of natural capital, also decided in 2024 (EUR 21 million), and the cooperation with Sint Eustatius (EUR 2.9 million), aim at strengthening food and nutrition security by developing sustainable and resilient local food value chains.

Case study

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In Saba, the EU has been supporting sustainable and resilient energy since 2017. EUR 3.55 million were allocated under the 11th EDF to the improvement of the energy mix of Saba in favour of renewable energies. Together with the Netherlands, the EU invested in solar energy, generating up to 2 megawatts and bringing the share of renewable energy in the island's total electricity to approximately 40%.

Since 2023, the EU continues assisting Saba with EUR 4.1 million of budget support for the implementation of the Saba Energy Policy 2020-2025, which is set to increase the share of renewable energy to 60%. This objective should be achieved through, among others, the construction of additional renewable energy infrastructure (including a new solar park) and the development of an energy efficiency programme. The recently published energy efficiency policy 2024-2026 becomes a significant part of this strategic cycle and has kick-started with an awareness-raising and educational campaign.

5. Managing aid

5.1. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation

5.1.1. Reporting

Reporting on the NDICI-Global Europe instrument

The Global Europe Results Framework (GERF) is the main tool to monitor and report on progress towards objectives of the NDICI-Global Europe instrument throughout its implementation. Key performance indicators contained in Annex 6 of the Regulation are used together with data from other existing results reporting, external monitoring reviews and evaluations to assess the extent to which specific objectives have been achieved. Reporting requirements cover all regions and modalities established by the NDICI-Global Europe instrument, including the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+).

2024 is the fourth year of financial execution of the NDICI-Global Europe, so (as announced before), some operational results have started to materialise. Due to the inevitable time lag between financing a intervention and implementing the action and generating results, a significant part of results – in terms of outputs or outcomes of NDICI-Global Europe-funded interventions – is expected to materialise towards the end of the current multiannual financial framework (MFF).

This time lag between financing and results is a structural feature that is common to any MFF cycle. As the same is true for the previous MFF, Chapter 6 of this report presents the results of both the current and the previous MFF. Results data presented in Chapter 3 of this report refer to results achieved from ongoing interventions, financed both under the previous and the current MFF.

Reporting on the IPA III instrument

The IPA III instrument (Instrument for Pre-Accession) has introduced a set of requirements to monitor and report on progress towards its objectives throughout its implementation. The IPA III Programming Framework is the overarching strategic document for the implementation of IPA III under the current MFF, replacing the former country-specific strategy papers. It focuses on the priorities of the enlargement process according to five thematic Windows[108], which mirror the clusters of negotiating chapters as per the revised enlargement methodology. It also provides an indicative financial overview per Window and programming year.

Each thematic Window, with a number of thematic priorities, incorporate indicators, including baselines, milestones and targets, to monitor the implementation and achievement of the framework's objectives. The basis for IPA III programming, monitoring, reporting and evaluation is the IPA III Results Framework[109]. Other existing results reporting, external monitoring reviews and evaluations to assess the extent to which specific objectives have been achieved complete the set of tools.

As 2024 is the fourth year of IPA III implementation, therefore, and as announced before, the initial operational results have just started to materialise (as of 2023), given the programming and

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See Section 4.5.1.

109 See https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-12/SWD_2022_445_1_EN_document_travail_service_part1_v2.pdf

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implementation cycle. Like the NDICI-Global Europe mentioned above, due to the inevitable time lag between financing an intervention, only few results – in terms of outputs or outcomes of IPA III-funded interventions – can be reported so far.

The results data presented in Chapter 3 of this report refer to results achieved from ongoing interventions, financed under both the previous and the current MFF.

5.1.2. Monitoring systems

Over the past years, the Commission has engaged substantially in designing tools and processes for performance-based management. This is to facilitate monitoring and results reporting processes and respond to the growing need for data to capture the results of implementing EU external action instruments. It is set in a wider transition, moving from a focus on inputs (mostly financial) to capturing the EU contribution to the achievement of intended objectives in the field of external cooperation, an area where being able to measure the impact of actions on target populations and systems is essential.

As of today, various monitoring arrangements (internal and external) are in place focusing on different aspects of results-oriented monitoring (ROM), such as implementation progress and achievement of objectives. Among these, ROM reviews support operational staff by providing an external and impartial assessment of ongoing interventions. The number of ROM reviews performed in 2024 was 510 under NDICI-Global Europe and 65 under IPA III.

The IT platform OPSYS is used as a standard tool to capture results for corporate reporting and management in external action. OPSYS creates a digital repository of EU-funded operations and provides central access to all stakeholders involved, both inside and outside the Commission. It assumes a pivotal role in ensuring that the Commission can deliver on the ambitious reporting obligations set for implementing the NDICI-Global Europe and IPA III instruments.

The Commission, the EU Delegations and our implementing partners perform monitoring activities via the same tool, including direct reporting by implementing partners and Commission staff, and data aggregated centrally for reporting by the Commission. There are now 15 602 interventions encoded in OPSYS and 2 630 NDICI-Global Europe primary interventions were involved in the last results reporting exercise.

5.1.3. Reporting on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Commission reports on SDGs for Global Gateway projects and flagship initiatives, official development assistance (ODA), TEIs and across financial instruments, including the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe (NDICI-Global Europe).

The reporting considers the transversal and interlinked nature of the SDGs, as a single commitment is often connected to several SDGs. Therefore, it is mandatory to report on one single main SDG and, where applicable, up to nine other SDGs to which a project contributes significantly. With this system, the sum of financial flows related to the main SDG will always equal the total amount of financial flows, yet it is possible to report several SDGs for one project by using the ‘significant’ SDG field. As a result, a better understanding of the interlinkages between SDGs can be obtained.

Global Gateway projects and flagship initiatives are reported along ‘main and significant SDGs’ on the Global Gateway platform. Since 2024, the necessary conditions have been established to monitor all Global Gateway initiatives tracked on the Global Gateway platform, ensuring that the contribution of projects towards the SDGs is monitored.

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For ODA, the Commission has been reporting since 2019 on its contribution to the SDGs, in accordance with a decision from the Working Party on Development Finance Statistics of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC). Targeted SDGs are recorded at commitment and payment level as per the taxonomy for ODA reporting. Since 2019, the Commission also uses the Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD), an international standard measuring the full array of officially supported resources to promote sustainable development in developing countries including inter alia ODA, other official flows, South-South and Triangular Cooperation and private finance mobilised by official interventions.

Between 2019 and 2022, the EU's average annual TOSSD amounted to EUR 44.2 billion. Furthermore, the Commission is integrating the 'SDG Mapper', a text-based tool developed by the Joint Research Centre, in its reporting processes to support project officers to determine and identify prevalent SDG targets and indicators. The figures below show the volume of commitments by SDGs funded by NDICI-Global Europe.

The bar with saturated colour represents the financial flows to the main SDG while the bar with transparent colour shows the contributions to other significant SDGs.

Figure 8. Synthesis of the volume of Commitments for each SDG (as main SDG and significant SDG) in 2024 – NDICI funded projects

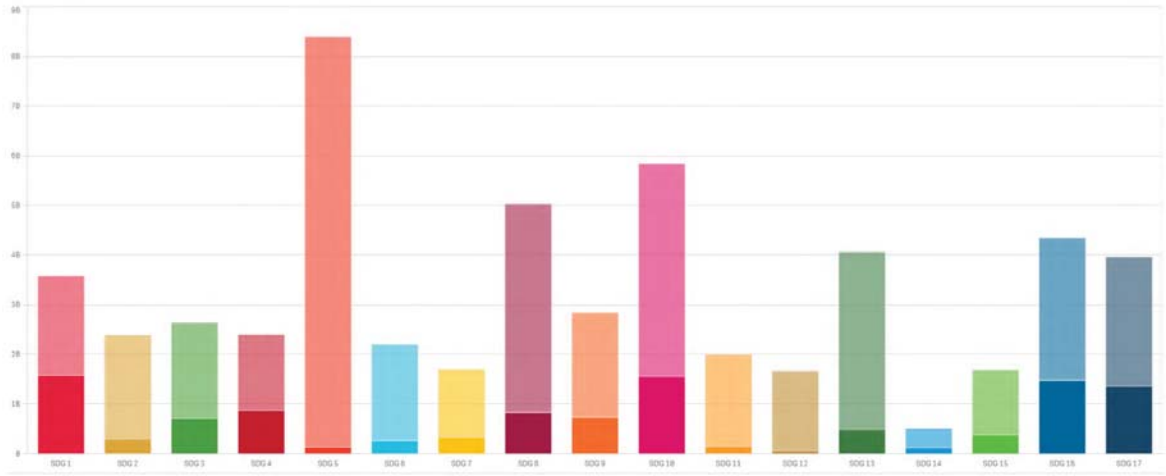


Table 1. Volume of commitments for each SDG in 2024 (EUR)

SDG Number	SDG Description	Main SDG Amount (EUR)	Significant SDG Amount (EUR)	All SDG Amount (EUR)
Totals		**11 404 277 598€**	**43 841 530 795€**	**55 245 808 392€**
1	SDG 01: No Poverty	1 583 194 737€	1 996 574 186€	3 579 768 924€
2	SDG 02: Zero Hunger	299 003 453€	2 091 285 763€	2 390 289 216€
3	SDG 03: Good Health and Well-being	717 795 968€	1 925 079 244€	2 642 875 212€
4	SDG 04: Quality Education	868 390 085€	1 533 212 970€	2 401 602 974€
5	SDG 05: Gender Equality	138 086 547€	8 258 592 051€	8 396 678 598€
6	SDG 06: Clean Water and Sanitation	264 497 423€	1 938 800 637€	2 203 298 060€
7	SDG 07: Affordable and Clean Energy	336 237 130€	1 363 752 794€	1 699 989 924€
8	SDG 08: Decent Work and Economic Growth	830 004 629€	4 199 604 229€	5 029 608 858€
9	SDG 09: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	744 799 871€	2 097 689 202€	2 842 489 073€
10	SDG 10: Reduced Inequality	1 559 030 157€	4 275 268 364€	5 834 298 522€
11	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	151 720 248€	1 842 533 647€	1 994 253 895€
12	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	62 900 000€	1 603 361 039€	1 666 261 039€
13	SDG 13: Climate Action	497 641 467€	3 566 179 955€	4 063 821 422€
14	SDG 14: Life Below Water	120 997 340€	391 343 152€	512 340 492€
15	SDG 15: Life on Land	379 494 277€	1 303 856 882€	1 683 351 159€
16	SDG 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions	1 479 518 088€	2 865 197 963€	4 344 716 050€
17	SDG 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal	1 370 966 259€	2 589 198 716€	3 960 164 975€

As can be seen from Figure 8 and Table 1 above, SDGs 1 (poverty eradication), 4 (quality education), 8 (economic growth & decent work), 10 (reduce inequalities), 16 (peaceful & inclusive societies) and 17 (partnerships) received the largest financial flows as main SDGs in 2024.

During the same period, SDG 5 on gender equality is most targeted by projects as a significant SDG, followed by SDGs 8, 10 and 16. This underlines the particularly strong transversal nature of those SDGs that primarily seek to reduce social and economic inequality and strengthen institutions. It is worth flagging the large amount for projects that contribute significantly to SDG 5. This confirms the high level of gender mainstreaming across EU external action projects.

SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production) received the lowest contribution as a main SDG, while SDG 14 (life below water) received the lowest contribution in total.

Figure 9. Commitments (NDICI-GE) by SDG to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in 2024 (million EUR)

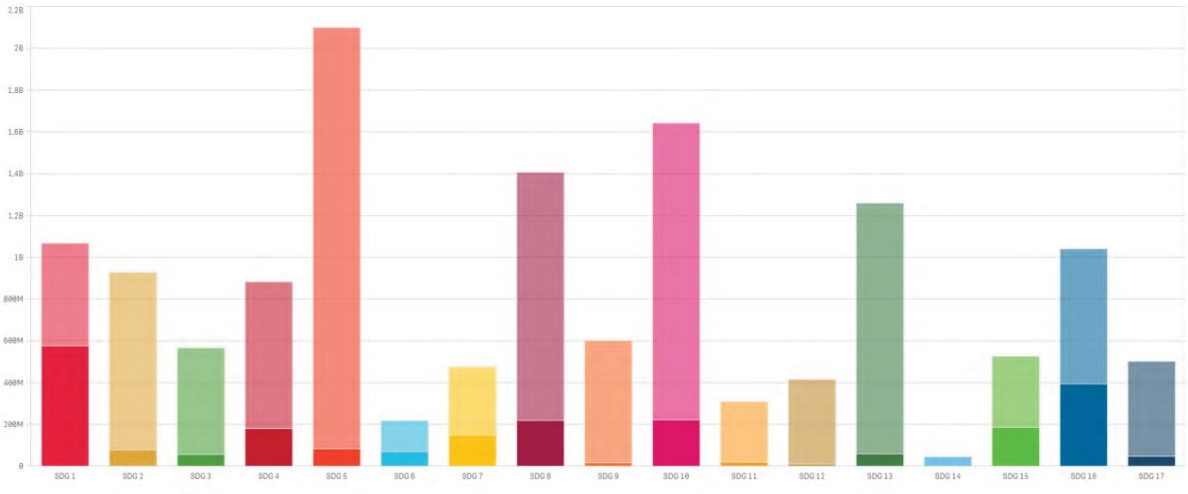
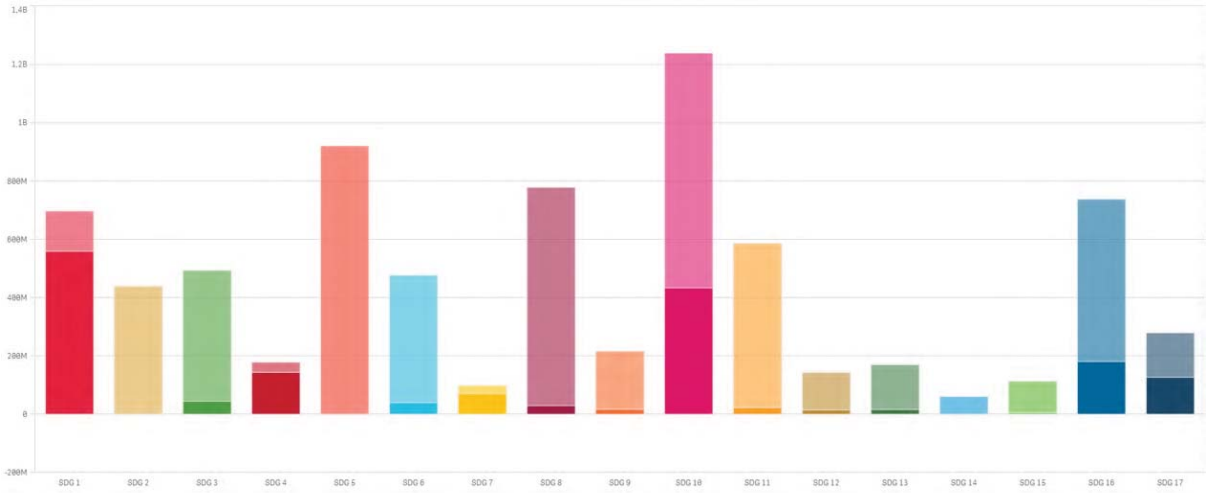


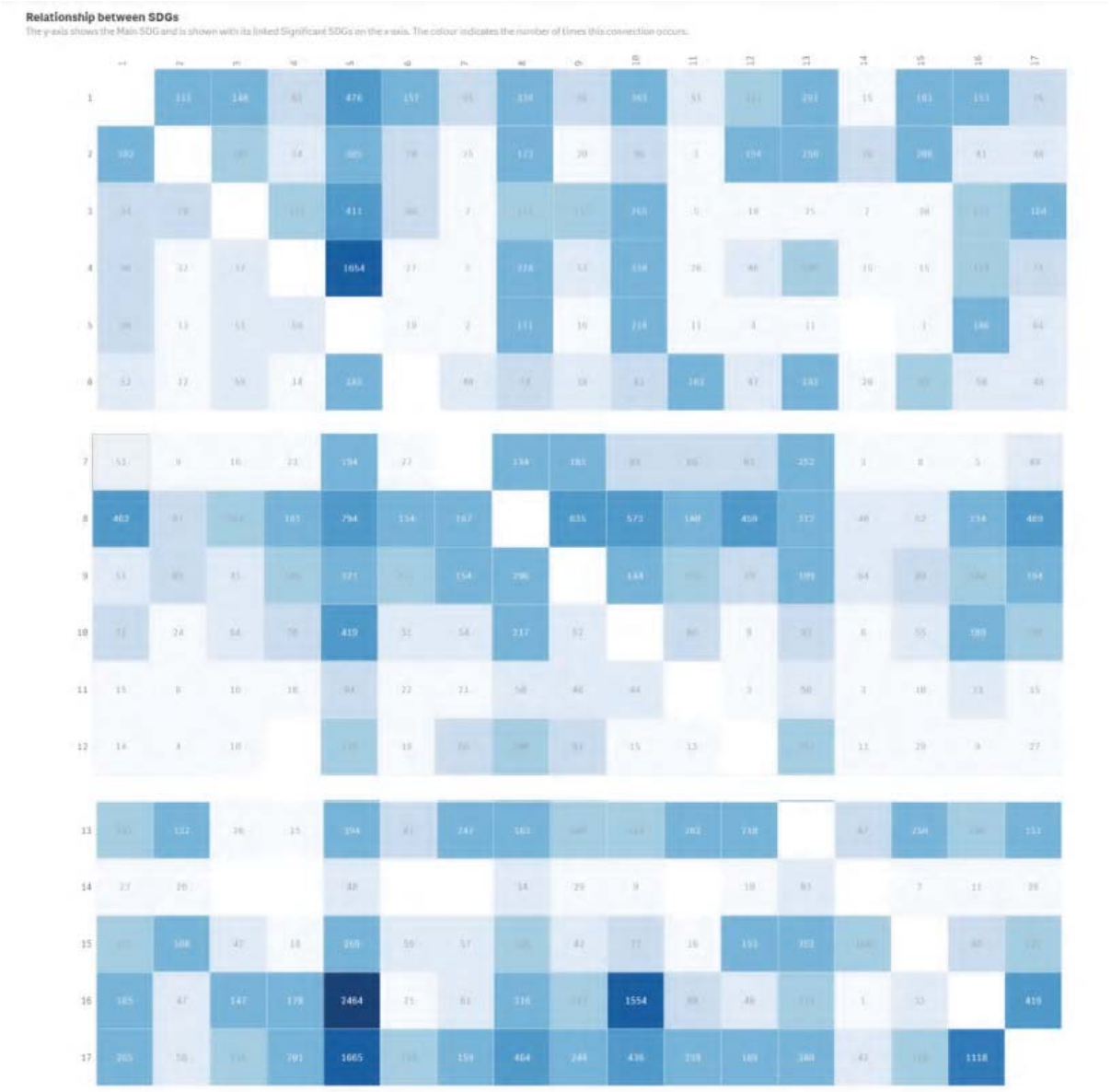
Figure 10. Commitments (NDICI-GE) by SDG to Upper Middle-Income Countries (UMICs) in 2024 (million EUR)



It is also possible to analyse targeted SDGs by the income group of countries, showing how EU priorities are implemented depending on countries' income levels. Figures 9 and 10 above show the SDGs targeted by the European Commission in LDCs and UMICs in 2024.

For LDCs, SDG 1 to eradicate poverty and SDG 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies dominate as main SDGs, while more transversal SDGs are marked most often as 'significant', in particular on gender equality, decent work, reducing inequality and climate action (SDGs 5, 8, 10 and 13). In the case of UMICs, SDGs 1 and 10 dominate as main SDGs, while SDGs 10, 5 and 8, narrowly followed by SDGs 1 and 16 are the highest 'significant' SDGs.

Figure 11. Relationship between SDGs commitments by SDG in 2024 – NDICI-GE (EUR)



To be able to assess the interlinkages between SDGs, Figure 11 above illustrates the relationship between main and significant SDGs. The strongest interlinkage can be observed between SDG 5 (gender equality) as a significant SDG and SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 16 (peaceful and inclusive societies), and SDG 17 (global partnerships), as main SDGs. This confirms the cross-cutting nature of gender equality. Another strong interlinkage can be seen between SDGs 16 and 10. Overall, cross-cutting SDGs such as SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 13 (climate) are highly linked to other SDGs.

5.1.4. Evaluation – review of the work programme

In 2024, the Commission completed eight strategic evaluations in the field of EU external and humanitarian action comprising:

1) five thematic or partnership evaluations, including in the humanitarian sector:
   - evaluation of the contribution to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), by the EU's external action (2016-2021);
   - evaluation of the EU's external financing instruments (final: 2014-2020, mid-term: 2021-2027);
   - evaluation of EU cooperation with the World Bank (2014-2021);
   - evaluation of DG ECHO'S external communication policy and action (2019 – 2023); and
   - evaluation of DG ECHO's partnership with UNICEF (2019-2023);

2) two geographic country or regional level evaluations:
   - evaluation of the implementation of EU cooperation with the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal (2014-2021); and
   - evaluation of the EU's humanitarian interventions in Central Africa (2019-2023);

3) one budget support evaluation:
   - evaluation of EU budget support operations in Jamaica (2008-2021).

By the end of 2024, 13 other strategic evaluations were in progress for the following areas:

4) six thematic or partnership evaluations, including in the humanitarian sector:
   - evaluation of the EU Trust Fund Bekou for the period 2014-2023;
   - evaluation of EU support for partner countries in the education sector (2014-2024);
   - intermediate evaluation of the implementation of the EU Gender Action Plan III (2021-2027);
   - final evaluation of the EU Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa (2015-2024);
   - comprehensive evaluation of the EU's humanitarian aid (2017-2022);
   - evaluation of DG ECHO's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) policy (2019-2023);

5) seven geographic country or regional level evaluations:
   - evaluation of EU regional cooperation with ASEAN (2014-2024);
   - evaluation of EU cooperation with South Sudan (2011-2023);
   - evaluation of EU cooperation with Bangladesh (2014-2024);
   - evaluation of EU cooperation with the Federal Republic of Nigeria (2014-2024);

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- strategic evaluation of the EU partnership with Mozambique (2014-2023);
- strategic evaluation of the EU partnership with the Democratic Republic of Congo (2021-2024); and
- evaluation of the EU's humanitarian interventions in the Southern Africa and Indian Ocean (SAIO) region (2019-2023).

5.1.5. Lessons learned

Evaluation of the contribution to implementing the SDGs, by the EU's external action (2016-2021)

The purpose of this evaluation was to provide an overall independent, evidence-based assessment of EU external action in the past, as well as current efforts to meet the SDGs and identify key lessons for future strategies, programmes and action in pursuit of SDG progress.

Focused on the period from 2016 to 2021, it examined contributions to SDGs made by the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA) and the former Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR). The evaluation assessed the extent to which EU-established processes and tools have supported SDG contributions, the role of partnerships and coordination in enhancing SDGs, the mainstreaming of SDGs throughout EU practice and thinking and the overall contribution of its external action to SDG achievement.

The evaluation also sought to identify good practice and lessons to learn to inform further EU external action and partner efforts in pursuit of SDG progress. Among the lessons, three stand out:

(1) The inherent danger of mainstreaming any subject is the risk of losing sight of it. It is one thing to keep the SDGs visible and enable reporting on them in high-level documents and the tracing of financial flows; it is much harder to trace how SDGs have genuinely made a difference at a country level.

(2) Financial flows are not synonymous with contributions or results. Financial flow tracking is an important first step but cannot be misconstrued with EU contributions nor SDG results (country-level goals and indicators).

(3) Advances at the central/HQ level take time and resources to trickle down. For multiple dynamics, including mainstreaming and awareness building more generally, it is easy to get distracted by the energy and discourse emanating from the central/HQ level; meaningful mainstreaming of SDGs at the level of national partners through support from EU Delegations has only just begun in most contexts and may require more human and financial resources to align the approach and increase the reach.

Evaluation of EU external financing instruments (final: 2014-2020, mid-term: 2021-2027)

This instruments evaluation offered an independent assessment of the fitness for purpose of the external financing instruments (EFIs), as established by their respective legal acts. Specifically, the evaluation provided an assessment on the EU added value, relevance and performance of EFIs, on their flexibility and capacity to react to changing political and policy priorities and a changing context, on internal and external consistency as well as on scope for further simplification of the EFIs.

It was embedded in the broader Commission efforts to conduct several internal mid-term review processes which took place in parallel: a final evaluation of the EFIs under the multiannual financial

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framework (MFF) for 2014-2020 and a mid-term evaluation of the new set of EFIs under the MFF for 2021-2027.

The following six key lessons were identified:

(1) Managing the transition implied by the new EFIs requires more time, energy and creativity than expected.

(2) When EFIs meet difficult contexts, ambitions must be realistic.

(3) Sound new principles underpin the EFIs, yet they need to be carefully applied and managed.

(4) The expanding external action mandate of the EU in increasingly difficult environments requires more sophisticated levels of knowledge and analysis.

(5) There is room for improvement in the way to look at monitoring, evaluation and results and foster effective uptake of insights gained.

(6) The turbulence caused by an increasingly volatile global context is shaking up the carefully designed EFI architecture and making further adaptations necessary.

Evaluation of the implementation of EU cooperation with the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal (2014-2021)

Over the past decade, Nepal has faced significant challenges, including a devastating earthquake in 2015, the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic on its tourism and remittance-reliant economy, and, since the new constitution in 2015, the establishment of a federal state. Throughout this period the EU has been a key partner, supporting Nepal's development goals, including its aims to graduate from 'least developed country' status by 2026. This partnership focused on expanding job opportunities, improving food security, increasing education access, enhancing rural infrastructure and promoting sustainable economic growth, especially in rural value chains.

This country evaluation analysed EU cooperation with Nepal, covering sustainable rural development, nutrition, education, TVET, democracy and decentralisation. It applied an intercultural approach, on a pilot basis. The EU has been a frontrunner in terms of using budget support, first to the education sector and later extended to federalism, reconstruction, agriculture and nutrition.

The longer the track record and the more development partners supporting the sector in question with budget support, the more effective it has been as an instrument. The benefits include increased ownership, reduced transaction costs, reduced fragmentation of aid and a boost to the government's budget for service delivery. It has also subjected the EU aid to domestic accountability and fiscal oversight protocols, which have the potential to foster integrity and transparency.

Evaluation of EU budget support operations in Jamaica (2008-2021)

Jamaica's cooperation programme with the European Union is primarily implemented through budget support modality. Budget support is an effective form of aid delivery for countries that demonstrate a strong commitment to stability-oriented macroeconomic policies and strengthening public financial management, including transparency and oversight of budgetary operations, and that have credible and relevant national/sectoral policies. This evaluation assessed the contribution of this aid modality to the achievement of development objectives in Jamaica and its specific advantages compared to other aid modalities.

During the 2008-2021 period Jamaica benefited from six budget support programmes in the following sectors: the economic sector, with debt reduction and public financial management programmes; the justice and security sector, with three programmes focused on citizen security and justice reform; and the environment sector, with one budget support operation focused on forest management.

EU budget support helped Jamaica overcome its strong macroeconomic and fiscal policy challenges – in coordination with other international development partners, EU programmes were instrumental in providing the Government of Jamaica with sufficient funds, and the budget support conditionality was key to the progress made with public finance reform and improved performance of public financial management in Jamaica.

The continued support of the EU for justice and citizen reform has helped Jamaica to improve legal and policy frameworks and have more capable and modern security forces. And finally, it was also crucial to upgrade the importance of forest management within the Jamaican government.

5.2. Aid delivery modalities

5.2.1. Budget Support

Altogether EUR 1.229 billion of EU budget support were disbursed in 2024. It accounted for 15.42% of payments under NDICI-Global Europe, IPA III, DOAG and predecessor instruments with still ongoing operations. EUR 639 million supported European Neighbourhood countries and EUR 40 million Western Balkans countries. EUR 495 million supported countries in sub-Saharan Africa, the Americas and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific and EUR 55 million Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs). Further details of the geographic and financial distribution of the budget support portfolio and of related payments are provided in Chapter 7.

EU budget support is a policy-driven and a result-based instrument. This is a pivotal instrument for the success of the Global Gateway Investment Agenda. Countries' policies are at the core of each budget support operation with the reforms and investment that they require. A better investment climate in partner countries constitutes the bedrock on which Global Gateway investment can yield returns, within a 360-degree approach including strengthening institutions, ensuring effective regulations and values.

Promoting environmental/social governance standards, budget support helps partners tackle challenges posed by climate change and combine their green growth agenda and the development of sustainable value chains with environment and biodiversity protection.

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EU Budget Support in **Cabo Verde** focuses on two strategic objectives. The first addresses poverty reduction, gender equality and social inclusion, by enhancing social protection policies and expanding access to secondary education for girls. This supports national poverty eradication goals.

The second promotes inclusive green growth by advancing policy reforms that facilitate the transition to renewable energy (and lower electricity tariffs), blue economy initiatives, sustainable tourism and a circular economy.

Strengthening the public finance management (PFM) system and pursuing fiscal reforms to increase revenue collection were firmly embedded in all actions. These efforts benefited from enhanced collaboration in a 'Team Europe' approach in 2024.

The first performance incentive coming with budget support lies in the four criteria conditioning its provision: a relevant and credible public policy; stability-oriented macroeconomic policies; progress in public finance management and revenue mobilisation; and budget transparency and oversight.

Results are further incentivised by performance tranches which are disbursed in proportion to the achievement of specific targets drawn from countries' policies. By working through country systems and strengthening them, EU budget support fosters partners' capacities to sustain results.

Budget support generally comes with a complementary component for dedicated technical assistance and capacity development for that purpose. It fosters domestic accountability, supporting civil society organisations as allies for transparency.

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As part of the Global Gateway strategy, the EU budget support contributed to **Vietnam**'s sustainable energy transition. 930 energy managers and 116 energy auditors were trained and certified. In addition, a total of 145 experts as well as 244 energy managers and technical staff from industry were trained on energy management systems and system optimisation. These experts will work on reducing the carbon footprint of firms.

EU budget support is an asset for Team Europe as a platform for policy dialogue to promote regulatory reforms in priority sectors, in particular alongside or ahead of Global Gateway flagship projects.

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In **Samoa**, which faces the growing impact of climate change, EU budget support has helped the country improve access to sustainable, safe and affordable water, along with enhanced sanitation and hygiene services.

It prioritised action on watershed management plans, water-saving measures and a comprehensive National Drought Policy.

These efforts have led to a 21% reduction in water losses.

Budget support assists countries in strengthening their economic governance. Sound macroeconomic policies boost economic resilience, provide a more secure environment for long-term private-sector investment decisions and encourage entrepreneurship. Solid public finance management (PFM) is critical to mobilise domestic resources, use them efficiently and effectively to deliver public services and promote investment.

Combined with efficient debt management (including innovative solutions like climate-resilient debt clauses), this provides more fiscal latitude (e.g. for investment) and strengthens market confidence to contain the borrowing costs and mitigate debt vulnerabilities. This strategy is favouring growth and transition to a green economy – and helping restore imbalances where needed.

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In **Jamaica**, the EU's Digital Budget Support Programme, a Global Gateway flagship initiative, has helped the country strengthen its digital infrastructure by increasing broadband internet access and integrating information and communication technology (ICT) skills into teacher training curricula.

In 2024, the programme helped connect 271 public schools and 18 children's homes to wide-area networks. Additionally, 362 public schools now have campus-wide Wi-Fi, and Jamaica's National ICT Competency Framework for Teachers was updated to align with international standards.

With 80% of Jamaica's 26 000 teachers being women, the initiative also has a strong gender dimension.

Delivering on the *Collect More, Spend Better* approach agenda, integrating the revenue and spending sides of public finance management, is equally at the heart of the investment climate. It is often the other side of the conversation on business environment in partner countries. This is notably true for public procurement, public investment management, taxation (equity, transparency and predictability), customs administrations (critical for trade facilitation and the fight against illicit trade) and the fight against corruption. Working on green public finance management and resource mobilisation can also steer public and individual behaviour towards sustainable choices.

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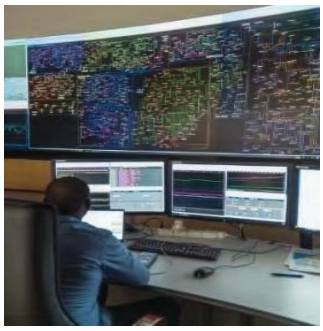

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Under the Global Gateway strategy, the EU is helping **Benin**'s digital transition and private-sector growth through budget support. Benin has established an online platform which certifies businesses in three days, easing legal operations and access to financial and trade opportunities.

Tax digitisation in major cities was adopted by 50% of small businesses. EU assistance also helped legally formalise businesses in cross-border trade, with formalisation rates rising from 37% to over 90% in two years.

Additionally, the EU has helped create a monitoring system in the real estate sector to combat money laundering and terrorist financing, enhancing transparency and security.

In addition, budget support was instrumental in 2024 as part of EU support to Ukraine to cope with the consequences of the Russian war of aggression. In the Eastern Neighbourhood, budget support continued to support sector reforms in social and governance sectors like education and justice in Armenia and Moldova to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the energy crisis.

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In response to Russia's ongoing war of aggression, the EU provides **Ukraine** with budget support to enhance food security and directly support its school nutrition programme.

This initiative benefited over 700 000 primary school children in grades 1-4 by providing school meals, thereby helping to secure nutrition for the most vulnerable members of society.

In the Southern Neighbourhood, budget support contributed to ensuring macroeconomic stability in Tunisia and advancing sector reforms in Morocco and Jordan, with a focus on vulnerable groups such as refugees and migrants.

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In **Jordan**, the EU Support for the Rule of Law programme helped the country greatly improve access to justice and public services.

It supported the construction of the Palaces of Justice in Jerash and Maan and helped enhance the capacities of the Judicial Council, Ministry of Justice, Judicial Institute and Public Security Directorate, leading to more effective and efficient public services.

In 2024, the Commission expanded the scale of budget support in the Western Balkans by adopting the Reform and Growth Plans for the six beneficiaries of a new comprehensive Western Balkans Facility. This approach builds on current budget support practices. The amounts allocated to the payment conditions are not linked to the actual costs incurred to meet them, but rather to the value of the actual results achieved, while observing the continuous fulfilment of general conditions (macroeconomic stability, public finance management progress and budget transparency). Under the Facility, the EU releases loans that are paid to the national treasury and a part of these loans is

allocated by the beneficiary to investment projects under the Western Balkans Investment Framework.

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In **Kosovo**, the EU Budget Support Energy Package helped enhance energy security by promoting investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy thanks to energy reforms, such as the Law on Renewable Energy or the Law on Energy Performance in Buildings, guided by the 2022-2031 Energy Strategy, the 2030 Climate and Energy Targets and the National Energy and Climate Plan.

Over 300 000 households improved their energy efficiency, decreasing overall consumption and costs, while approximately 85 000 vulnerable consumers received direct subsidies to reduce their energy bills.

Budget support continues to prove very relevant to support countries in situations of fragility or facing crisis and exogenous shocks. Deployed as a part of a 'Team Europe' approach and in tandem with the International Monetary Fund and World Bank programmes, it helps them secure macroeconomic stability, contributing to fiscal space and incentivising critical reforms for sound economic governance and state/economic resilience.

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In **Morocco,** EU budget support for the HAKAMA public administration reform has been key in enhancing the efficiency of use of public resources and the quality of services for citizens. By pursuing public administration reform, this programme has contributed to the increase of the Open Budget Index from 38 in 2015 to 47 in 2023.

These successes demonstrate the HAKAMA programme's role in boosting budget transparency and governance, aligning with global best practice.

This also helps bring vulnerable countries closer to opportunities offered by the Global Gateway strategy. State and Resilience Building Contracts can help bring them closer to Global Gateway and EFSD+ opportunities, as it was the case in Mauritania.

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The EU is scaling up its Global Gateway initiative in **Mauritania** by supporting the development of the green hydrogen sector through EU budget support.

It aims at helping the country establish the conditions for green hydrogen production by enhancing technical and vocational education and training, improving the business climate and strengthening private-sector capabilities.

EU budget support also helps address health, migration and forced displacement – key policy priorities in Mauritania's national development plan.

In 2024, Sector Reform Performance Contracts accounted for 73% of new commitments, with State and Resilience Building Contracts accounting for 27%. No new SDG contract was adopted. As a whole, new budget support programmes adopted in 2024 amounted to EUR 718 million, of which

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EUR 321 million supported countries in the European Neighbourhood and EUR 58 million in the Western Balkans. EUR 339 million supported other parts of the world, including OCTs with EUR 20 million.

 © European Union	In the **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, EU budget support has helped address the imbalance between labour supply and demand, particularly for young people, by promoting technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in the green and digital economy sectors. In 2024, following increased collaboration with the private sector, five new occupational standards were introduced in agriculture, the electric vehicle industry and information and communication technologies. Additionally, the Ministry of Education updated 45 TVET curricula to emphasise skills-based learning, covering essential areas necessary for sustainable development.

These new operations are connected with the Global Gateway Investment Agenda (e.g. Liberia for agriculture value chains and forestry protection, Mauritania for green hydrogen and health, Timor-Leste for digital transition and Vanuatu for climate-resilient food systems).

The design and implementation of budget support continued to build on a sound internal risk management framework, which informs Commission's policy dialogue and risk mitigation in partner countries. This framework is used for all developing/emerging countries engaged in cooperation with the EU.

The conclusions stemming from the analysis apply to all actions, not just to budget support operations. This framework thereby supports the scale-up of Global Gateway, in particular by assessing the enabling factors for the success of investment projects backed by the EU.

5.2.2. Blending

To achieve a greater scale of investment in the Sustainable Development Goals in an increasingly complex world, development finance needs a combination of funding sources. To increase the impact of official development assistance, public and private funds must be leveraged as efficiently as possible. The EU has expanded its financial instruments and policy tools for investment outside the EU to deliver on its ambitious commitments to sustainable development, enlargement and neighbourhood policies.

Through blending, the EU uses limited amounts of public grants to mobilise financing from partner financial institutions and the private sector for projects promoting sustainable growth, poverty reduction and development. The strategic use of a limited grant element can support projects with low financial return but high economic and societal return, making them economically viable and enhancing implementation quality. Blending may also provide an element of concessionality necessary for loans taken by some indebted partner states.

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The EU Blending Framework is comprised of four regional blending facilities[110] that cover all regions of EU external cooperation: the Africa Investment Platform (AIP), Asia Pacific Investment Facility (APIF), Latin America and Caribbean Investment Facility (LACIF) and Neighbourhood Investment Platform (NIP). These facilities comprise the blending instruments under the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+), operating from 2021-2027, along with pre-existing facilities gradually using up their remaining funds[111].

From the creation of the first blending facilities in 2007, EUR 11 billion of EU grants are estimated to have leveraged over EUR 96 billion of loans by financial institutions and regional development banks for a total investment volume of more than EUR 170 billion.

In 2024, the EFSD+ Operational Board issued a positive opinion for EUR 951 million of EU contributions, up from EUR 810 million in 2023, covering all eligible NDICI-Global Europe regions, key Global Gateway sectoral priorities, and supporting Strategic and Comprehensive Partnerships along with Reform Agendas and Growth Plans in the Neighbourhood and Enlargement countries. These EU contributions are estimated to have leveraged over EUR 8 billion of financing by financial institutions and regional development banks for a total investment volume of almost EUR 16 billion[112].

The amounts approved in 2024 are presented in Tables 2 and 3 below.

Table 2. EU Blending contributions approved in 2024 by facility

Blending facilities[113]	**2024 (million EUR – excluding fees)**
NIP	234.25
AIP	413.87
APIF	233.11
LACIF	69.72
Total	**950.95**

Table 3. EU Blending contributions approved in 2024 by sector

Sector	**2024 (million EUR – excluding fees)**
Agriculture	22.35
Digital	51.71
Energy	352.61
Environment	95.35
Private sector	61.20
Social	3.00
Transport	195.37

[110] The **Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF)**, the regional blending facility in the Western Balkans, is covered in the chapter on Enlargement. The **Türkiye Investment Platform (TIP)** serves primarily as a platform steering the use of EFSD+ guarantees with active involvement of Turkish authorities. **The Ukraine investment framework (UIF)** is covered by Regulation (EU) 2024/792 establishing the Ukraine Facility (Regulation - EU - 2024/792 - EN - EUR-Lex).

[111] Including the Asia Investment Facility (AIF), Caribbean Investment Facility (CIF), Investment Facility for Central Asia (IFCA), Investment Facility for the Pacific (IFP), and Latin American Investment Facility (LAIF). The EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund (ITF) allocated all its remaining resources in 2019.

[112] https://commission.europa.eu/publications_en?f%5B0%5D=oe_publication_title%3ADraft%20document%20X

[113] These totals contain some contributions from the remaining funds of the predecessors of the current investment facilities. For ease of reading, these have been grouped together under the heading of the current regional facilities.

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Urban development	32.08
Water/ Sanitation	97.50
Mixed	39.78
Total	**950.95**

The EFSD+ was built on the success of the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD), which in 2017-2021 approved guarantees and blending investment for almost 250 projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and the EU Neighbourhood for an EU contribution exceeding EUR 5.7 billion. Expanding the geographic scope compared to EFSD, EFSD+ implements this modalities across all NDICI-Global Europe regions at a larger scale. By merging various external financing instruments under the EU budget, EFSD+ strategically promotes public and private investment worldwide in support of sustainable development.

5.2.3. EFSD+, EU budget guarantees

The European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+)[114] is the financial arm of the NDICI-Global Europe Regulation and one of the key tools for delivering on the Global Gateway strategy. EFSD+ also supports the implementation of the Economic and Investment Plans (EIPs) agreed with Neighbourhood and Enlargement countries. The EFSD+ and the EFSD are powerful de-risking tools, constituting the most extensive public blending and guarantee programmes in support of private-sector investment for development.

The EFSD+ and its predecessor the EFSD aim to bridge the gap between available official development assistance and the substantial amount of financing required to meet the UNs' SDGs by 2030.

Under the EFSD, only the European Neighbourhood and the Sub-Saharan Africa regions were eligible for support under the budgetary guarantee component. Under the EFSD+, budgetary guarantees are now applicable to all the regions covered by the IPA III and NDICI-Global Europe instruments, just like the blending platforms. Under these instruments, not only geographic reach is targeted – categories of final beneficiaries for the loans extended by the partner financial institutions can also be specified in the agreements, for example targeting young people, women, migrants and more.

Following consultations with the respective EFSD+ regional operational boards, the Commission adopted an implementing decision in September 2023, amended in August 2024, approving the allocation of EUR 8.99 billion of EFSD+ guarantee cover for 58 investment programmes to be implemented through an open investment architecture. Before the end of 2024, negotiations were concluded on almost all guarantees (with some mergers reducing the total number to 41) – and, as agreed with the EFSD+ Strategic Board, only a few remain to be concluded in 2025. In 2024, 10 of these EFSD+ guarantees for the private sector were signed, totalling EUR 1.82 billion in guarantee cover. This brought the overall signed total to EUR 2.76 billion.

In addition, nine private-sector programmes carried over from the original EFSD have been signed, with a combined value of EUR 707.5 million, two of which were signed in 2024.

The EU is extending EUR 26.7 billion in guarantee capacity to support the European Investment Bank (EIB) in its investment projects outside the EU. Thanks to the guarantees, the EIB will contribute to Global Gateway investment in partner countries where, in particular, sovereign and other public

[114]The EFSD+ includes budget guarantees, covered in this section, as well as blending instruments covered in Chapter 5.2.2.

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sector risks are still a major bottleneck. These investments span pivotal sectors such as clean energy, green infrastructure, and health. The year 2024 included 29 new operations receiving coverage totalling EUR 3.28 billion. Overall, EIB's operations under this framework reached almost EUR 10 billion in sovereign and sub-sovereign non-commercial loans, along with EUR 1 billion directed towards private-sector operations in the ACP.

Furthermore, most of the EFSD and EFSD+ guarantee agreements are accompanied by technical assistance to facilitate and strengthen the roll-out of the guaranteed operations. To date, technical assistance contracts linked to guarantees add up to EUR 447 million.

5.2.4. Technical assistance

Technical assistance (TA) refers to the personnel involved in the implementation and management of technical cooperation services. Technical cooperation (TC) is associated with actions aimed at strengthening individual and organisational capacity by providing expertise (short- and long-term TA personnel, institutional staff exchanges (twinning) arrangements and mobilising diaspora resources, etc.), training and related learning opportunities (peer exchanges, tertiary education, etc.) and equipment.

Under NDICI-Global Europe instrument, the EU has made significant effort to use more EU Member State public sector expertise to provide technical assistance to partner countries, including by expanding use of twinning and TAIEX tools to countries beyond EU's immediate neighbourhood.

Public sector expertise has been recognised as a form of international technical cooperation that mobilises expertise from all EU Member States' public institutions. It promotes reform and sustainable and inclusive development policies through peer-to-peer knowledge exchange and institutional partnerships with partner countries to support the implementation of the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (especially SDGs 16 and 17), as well as the Paris Agreement.

Support provided by EU Member States creates mutual trust between the EU and partner countries' public servants and institutions, helps promote EU values and interests as well as EU standards and the policy approaches that are necessary for enhancing strategic partnerships. More importantly, it has proved to be a flexible, efficient and cost-effective way to build capacity. It is also well-suited for the 'Team Europe' approach and initiatives, as all interested EU Member States could be involved in the planning and implementation of interventions in EU external action activities.

In addition, various technical assistance facilities (i.e. service contracts) managed directly by the Commission provide short-term technical assistance and training to support Commission staff (in EU Delegations and headquarters) and implementing partners in designing and implementing external action interventions.

5.2.5. Twinning and TAIEX

The Commission's institution-building tools, TAIEX (**T**echnical **A**ssistance and **I**nformation **Ex**change; short-term assistance) and twinning (medium- to long-term assistance), strategically supported the implementation, throughout 2024, of Commission priorities in partner countries, notably by organising high-level flagship TAIEX events.

Overall, TAIEX organised 901 events in 2024. 513 events or 58% of the total were implemented in the Enlargement and Neighbourhood partner countries and 120 multi-country TAIEX events were organised in 2024. Of these, the Western Balkans benefited from 48% of TAIEX operations, Eastern Partnership countries from 41%, followed by the Neighbourhood South region with 11%. TAIEX and

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Twinning instruments are also available to EU partners in the rest of the world, especially in support of the Global Gateways strategy. In addition, TAIEX is also available to the EU Member States allowing peer-to-peer expertise and best practice transfers in support of reforms and EU priorities.

In 2024, 388 events were organised for these two groups of countries. Twinning helps to modernise public administrations through analysis and policy development, legal guidance and technical expertise, and supports drafting laws and regulations, system and procedure design and development, as well as facilitating job shadowing, workshops and study visits.

Twinning covers all sectors of the EU *acquis* and is used to share best EU Member States' practices. By mobilising practitioners for up to three years, twinning provides comprehensive support for reforms and creates durable bonds between public administrations. 82 twinning projects were ongoing, and 34 new ones were signed in 2024.

5.3. Non-programmable funds – rapid response

Recent and ongoing global shocks, including the pandemic, climate change impacts and new and evolving conflicts have significantly exacerbated levels of fragility and vulnerability for people and states. In addition, against a fast-changing geopolitical backdrop, there is a need to promote and reinforce the external dimension of EU policies, such as climate and environment, digital transition, security, disinformation and FIMI, space diplomacy, economic security and trade, as well as EU's outreach and values promotion.

In 2024, because the rapid-response pillar was not programmable, has a global scope across regions and a flexible toolbox for implementation, the EU has been able to quickly tackle upcoming targeted foreign policy and acute resilience needs, as well as crises of geopolitical importance for the EU, supporting populations more in need as well as global goods and EU objectives.

5.3.1. Crisis response

85 new crisis response interventions, with a budget of EUR 214.6 million in 2024, enabled the EU to swiftly contribute to stability in a situation of crisis or emerging crisis, by providing an effective response designed to help preserve, establish or re-establish conditions of peace and respect for fundamental human rights in line with policy priorities and EU values.

The crisis response actions continued to address some of the main conflicts and post-crisis contexts including in Ukraine, Moldova, Syria, Gaza, Sudan, Myanmar, Haiti, Nigeria and the Horn of Africa. Significant actions were launched covering human security, stabilisation, confidence building, cyber security, hybrid threats, disinformation as well as accountability and prevention of electoral violence.

Actions continued to support and complement multilateral actions and processes, such as the UN-led peace processes in Yemen, Syria and Libya, as well strategic support for the UN peace architecture, including the UN Peace Building Fund, the UN Mediation Stand-by Team and the Complex Risks Analytics Fund, to strengthen crisis anticipation, prevention and response. The EU Global Facility on Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Terrorism Financing provided tailor-made technical assistance to 24 non-EU countries, to increase compliance with international and EU standards.

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5.3.2. Resilience

In an increasingly volatile international environment, there is a pressing need to strengthen the resilience of individuals, communities and states to prepare for such shocks and develop adapted responses to their impact.

The resilience component of the rapid-response pillar has a significant allocation of EUR 1.043 billion for 2021-2027. In 2024, the budget line, which amounts to EUR 149 million, focused on implementing a range of targeted action. These actions included initiatives to improve livelihoods and access to basic services for vulnerable communities in eastern and central Africa, strengthen resilience in conflict-affected communities in West Africa (Togo and Benin) and support adaptive social protection in Pakistan.

Additionally, actions addressed security crises and creating resilient communities in Ecuador, supported climate resilience in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and provided for a global expert support facility. Finally, a significant action was approved at the end of 2024 to strengthen the resilience of communities in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, with a focus on improving security and economic opportunities. These actions demonstrate the EU‘s commitment to strengthening resilience and promoting peace, stability and sustainable development in vulnerable regions around the world.

5.3.3. Foreign policy needs

More than 120 foreign policy needs interventions, including 19 launched in 2024 for a total of EUR 52.5 million, covered challenges of global concern such as climate change and environmental protection, digital transition, business and trade (including to improve EU companies’ access to markets), fight against disinformation, and foreign interference and manipulation of information (FIMI).

The focus remained on the consequences of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and its implications at regional level. In addition, considering the increasing geopolitical instability, special attention was given to the fight against FIMI as well as to public diplomacy, including international cultural relations at global level.

In Asia, approved actions strengthened EU relations with Japan, Brunei and Taiwan via cooperation in areas like trade, intellectual property and regulatory alignment. Key goals included enhancing strategic partnerships and addressing market access barriers for EU businesses. Another action was adopted to strengthen EU engagement with Indonesia on the external impacts of EU Green Deal policies and regulatory frameworks, with a particular focus on deforestation and forest degradation.

In Latin America, EU engagement with local governments was strengthened in the Amazonian countries in climate and environment-related multilateral negotiations.

In alignment with the EU Indo-Pacific strategy, a new action enhanced EU security cooperation with partners in Asia and the Indo-Pacific region. This initiative focuses on maritime security, counterterrorism, cybersecurity and hybrid threats, as well as FIMI.

Through actions in public and international cultural relations, the EU pursued its long-term engagement to globally develop its soft power by building alliances and better-informed decision-making on EU priority themes, such as the response to global challenges, the centrality of multilateralism, our shared values and principles and economic partnerships.

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Ultimately, these actions have enhanced the visibility, understanding and attractiveness of the EU and its global role. For instance, over 100 EU film festivals have been organised in 2024, in cooperation with EU Delegations worldwide, with a global attendance of over 350 000 people.

5.4. Improving ways of working

5.4.1. Simplifying procedures

Legislative framework

The simplification of the legislative framework lies in the streamlining of a limited number of basic acts or financing instruments for external action. The main financing instruments for external action under the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework (MFF) are: the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument-Global Europe (NDICI-Global Europe)[115], the Decision on the Overseas Association, including Greenland (DOAG)[116], the European Instrument for International Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC)[117] and the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III)[118].

They are complemented with the Regulation establishing the Ukraine Facility[119] and the Regulation on establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans[120]. In 2024, the Commission submitted, in addition, a proposal for the Reform and Growth Facility for Moldova[121]. While innovative in approach, these facilities set rules that are consistent with the existing instruments under the current MFF.

Direct management

Digitalisation is directly linked with simplification, and the Commission has engaged in the adoption of a wide corporate suite consisting of MyWorkplace, eProcurement and OPSYS[122], as well as the Funding & Tenders portal for external access. It is however desirable to adapt procedures and models to the specific needs of external action, and this necessary adaptation allows the Commission to continue its simplification efforts.

Regarding grant agreements, the Commission continued working on a RELEX-family[123] Model Grant Agreement (MGA)[124] in view of onboarding eGrants. The final adjustments of the MGA to RELEX

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115 Regulation 2021/947 of 9 June 2021 (OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p. 1).

116 Decision 2021/1764 of 5 October 2021 (OJ L 355, 7.10.2021, p. 6).

117 Regulation 2021/948 of 27 May 2021 (OJ L 209, 14.6.2021, p. 79).

118 Regulation 2021/1529 of 15 September 2021 (OJ L 330, 20.9.2021, p. 1).

119 Regulation (EU) 2024/792 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 February 2024 establishing the Ukraine Facility, OJ L 2024/792, 29.2.2024.

120 Regulation (EU) 2024/1449 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans, OJ L 2024/1449, 24.5.2024.

121 COM(2024) 469 final of 9.10.2024 - Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing the Reform and Growth Facility for the Republic of Moldova.

122 OPSYS: the new RELEX-family (DG INTPA, DG ENEST, DG MENA and FPI) internal online IT-system for the management of external action commitments which gradually replaces the former system CRIS (Common RELEX Information System), the latter being phased-out.

123 RELEX family: the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA), Directorate-General for Enlargement and Eastern Neighbourhood (DG ENEST), Directorate-General for Middle East, North Africa and

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needs and developments in eGrants took place in 2024 and a pilot phase will test both the MGA current set of templates and eGrants in the course of 2025. Due to this, it is likely that onboarding will not happen before 2026.

Regarding the onboarding of eProcurement, it did not, as expected, take place in 2024 and was therefore not reflected in the new version of the practical guide to contract procedures (PRAG) finalised at the end of 2024 and released early 2025. However other simplification measures have been included in this new version of the PRAG, notably the number of templates for works and services contracts has been reduced; and concluding works contracts in direct management is now the exception.

As regards services specifically, standardised timesheets and expert profiles have been introduced and the rules applicable to the replacement of key experts have been revised, aiming at reducing the number of these replacements, which slow down the implementation of actions and are time-consuming.

Indirect management

For the Directorate-General for International Partnerships, two additional simplification measures were adopted in 2024 as part of the 2022 simplification exercise. The first one concerns the implementation of the EU budget in indirect management with a partner country, or a body designated by it. As a result of this simplification, indirect management with partner countries for actions that were not yet decided on 19 July 2024 is now limited to procurement contracts (Works, Supplies and Services). The possibility to implement programme estimates as well as the possibility for partner countries to award grants are therefore no longer possible.

The second one concerns the delegating, to EU Delegations and Units in Headquarters (HQ), of the preparation, signing and archiving of financing agreements and amendments to financing agreements. It should be noted that this simplification does not cover financing agreements containing budget support operations, which will continue to be concluded by the responsible Director at HQ.

In addition, other simplifications were introduced. A new IT tool for the electronic signature and management of single partner contribution agreements labelled in euro was rolled out on 1 February 2024 (as being mandatory) with the aim of simplifying and alleviating the related contractual processes.

Moreover, following consultation of relevant central services, as part of the Commission's efforts to reduce reporting obligations in the context of budget implementation, EU decentralised agencies may, under certain conditions, no longer be required to submit audit opinions.

5.5. Communication & transparency

5.5.1. Communication

The Commission furthered the implementation of the new approach to strategic communication and public diplomacy for activities funded under NDICI-Global Europe at country, regional and global level. The new approach has moved away from fragmented, partner-implemented activities

Gulf (DG MENA), Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), Directorate-General for trade (DG TRADE), the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI).

[124] The MGA is the Commission's Corporate contractual template for grants.

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concentrating on each project and programme, towards country-specific strategic communication explaining Europe's political offer to partner countries, particularly under the framework of the Global Gateway strategy. It aims to ensure awareness, understanding and perception of the EU and its Member States, in both EU and partner countries, and is commensurate with the scale, scope and ambition of our sustained engagement.

Under this new approach, EU Delegations have an important role in communicating the EU's partnership offer in partner countries. In 2024, intensive work was carried out with EU Delegations to increase their ability to communicate effectively on priority topics which matter to target audiences, through strategic guidance, training packages and hands-on support for campaigns and other content in partner countries.

Strategic communication activities are data-driven, using local languages, and designed to focus not only on what the EU does, but why – including by emphasising shared values, interests and impact, and promoting the EU's leadership role on key priorities. To implement the new approach, the communication strategy on Global Gateway in a 'Team Europe' approach adopted in 2023 was implemented, including through regular coordination with EU Member States to identify political-level joint missions.

A dedicated informal focal points meeting on Global Gateway strategic communication is held, bringing together EU institutions, Member States, the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The Commission is also collaborating with EU Delegations to design for each partner country either a Global Gateway campaign or to showcase the EU's offer in fragile settings.

Campaigns, social media and public diplomacy activities

Global Gateway communication centred around presenting the Global Gateway strategy and its implementation at international events and during visits to Member States and partner countries. Some key moments in terms of communication in 2024 included the UN General Assembly High-Level Week, the COP29 Summit, the G20 Development Ministers meeting and the G7 Pescara Summit.

Key social media campaigns in 2024 included the Global Gateway High-Level Event on Education, the Green Series with Youth Sounding Board members, the Global Gateway High-Level Youth Event, the 16 days of activism against gender violence campaign and the Lorenzo Natali Prize.

Social media channels played a key role in driving engagement and expanding global reach. Throughout the year, 43 million impressions were generated across all channels for organic content, fostering conversations and increasing awareness of key initiatives worldwide. The Lorenzo Natali Prize, for instance, gathered over 300 million total impressions across organic and paid content and received over 9.5 million total engagements, illustrating the impressive impact of the campaign.

In 2024, a major public advertising campaign in Latin America reached some 75 million young adults. The campaign's influencer partnerships and messaging on the transformative connections created by Global Gateway resonated strongly with the target audience, resulting in double digit increases in positive public perceptions of the EU in all four of the Mercosur countries (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay).

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Events

Co-hosted by the Commission and the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the EU, the Global Gateway High-Level Event on Education aimed to highlight the EU's role in transforming global education and bridging skills gaps. The event marked an important milestone for the EU and its partners towards the 2024 Summit of the Future and the 2025 World Social Summit, underlining the importance of education as a catalytic investment for the future.

Celebrating the second anniversary of the adoption of the Youth Action Plan, the Global Gateway High-Level Youth Event aimed to consolidate the foundations of the youth agenda in EU external action by connecting youth networks and showcasing the political potential of partnering with young people. Youth Recommendations on International Partnerships for the current European Commission were presented by members of the EU Youth Sounding Board for International Partnerships.

The 32nd edition of the Lorenzo Natali Prize for outstanding journalism received over 1 200 submissions from more than 100 different countries. This year, the award ceremony showcased EU action in support of media around the world presenting EU-funded projects backing independent and pluralistic media in Brazil, Nepal and Somalia.

Four Kapuscinski Development Lectures were also organised by the European Commission, bringing together a total of over 1 800 participants. The list of high-level speakers from around the world included renowned thinkers, such as Mo Ibrahim, Jemilah Mahmood and Francesca Rossi.

Countering foreign information manipulation and interference

In 2024, the EEAS continued its well-established work on detecting, analysing and addressing foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI) by actors such as Russia and China. In January, a second Report on FIMI Threats was published, sharing insights from 750 investigated FIMI incidents and introducing a Response Framework to better link analysis to timely responses. In May, a report exposing Operation False Façade was issued, a notable information laundering scheme by pro-Kremlin entities. The EEAS also published an open-source intelligence (OSINT) toolkit to detect and analyse identity-based FIMI.

The EEAS continued its role as a convening power, organising two important international conferences in Brussels. In January, the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President hosted the annual FIMI conference, bringing together decision-makers and experts from around the globe to discuss the FIMI threat landscape and strengthening cooperation. In November, the EEAS held an event bringing together experts working on countering identity-based disinformation, to share experience and best practice and discuss responses.

In a year of numerous elections across the world, the EEAS worked closely with the European Parliament, the Commission and EU Member States in an effort to secure the integrity of the June European elections against FIMI, including through the Rapid ALERT System. More so, the EEAS supported Moldova to protect their presidential elections and the EU accession referendum from FIMI in October.

The EEAS raised public awareness and exposed Russian FIMI and disinformation via EUvsDisinfo, reaching more than 38 million people in 2024. The EUvsDisinfo database of pro-Kremlin disinformation – the world's largest biggest public archive of Russian disinformation – passed 18 000 cases.

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Efforts continued to reinforce the capability of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy missions and operations to detect and respond to FIMI attacks, notably in the Eastern Neighbourhood and Sub-Saharan Africa, equipping the missions with appropriate tools, training and reinforced situational awareness.

Globally, the EEAS further reinforced cooperation to counter FIMI with like-minded countries and international organisations – working closely with G7, NATO, and the UN, as well as with countries such as the UK, CA, and the US. In the G7 Rapid Response Mechanism, the EEAS led the development and delivery of a G7 Collective Response Framework, as tasked by the G7 Leaders in June 2024.

The whole-of-society approach continued to be strengthened, to tackle FIMI by partnering with civil society. The EEAS supported FIMI Information Sharing and Analysis Centre (FIMI-ISAC), a collaborative platform of civil society organisations, produced and published a joint report on election interference.

5.5.2. Transparency

Throughout 2024, the European Commission continued to ensure transparency and accountability of its official development assistance through the publication of timely, comprehensive and forward-looking data. This includes publication of data to the OECD-DAC's Creditor Reporting System[125], the DAC Advance Questionnaire[126] and the joint DAC-XCRED report on untied ODA[127] contract awards, as well as to the Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD)[128] and the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standard[129].

The Commission remains firmly committed to transparency, a development effectiveness principle and a key principle of the Global Gateway strategy. In 2024, the Directorate-General for International Partnerships obtained a score of 83% in the Aid Transparency Index and joined the 'top 10' category of most transparent donors.

Furthermore, the Commission continued to invest in developing innovative transparency tools in support of informed decision-making, notably launching the Team Europe Explorer (TEE)[130] (a substantial upgrade of the former 'EU Aid Explorer'). The TEE is an interactive public online tool to explore and visualise data on the EU and EU Member States' support for partner countries. It centralises financial data – ODA and TOSSD – from different sources as well as project-level information in a detailed project search facility, drawing information from different sources (OECD-DAC's Creditor Reporting System, IATI Standard, TOSSD database and the Commission's internal database).

The TEE provides an overview of how much financial support various geographic and thematic areas receive, and how Team Europe funding flows are changing over time, consolidating funding information and reflecting the Team Europe approach.

125 OECD Data Explorer • CRS: Creditor Reporting System (flows) [cloud replica]
126 Development finance statistics: Resources for reporting
127 OECD temporary archive
128 Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
129 International Aid Transparency Initiative - iatistandard.org
130 Home - European Union

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5.5.3. Learning

Within the Commission, the International Partnerships learning development sector organises a wide range of learning events to train European Commission services (Delegations and headquarters) on political priorities and key thematic partnerships and sustainable development topics. The learning offer is also often open to a wider community, such as practitioners from Member States or, in the case of the e-learning platform EU International Partnerships Academy[131], to the public.

Learning activities aim at enabling European Commission staff to acquire, develop, retain, share and apply the knowledge and skills necessary for achieving the Commission's mandate and goals.

The implementation of the multiannual new training catalogue progressed at a sustained pace in 2024, reflecting our commitment to providing relevant and useful training.

Building on this momentum, in 2024 we started developing a comprehensive competency framework and learning package for investment managers, a process that will continue into 2025, ultimately supporting the deployment of the Global Gateway initiative.

In 2024, 170 different training events on EU Learn (for 3 872 participants) were organised, for the most part in different online formats such as webinars, virtual classes and e-learning courses.

In addition to the use of the internal EU Learn platform, the EU International Partnerships Academy, launched in 2018, is a dedicated tool to make online learning on sustainable development and international partnerships accessible to everyone, everywhere and on every mobile device.

In 2024, the Academy welcomed 3 000 new users reaching more than 27 000 enrolled learners coming from more than 190 countries. The platform currently offers more than 400 different learning resources and has reached more than 1.4 million visits (300 000 in 2024). The average user satisfaction rate for the courses was 81%, based on participants' feedback, both on EU Learn and via the EU International Partnerships Academy.

The Academy also collaborates with other international organisations on the production of learning resources, particularly in the context of the Learn4Dev donor competence network. This ensures joint understanding and ownership of concepts, producing efficiency gains and aid effectiveness. Learn4Dev is an effective space to co-create learning resources for international cooperation and sustainable development practitioners.

[131] EU International Partnerships Academy (europa.eu)

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6. Results annexes

6.1. Introduction

6.1.1. Methodological basis for selected results reported against the Global Europe Results Framework, the EU Results Framework, the IPA III Results Framework and the IPA Performance Framework

This is the fourth year of financial execution of the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument-Global Europe (NDICI-Global Europe) which is implemented by Directorates-General INTPA, NEAR[132] and FPI. The main tool for monitoring and reporting results to be achieved by NDICI-Global Europe is the Global Europe Results Framework (GERF) [133], which was launched in 2022. It is also the fourth year of implementation of the Instrument for Pre-accession (IPA III), whose tool for monitoring and reporting results is the IPA III Results Framework[134], also launched in 2022. IPA III is implemented by DG NEAR.

As it takes time for results to materialise, results for NDICI-Global Europe and IPA III have started to be achieved since 2023 and see a slow but constant increase. There is a time lag between the adoption of Financing Decisions, contracting, and results achievements. Some results, particularly outcomes, tend to materialise only at the end of the implementation of the interventions. Once results are achieved, the data has to be collected in the monitoring systems, the evidence must be documented, and subsequently approved by the responsible Operational Manager and only then encoded in the dedicated IT system (OPSYS). Results achieved with the instruments financed by the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) will continue to materialise for some years still. These results continue to be reported upon using the EU Results Framework (EURF) [135] for non-Neighbourhood and Neighbourhood regions, and the Instrument for Pre-accession Performance framework (IPA PF) for the Enlargement region, which were introduced in 2018 for that purpose. This chapter of the annex describes the methodological basis for results presented in the sections 'Selected Results' of chapter 3 and in this annex.

EURF and GERF

Chapter 3 of the present Annual Report includes only results from the GERF, covering ongoing or closed EU-funded interventions that started before 01 July 2024. Specifically, chapter 3 draws upon indicators included in level 2 of the framework, as explained below. The annexes to the present chapter present both the EURF and the GERF indicators and their progress of implementation (financial execution) until mid-2024. As explained above, in few cases only little or no operational results have materialised due to the time required for results to occur.

IPA PF and IPA III RF

Chapter 3 of the present Annual Report includes results from the IPA III, covering ongoing or closed EU-funded interventions that started before 01 July 2024. Chapter 3 draws upon indicators included in level 2 of the framework, as explained below. The annexes present both the IPA PF and the IPA III

[132] Since 2025, DG NEAR was divided into DG ENEST and DG MENA. As the current report is covering 2024, throughout the annex it is referred to NEAR.

[133] SWD(2022) 22 final of 25 January 2022.

[134] SWD(2022) 445 final of 20 December 2022.

[135] European Commission's Staff Working Document (SWD)(2018) 444, 'A revised EU international cooperation and development results framework, the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New European Consensus on Development'.

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RF indicators and their progress of implementation (final execution) up to mid 2024. As explained above, as with EURF and GERF, in few cases only little or no operational results have materialised due to the time required for results to occur.

6.1.2. Structure of the corporate results framework

All the corporate results frameworks presented here are structured around three levels of results. At the core of the frameworks, a set of respectively 39 (GERF), 31 (EURF), 36 (IPA RF) and 110 (IPA III) indicators at output and outcome level (Level 2) measure results achieved by EU-funded projects and programmes.

Level 1 corresponds to development progress in partner countries; that is, the medium- and long-term development impact achieved in partnership and collaboration with others. Impacts reflect the operational context in which EU external assistance is provided.

Data source Level 1: Internationally available indicators, as much as possible from the SDG database.

Level 2 focuses on development outcomes and outputs to which EU-funded interventions contribute in collaboration with partner governments and other funding providers. In line with the principles of aid effectiveness and effective development cooperation that emphasise partnerships and country ownership, results at this level are presented on a contribution basis. Rather than results being based on the share of funding provided by the EU, they represent the combined efforts of a variety of partners, including the EU, Member States, partner country governments and public institutions, local communities, international finance agencies, CSOs, non-profit entities and private companies. Data collection is guided by specific methodological notes[(136)].

Data source Level 2: Results data are drawn from the reports of EU implementation partners (i.e., partner countries, international organisations, Member States' development agencies, international financial institutions and NGOs).

Level 3 focuses on the mainstreaming of policy priorities, as measured by budgetary commitments directed at specific cross-cutting issues (e.g., human development, gender, or nutrition), and focuses on organisational financial data. Some of the indicators have organisational targets.

Data source level 3: Internal financial monitoring systems.

6.2. Level 2 indicators: Reporting on partner country results supported by the EU (EU RF, IPA PF and IPA III)

Selection criteria:

For the different frameworks, the following selection criteria for ongoing and completed interventions[(137)] were used:

EURF: Started before 1 July 2024 and ended after 31 December 2022. This year over 4 700 projects and programmes reported latest results information, out of which 1 300 projects and programmes contributed to at least one of the corporate indicators.

[136] Methodological notes are available online https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/eu-rfi

[137] The interventions considered were financed using the following instruments: the European Development Fund (EDF); the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI); the programmable part of the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) under Art. 5; the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR); the Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation; the Instrument for Greenland; and the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI).

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GERF: Started before 1 July 2024 and ended after 31 December 2022. This year over 2 600 projects and programmes reported latest results information, out of which over 336 projects and programmes contributed to at least one of the corporate indicators.

IPA PF: Started before 1 July 2024 and ended after 31 December 2022. This year, over 503 projects and programmes reported latest results information, out of which 97 projects and programmes contributed to at least one of the corporate indicators.

IPA III: Started before 1 July 2024 and ended after 31 December 2022. This year over 295 projects and programmes reported latest results information, out of which over 44 projects and programmes contributed to at least one of the corporate indicators.

The sample of ongoing interventions continues to expand over time. As in previous years, the results reported cannot be interpreted as providing a full picture of the interventions financed by the EU in the countries concerned.

Methodology notes: Methodology notes are available for each of the frameworks' indicator to ensure that data from the various reporting sources could be aggregated consistently. These notes provide definitions and data sources clearly explaining what type of interventions should be included when reporting against an indicator. For GERF and EURF, the notes can be found at Results Framework | Capacity4dev. For IPA III, the notes can be found at https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/node/255711_en

Data: Results data is drawn from the reports of EU implementation partners (i.e., partner countries, international organisations, Member States' development agencies, international financial institutions and NGOs). These organisations use data collected from a variety of sources, such as the management information system of partner countries, the individual project monitoring frameworks of implementation partners and representative surveys.

Reporting: The relative figures report cumulative numbers. The numbers are cumulated with careful consideration of potential double counting across projects and programmes and across years. The approach taken is to err on the side of safety, so any potentially double counted results are excluded from the results reported.

For some level 2 indicators in GERF and EURF, the majority of results comes from one single intervention, in most cases from funds. For GERF, the concerned results are scaled down by the size of the EU financial contribution relative to the total budget of the undertaking; this process is used for the concerned indicators and only if the EU contributes with less than 50% to the overall budget of the fund. Previously under EURF, the results reported have been calculated using a contribution-based approach. This means that where an intervention has been financed by the EU jointly with other funders – such as partner country governments or other donors – the overall results of the collective effort are reported, rather than those linked to the share of funding provided by the EU specifically.

EURF indicator 2.30 'Number of countries supported by the EU to strengthen revenue mobilisation, public financial management and/or budget transparency' is an exception in terms of scope and data collection. In addition to the interventions included in the exercise, this indicator draws on all countries with an ongoing EU budget support contract.

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EURF indicators 2.9 ‘Number of individuals with access to electricity with EU support through a) new access, b) improved access’, 2.10 ‘Renewable energy generation capacity installed with EU support (MW)’ and 2.21 ‘Greenhouse gas emissions avoided with EU support (tonnes CO2eq)’ [138] also include reporting by the EU–Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund (EU-AITF). EU RF 2.9 reports inferred figures, which were calculated using the KfW model for estimating access using electricity generation capacity, the data will not be updated again given the change to OPSYS reporting and the 2023 value will remain. EU RF 2.10 and EU RF 2.21 report expected results.

Given its use in the Gender Action Plan III (GAP III), the new GERF indicator 2.37 ‘Number of people benefitting from EU-funded interventions to counter sexual and gender-based violence’ is already reported upon, numbered as EU RF 2.31.

GERF indicator 2.19 ‘Number of countries supported by the EU to strengthen revenue mobilisation, public financial management and/or budget transparency’ is an exception in terms of scope and data collection. In addition to the interventions included in the exercise, this indicator draws on all countries with an ongoing EU budget support contract.

GERF indicators 2.3 ‘Number of individuals with access to electricity with EU support through a) new access, b) improved access’, 2.4 ‘Renewable energy generation capacity installed with EU support (MW)’ and 2.7 ‘Greenhouse gas emissions avoided with EU support (tonnes CO2eq)’ [139] are reporting values actually achieved.

GERF indicators 2.20 ‘Number of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people or individuals from host communities protected or assisted with EU support’, 2.32 ‘Number of food insecure people receiving EU assistance’ and, 2.39 ‘Number of people directly benefiting from EU supported interventions that aim to reduce social and economic inequality’ can be used while more specific sectoral indicators are used as well. Thus, beneficiaries should not be aggregated between indicators.

Results by sex of beneficiaries: The SWD(2018) [140] and SWD(2022) 455 final[141] mentions that, where possible, results are to be disaggregated by sex. Where this disaggregation has not been provided, it is either because this was not relevant for the indicator in question (e.g., GERF 2.2 ‘Agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU support’) or because the data were not available. Due to data availability at intervention level, the sum of sex-disaggregated results may not equal the total results figures. These cases are also present in IPA related results data.

Results by country: When presenting results broken down by country/IPA beneficiary, figures are reported according to the country where the result was achieved. While efforts have been made to capture this detailed level of reporting as far as possible, data were not always available at this level; for example, in the case of multi-country regional interventions where country-level results were not reported (e.g. results are presented under the label ‘Western Balkans regional results’). Where the

[138] Methodology for this indicator can be found here: https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/sites/default/files/media/2.21_-_ghg_emissions_avoided_10-2019.pdf

[139] Methodology for this indicator can be found here: https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/sites/default/files/media/2.21_-_ghg_emissions_avoided_10-2019.pdf

[140] European Commission’s Staff Working Document (SWD)(2018) 444, ‘A revised EU international cooperation and development results framework, the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New European Consensus on Development’.

[141] The Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance (IPA III) Results Framework

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EU has funded interventions in overseas countries and territories, results achieved are reported at this level. This approach is also taken where indicators measure the number of countries supported in a specific sector.

Quality: The data are subjected to an extensive quality assurance process to ensure that:

• The data sources are reliable;

• The link between the indicators from the monitoring system of the intervention and the indicators from the relative framework is robust; and

• The individuals who have benefited from the same intervention over different years, and/or from different interventions ending and/or ongoing in the same year, are only counted once.

However, given the great variety of data sources used, the data quality may vary.

Joint reporting with EU Trust Fund for Africa interventions: As part of the 2018 revision of the results framework, efforts have been made to harmonise indicator methodologies to enable joint reporting with other monitoring systems. In 2024 the EU Trust Fund for Africa interventions were fully incorporated in OPSYS, and thus now complete reporting against all relevant EU Result Framework indicators.

6.3. Level 3: Reporting on policy mainstreaming as measured by budgetary commitments

Level 3 indicators report on financial flows in 2023 and include all funds managed by the new financing instrument NDICI-Global Europe. Level 3 reporting excludes funds under the previous MFF (2014-2020), i.e., the presentation of payments does not present all payments made in 2023. Given the budgetary cycle, payments were low or zero for NDICI-Global Europe funds.

Some of the Level 3 indicators have associated spending targets, provided in the legal basis to the NDICI-Global Europe (e.g., climate, social inclusion and human development, migration and forced displacement) and a gender target. In some cases, the priority is derived from formal EU policy commitments endorsed by the Council (e.g., Gender Action Plan III) or international commitments made by the EU (e.g., nutrition).

All ten Level 3 indicators from the 2018 EURF have been included in the GERF, with a couple of minor adjustments (i.e., two indicators from the 2018 EURF have been merged, and the methodology to calculate the indicator on human development has been updated). This confirms the stability of the EU commitment to providing support in these areas. Level 3 indicators, similar to those of the GERF, are also part of IPA III RF.

Eight new indicators have been added to monitor spending directed towards digitalisation, reform implementation, migration-related interventions, crisis-response, education, disability inclusion, inequality reduction and social reform.

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6.5. Latest results

Please find below results under the following link[142]:

For the previous MFF (2014-2020): a detailed overview of all data (Excel format).

for the current MFF (2021-2027): a detailed overview of all data (Excel format).

Consolidated version of the data of both MFFs (PDF format).

[142] These annexes will be available for download on the International Partnerships website. The link is not active yet, as these documents cannot be uploaded and made publicly available before the adoption of this report. The link will therefore be active in the Publications Office's version (and not in this Interstinstitutional version going through adoption). Until then, these annexes are available in a zip file accompanying the report and its Staff Working Document. To note that some of the results, including efforts to meet the targets, also feature in chapter 3.

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6.6. Results of the implementation of the Gender Action Plan III

Table 4. Progress on the GAP III's institutional and strategic objectives and indicators for the European Union Institutions

Objective and targets of the GAP III (Part I)	Progress in 2024
Objective 1. Increase the number and the funding of new actions **that are gender mainstreamed (OECD Gender Marker 1) and targeted (G2)**	
Target 1: 85% of new actions are gender responsive/targeted (G1+G2) by 2025[143]	On track – In 2024, 82% of new actions are gender-responsive/targeted (89% for DG INTPA, 87% for DG NEAR, 82% for FPI and 77% for other DGs). Over 2021-2024, 79% of actions are gender responsive/targeted (90% for DG INTPA, 85% for DG NEAR, 64% for FPI and 69% for other DGs). For NDICI-Global Europe, between 2021 and 2024, the share of G1 and G2 actions reached 84%, and of those, 4% are marked as G2.
Target 2: 100% of new actions not targeting gender equality (G0) justified over 2021-2025	In progress – 50% of new actions marked G0 were correctly justified in 2024[144].
Target 3: At least two rapid response actions or peace and stability themed actions per year	Target achieved – 75% of new rapid response actions (43 out of 57) were gender mainstreamed in 2024. Cumulative data for 2021-2024 show that 79% (166 out of 211) of rapid response actions approved are gender mainstreamed.
Target 5: At least one gender-targeted action (G2 action) per country allocation over 2021-2025	In progress – At the end of 2024, 52 countries have at least one G2 action. 20 new G2 actions were committed in 2024 at country level. A total number of 58 G2 country-level actions have been adopted since 2021.
Target 6: At least one gender-targeted action (G2) per regional allocation over 2021–2025	Target achieved – six out of six regions (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin Americas and Caribbean, Eastern Partnership, Western Balkans and Türkiye, and Southern Neighbourhood) have at least one action with gender equality as a principal objective (G2). A total of 16 regional G2 actions have been adopted in 2021-24.
Target 7: Increase amount of funding in support of gender equality and women's empowerment actions (G1 and G2)	In progress – In 2024, the commitments in support of gender equality and women's empowerment (i.e. marked G1 or G2) amounted to 11.823 billion EUR, which is 85.3% of total committed amounts. The cumulative volume of commitments in support of gender equality and women's empowerment, adopted in the period 2021-2024, amounts to EUR 47.695 billion, corresponding to 81.8% of total commitments under NDICI, IPA III and CFSP in that period.
Target 8: Increase amount of funding directed towards women's rights organisations and movements (WROs)	In progress – In 2024, the volume of commitments for funding to women's rights organisations and movements amounted to EUR 48 million, bringing the volume of commitments adopted in 2021-24 to EUR 244 million.
Target 9: Number of new EU-funded humanitarian programmes marked 1 or marked 2 by the DG ECHO Gender-Age Marker	In progress – 86.4% of projects with a start date in 2024 have been marked as 1 or 2 by the DG ECHO gender and age marker[145].

[143] Data cover all new actions under the MFF 21-27 for NDICI-Global Europe, CSFP and IPA III.
[144] Data calculated on a sample of actions from DG INTPA, as done for 2021, 2022 and 2023.

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Objective and targets of the GAP III (Part I)	Progress in 2024
Target: In 2024 (for 2021 start date projects): 95%	
Objective 2. Gender perspective is mainstreamed in all actions under the investment framework Target: 85% of all blending operations and guarantees are gender responsive/targeted (G1/G2) by 2025	In progress – In 2024, 66% of blending operations (80 in total) and 69% of guarantees (13 in total) were gender responsive/targeted. The corresponding figures for DG INTPA are 74% (46 in total) and 67% (6 in total), and for DG NEAR 56% (34 in total) and 71% (7 in total). Cumulative data for 2021-2024 show that 63% of blending operations and 59% of guarantees were marked G1 or G2.
Objective 3. Gender Responsive Budgeting is promoted Target: At least 20% of new actions supporting public finance management (PFM) reforms include a gender budgeting component	Target achieved – Since 2021, 63% of actions supporting PFM reforms include a gender budgeting component (65% for DG INTPA and 57% for DG NEAR).
Objective 4. Gender specific and/or sex-disaggregated indicators are systematically used Target: 85% of new actions by 2025 have at least the latest progress data entry sex-disaggregated or gender-specific, as mandated by the indicator formulation	In progress – Of the interventions financed under NDICI-Global Europe that are monitoring gender-specific indicators and have already started reporting, 53% have reported sufficient data for the gender-specific indicators[146].
Objective 5. GAP III implementation is informed by sound gender profile and framed in 'country-level implementation plans' (CLIPs)	
Target 1: One 'country-level implementation plan' agreed per country and transmitted to headquarters (HQ)	On track – 96% of the EU Delegations have a CLIP. 130 out of the 136 countries[147].
Target 2: One gender analysis per priority sector in all countries	In progress – 86% of the EU Delegations have conducted at least one gender sector analysis. 54 % of them have gender sector analyses for all their priority sectors.
Objective 6. Gender perspective is integrated in 'Working Better Together' approaches and in broader coordination Target: 85% of new joint programming documents over 2021-2025 reference and integrate the priorities of GAP III	Target achieved – Since 2021, 87% of all EU actions contributing to Team Europe Initiatives are gender mainstreamed.
Objective 7. Political, security and sectoral policy dialogues integrate a gender perspective	
Target 1: All EU Delegations are engaged in at least one high-level dialogue on gender equality and women's empowerment with institutional actors per year per country	In progress – 78% of EU Delegations have reported having held at least one high-level dialogue on gender equality and women's empowerment with the partner country's government in 2024.
Target 2: All EU Delegations are engaged in dialogue	In progress – 80% of EU Delegations held a high-level dialogue

[145] From 2024 onwards ECHO presents the results on the analysis of the gender and age markers of the projects starting in the given year. Previous annual reporting data was taken from the Gender-Age Marker Assessment Report (2018-2021).

[146] Calculation based on a 'gender data score', which reflects the percentage of gender-mainstreamed interventions, which report results and provide sufficient data on gender-specific indicators.

[147] For the purpose of this indicator, only ODA recipient countries have been considered.

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Objective and targets of the GAP III (Part I)	Progress in 2024
on gender equality and women's empowerment with civil society at least once per country per year over 2021- 2025	on gender equality and women's empowerment with civil society, including women's and girls' organisations in 2024.
Target 3: At least one dialogue per year with civil society on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) policy per (relevant) partner country	Target achieved – 78% of EU Delegations consulted and/or involved civil society organisations in dialogues on WPS in 2024.
Objective 8. All EU actions implemented at regional level are gender mainstreamed	
Target 1: a regional/multi-country gender profile conducted or updated in at least four regions by end 2022	Target not achieved – By 2024, three sub-regions have conducted a regional gender profile: East Asia (has one for ASEAN counties, the Pacific Islands have one gender profile and three sector gender profiles), Eastern Partnership, and Southern Neighbourhood.
Target 2: At least three regions have identified priorities to implement GAP III by end 2022	Target achieved – Five of the six regions have established regional /sub-regional priorities: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin American and Caribbean, Eastern Partnership, and the Southern Neighbourhood.
Objective 9. The EU takes on a coordinated leadership on gender equality and women's empowerment in international meetings (UN, AU, NATO, ASEAN, OSCE, G7, G20, etc.)	
Target 1: At least two joint EU positions for key gender international/regional events and negotiations per year	Target achieved – The EEAS reported at least 26 positions. Among the reported joint positions eight for the 68th Session of the Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 13 positions and annotated agenda items on women's rights and gender equality in EU dialogues with Enlargement and Central Asian countries, and at least in three occasions at the Human Rights Council meetings.
Target 2: Statements and commitments made by EU officials on gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) and Women, Peace and Security (WPS)	Target achieved – The EEAS reported 37 statements and 4 commitments on GEWE and WPS, including statements and commitment in the: UNGA, UNSC, HRC, G7, G20, OSCE, etc. 70% of EU Delegations reported that their Head of Delegation made at least one statement or commitment on GEWE and WPS in 2024.
Target 3: EU and its Member States' bilateral and regional dialogues that include WPS-related priorities and commitments	Target achieved – The EEAS reported 42 bilateral, 5 regional and 2 multilateral dialogues that included WPS-related priorities and commitments in 2023. Topics: access to justice, equal participation or GBV among others. 79% of EU Delegations were engaged in bilateral or regional dialogues on WPS-related priorities and commitments
Target 4: EU bilateral and multilateral/regional agreements and/or joint activities and programmes on WPS, gender equality and women's empowerment with partners inter alia UN, AU, NATO, CoE, OSCE, G7, G20 and ASEAN	Target achieved – The EEAS reported 21 agreements, activities or programmes. Including 13 with the UN and 6 with the Union for the Mediterranean.
Target 5: EU commitments/ engagements with the humanitarian initiative 'Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies' and new Road Map 2021-2024	Target achieved – The EU participated to the relevant events and reported on its eight commitments.
Objective 10. Gender-responsive leadership	

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Objective and targets of the GAP III (Part I)	Progress in 2024
enhanced	
Target 1: 50% of women in senior and middle management positions in COM and EEAS services, EU Delegations, CSDP missions and operations	In progress – By the end of 2024, 48% of senior managers in the Commission, 44% in the EEAS HQ, and 31% in EU delegations are women. For middle management, the figures were 49% for Commission, 39% in EEAS HQ and 39% in EU Delegations. In addition, 24% of management positions in CSDP missions and operations were held by women.
Target 2: The minimum of 33% proportion of women mediators, negotiators and technical experts present in formal as well as informal peace processes where the EU and its MS are engaged, with specific mention of those in high-level and leadership positions	Target achieved – In 2024, EEAS pool of mediators is gender-balanced: 52% are women (12 over 23 positions are filled by women). EU Special Representatives: 27% are women (three over 11 persons). They are acting in the Horn of Africa, the Caucasus and a Special Representative for Human Rights.
Target 3: Gender balanced personnel in EU Election observation missions	Target achieved – 51% of the observers who were deployed in 2024 were women. In 2024, all four Chiefs of Mission were women.
Target 4: 50% women appointed as Deputy Chief Observer within EU election observation missions	Target achieved – 100% of the chief of mission appointed in 2024 were women.
Target 5: 100% of management trained on gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) and on GAP III	In progress – 42% of managers in HQs have been trained on GEWE and GAPIII. 51% of the EU Delegations have reported that their management has received training.
Target 6: 100% of men and women staff at all levels, a) EU HQ b) diplomatic staff, c) civilian staff and d) military staff, participating in CSDP missions and operations that are trained on WPS (WPS Ind. 4)	In progress – In progress. In 2024, 100% of the staff from CSDP Civilian Missions, 77% of the staff in CSDP Military Missions and 85% the staff in CSDP Military Operations have been trained in WPS[148].
Target 7: 100% of staff trained on conduct and discipline that includes content related to SEA and harassment including SH, among a) EU HQ b) diplomatic staff, c) civilian staff and d) military staff participating in CSDP missions and operations (WPS Ind. 5)	In progress – 100% of staff in CSDP civilian missions, 77% in military missions, 7% in military operations, and 11% at the EEAS Headquarters received training on conduct and discipline, which included content on SEA as well as harassment, including SH.
Objective 11. Gender Advisors, Focal Persons/Points support for the integration of a gender perspective in EU policies, interventions, and dialogues	
Target 1: All EU Delegations and headquarters external services have a gender focal person (GFP)	In progress – 86% of services have a GFP (78% in HQ and 94% of EU Delegations). There are 416 GFPs in total (269 in HQ and 143 in EU Delegations).
Target 2: Those gender focal persons have corresponding tasks in their job description	In progress – 57% of GPFs have the tasks in their job description (58% in HQ and 55% in EU Delegations).

[148] To be noted that data on CSDP Military Missions and Operations is only presented for those services that have done the reporting.

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7. Budget Support Annexes

The following tables and charts present the financial and geographic distribution of the EU budget support portfolio at the end of 2024, of budget support payments made in 2024 and of main features of ongoing budget support contracts. These figures include OCTs, which are non-ODA eligible countries.

Table 5. EU budget support portfolio at the end of 2024 per region

	Number of countries	Number of budget support contracts	Type of budget support contracts (number)			Budget support total open commitments at the end of 2024 (in million EUR)		Share of budget support portfolio at the end of 2024	Total disbursed in 2024 (in million EUR)
						Total ongoing	of which new commitments in 2024		
			SDG-C	SRBC	SRPC				
Asia	11	22	0	0	22	**1 484.9**	17.0	**14.0%**	**179.8**
Caribbean	5	8	0	1	7	**222.8**	8.8	**2.1%**	**4.1**
Central Africa	2	2	0	0	2	**50.3**	44.0	**0.5%**	**11.7**
Eastern Africa	6	14	0	1	13	**941.5**	0	**8.9%**	**78.7**
Eastern neighbourhood	4	17	0	6	11	**1 656.1**	64.0	**15.6%**	**220.0**
Latin America	5	12	0	0	12	**289.6**	0	**2.7%**	**34.7**
Overseas countries and territories (OCTs)	10	12	0	0	12	**291.5**	20.4	**2.8%**	**54.8**
Pacific	9	14	0	2	12	**208.3**	30.8	**2.0%**	**7.7**
Southern Africa	5	10	0	2	8	**292.5**	55.0	**2.8%**	**80.5**
Southern neighbourhood	3	41	0	6	35	**2 958.0**	257.0	**27.9%**	**418.8**
West Africa	13	21	4	12	5	**1 271.0**	163.0	**12.0%**	**98.1**
Western Balkans	6	20	0	7	13	**919.8**	58.0	**8.7%**	**40.0**
All regions	**79**	**193**	**4**	**37**	**152**	**10 586.4**	**718.0**	**100%**	**1 228.9**

Sustainable Development Goals Contracts (SDG-C) comprise EUR 201.7 million (2%), State and Resilience Building Contracts (SRBC) EUR 3 655.3 million (34%) and Sector Reform Performance Contracts (SPRC) EUR 6 729.4 million (64%), respectively.

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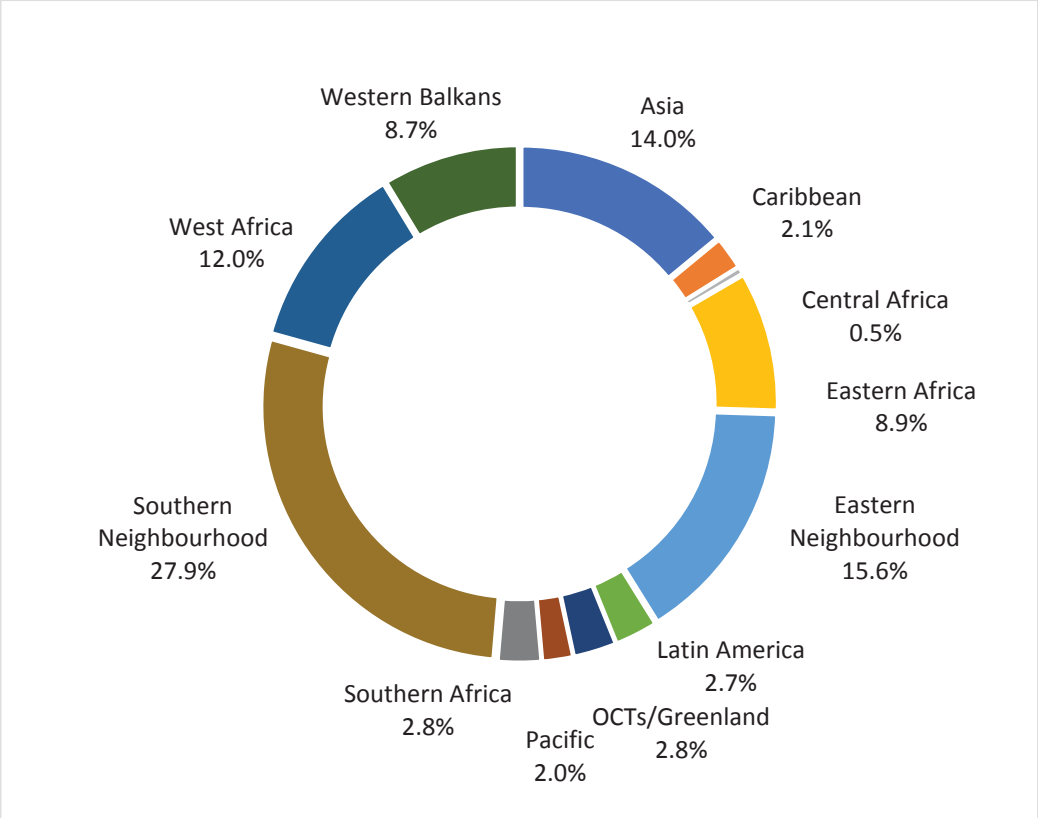
Table 6. Countries and OCTs with EU budget support contracts

Countries and OCTs with EU budget support contracts*		
Asia (11) • Bangladesh • Bhutan • Cambodia • Kyrgyzstan • Laos • Mongolia • Myanmar • Nepal • Tajikistan • Uzbekistan • Vietnam	**Eastern Neighbourhood (4)** • Armenia • Georgia • Moldova • Ukraine	**Southern Africa (5)** • Angola • Malawi • Namibia • South Africa • Zambia
Caribbean (5) • Barbados • Dominican Republic • Haiti • Jamaica • Saint Lucia	**Latin America (5)** • Bolivia • Colombia • Guyana • Honduras • Paraguay	**Southern Neighbourhood (3)** • Jordan • Morocco • Tunisia
Central Africa (2) • Cameroon • Sao Tome and Principe	**OCT (10)** • Aruba • Bonaire • French Polynesia • Greenland • New Caledonia • Saba • Sint Eustatius • St Barthélemy • St Pierre et Miquelon • Wallis et Futuna	**West Africa (13)** • Benin • Cabo Verde • Chad • Côte d'Ivoire • Gambia • Guinea • Liberia • Mali • Mauritania • Niger • Senegal • Sierra Leone • Togo
Eastern Africa (6) • Ethiopia • Kenya • Rwanda • Somalia • Tanzania • Uganda	**Pacific (9)** • Fiji • Kiribati • Papua New Guinea • Samoa • Solomon Islands • Timor-Leste • Tonga • Tuvalu • Vanuatu	**Western Balkans (6)** • Albania • Bosnia and Herzegovina • Kosovo • Montenegro • North Macedonia • Serbia

Figure 12. Distribution of the EU budget support portfolio by region in 2024



* This list includes countries, where budget support operations were on hold in 2023 due to political reasons and/or failure to meet eligibility criteria.

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Figure 13. Average size of budget support portfolio per country in each region in EUR

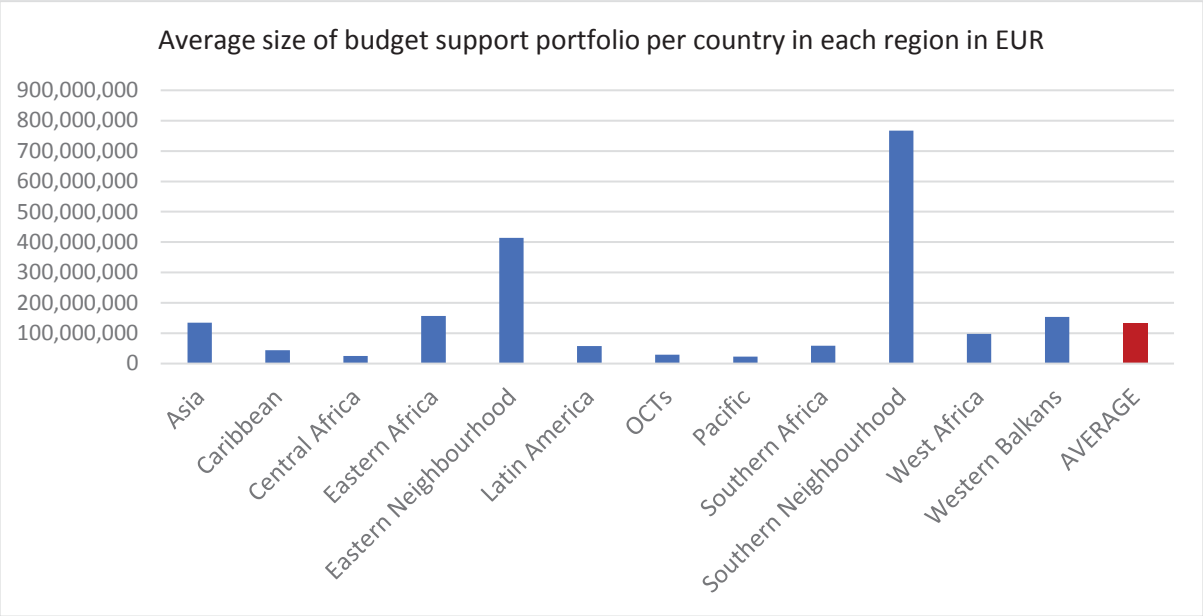
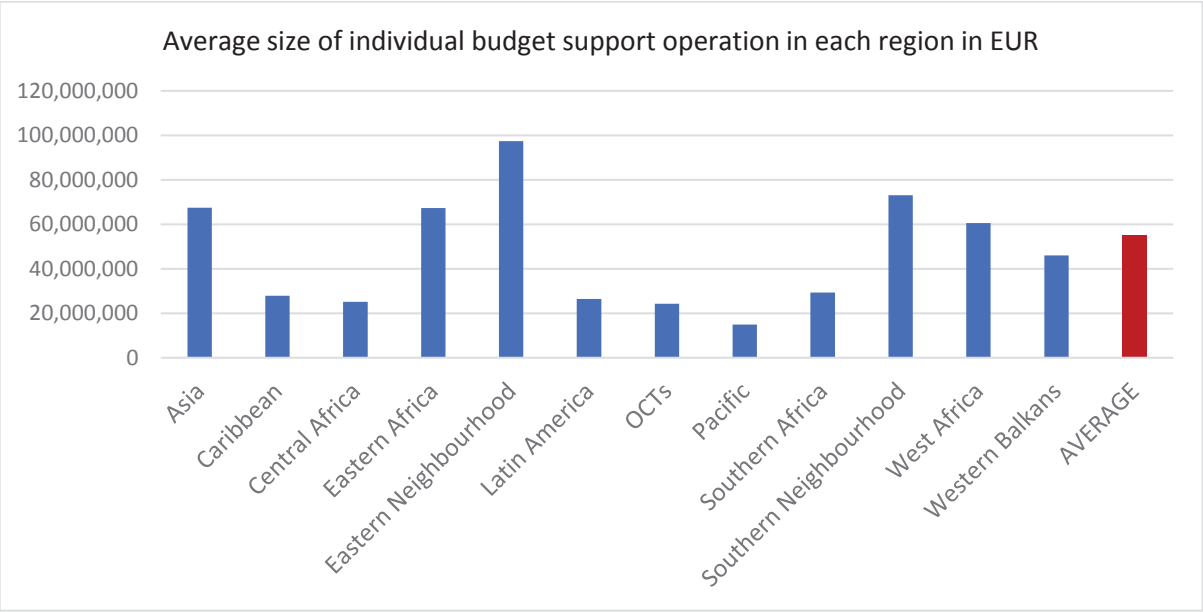


Figure 14. Average size of individual budget support operation in each region in EUR



Interpretation: the first chart above (Figure 13) depicts – region by region – the average budget support portfolio per country (consisting of one or more operations). The average over all regions is EUR 134 million. The second chart (Figure 14) provides the average size of an individual budget support operation – region by region. The overall average is EUR 55 million.

Figure 15. Budget support disbursements from 2021 to 2024 (in million EUR)

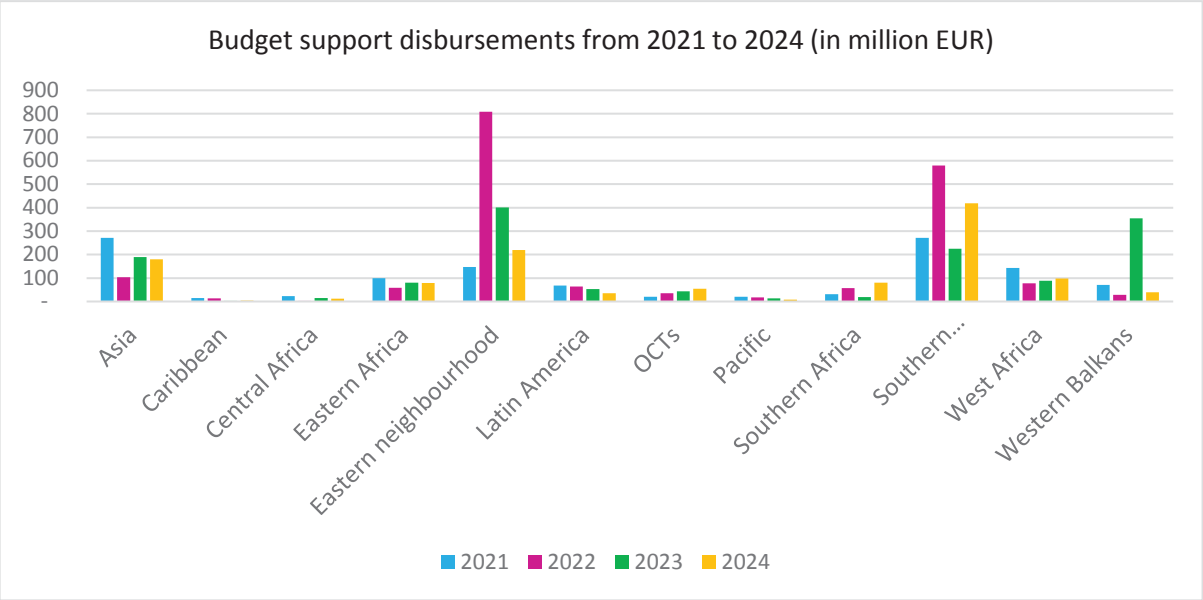
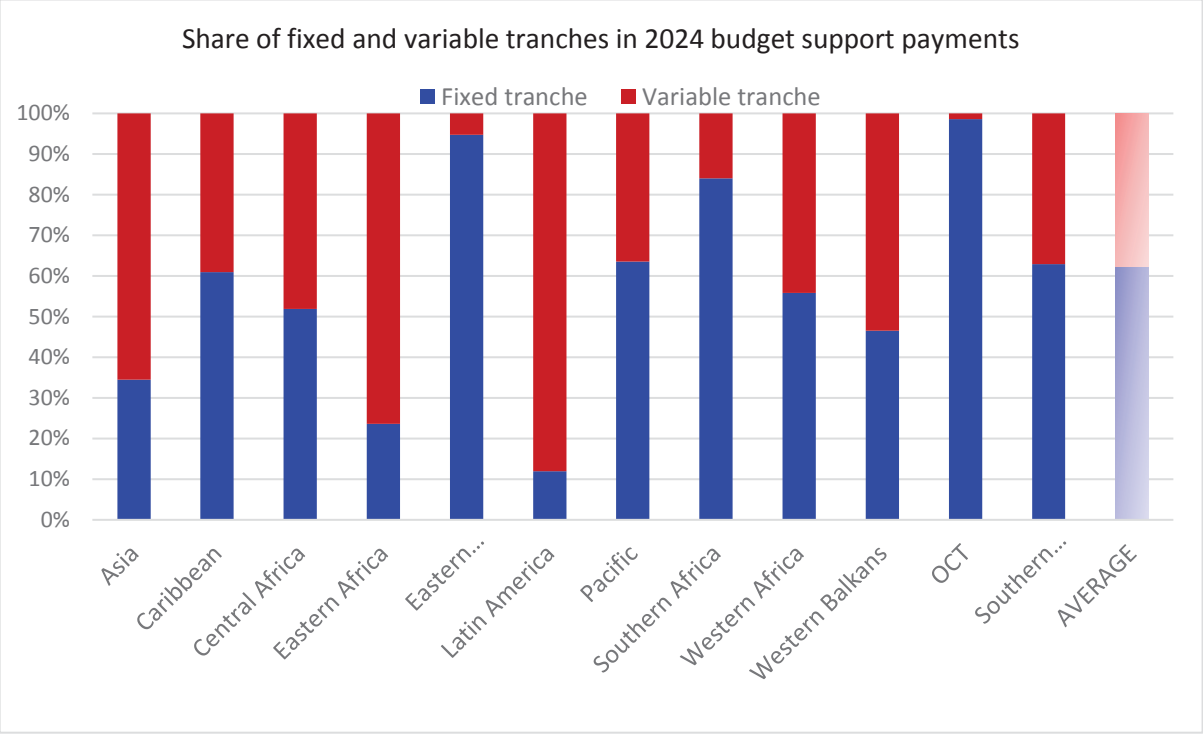


Figure 16. Share of fixed and variable tranches in 2024 budget support payments

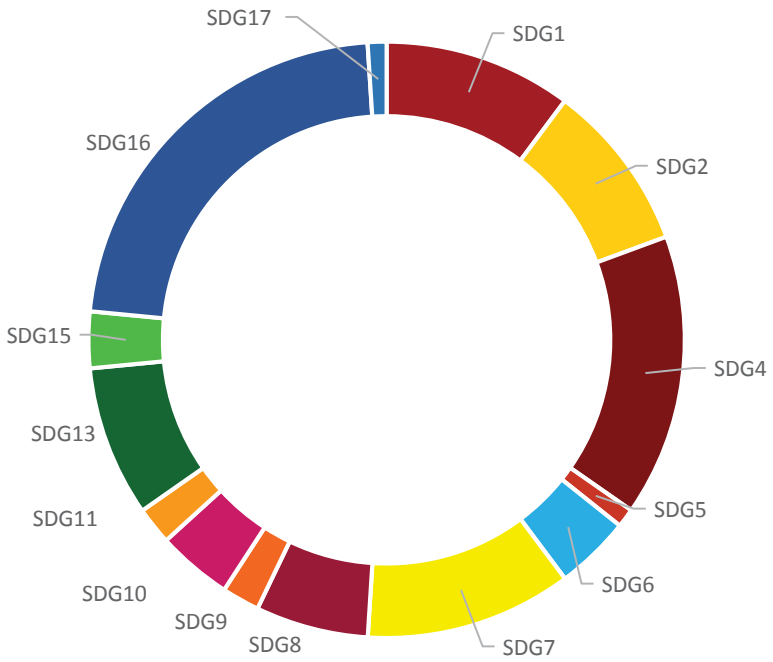


The chart above (Figure 16) provides the share of fixed and variable tranches in actual payments, respectively 62.3% and 37.7% on average. These shares vary widely between regions. DG INTPA regions had an average variable share of 50.1% and DG NEAR regions of 27.7%. As variable tranches are not necessarily paid in full, their share by design is relatively higher in the original disbursement profile of operations. They account on average for 41.2% of the disbursement profile in the financing agreements under consideration (DG INTPA 53.3%; DG NEAR 31.1%).

Figures 17 & 18. Main SDG for all new budget support operations approved under the current multiannual financial framework (for the years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024)

All budget support operations can contribute up to 10 SDGs with one SDG being selected as 'principal' target. The chart below depicts the principal focus of operations only and therefore not their full coverage of SDGs as such.

SDG1 No poverty	10,20%
SDG2 Zero Hunger	9,18%
SDG3 Good health and well being	
SDG4 Quality education	15,31%
SDG5 Gender equality, women and girl empowerment	1,02%
SDG6 Clean water and sanitation	4,08%
SDG7 Affordable and clean energy	11,22%
SDG8 Economic growth, employment and decent work	6,12%
SDG9 Infrastructure, industralisation and innovation	2,04%
SDG10 Reduced inequalities	4,08%
SDG11 Sustainable cities and communities	2,04%
SDG12 Responsible consumption and production	
SDG13 Climate action	8,18%
SDG14 Life below water	
SDG15 Life on land	3,06%
SDG16 Peaceful and inclusive societies, justice, strong institutions	22,45%
SDG17 Global Partnership	1,02%



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8. Financial Annexes

8.1. EU external assistance in 2024

8.1.1. Introduction to financial tables

General concepts and standards

The tables and graphs in these financial annexes present the main data on the EU's International Partnerships (including development assistance) in 2024 by country, region, sector and instrument. These activities are mainly funded by Heading VI – 'Neighbourhood and the World' of the general budget of the European Union, as well as the Ukraine Facility, established in 2024 as an Special Instrument outsidde the MFF ceilings.

The legal and financial basis of the EU's International Partnerships under the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) is composed of several instruments. The main one is the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI-Global Europe). NDICI-Global Europe includes geographical and thematic components previously covered by the European Development Fund (EDF), the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) and the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI). NDICI-Global Europe is entirely funded by the general budget of the EU. Other instruments include Humanitarian Aid, the third Instrument of Pre-Accession (IPA III), the Ukraine Facility, and the Reform and Growth Facility for the Western Balkans. While new commitments in 2024 are only made on new MFF instruments, payments are made on both the new MFF and the previous MFF instruments, as well as the EDF.

Whenever references are made in the following tables to the 'EU budget', this refers to the part of the EU general budget managed by the European Commission, including the co-financing provided by other partners (e.g. Member States, third countries, and international organisations). It does not cover EU Member States' national budgets for development assistance.

The methodology of the financial annexes of the Annual Report is compliant with international standards as defined by OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and in particular:

- The financial tables are done at the two levels of project implementation used by OECD DAC: Commitments and Payments. Commitments are the legal and budgetary reservation of funds for a project to come, as defined by the project description document. Commitments best reflect the provider's intentions as they are usually implemented within the five years following the year they are reported. Payments are the sums disbursed to beneficiaries of contracts within agreed projects. They best reflect what has actually been implemented during the reported year.
- De-commitments (representing partial or total withdrawal of reserved funds for a given project, due to a change of focus, a reduction or a cancellation of the project where the funds can be re-committed later on to another project) are taken into account and reported as negative commitment in the financial annexes. It eliminates the risk of over-reporting commitments and allows for a better overall picture of the implementation of the budget. As a result, there may be discrepancies with other reports produced by other European Commission services.
- The concept of Official Development Assistance (ODA) used throughout the tables and figures is defined by the OECD DAC. Not all EU external assistance can be reported as ODA. Whether a project is classified as ODA depends on the eligibility of the recipient country and the purpose and contents of the project.

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- The definition of 'region' reflects the country groupings used by OECD DAC. It does not always coincide with the country groupings used in the Commission instruments. The granularity level of some of the tables allow for a breakdown by country and instrument for analytical purposes.
- It is worth noting that the level of granularity of commitments is usually lower than the level of granularity of payments.
- The taxonomy of countries and territories of the financial annexes of the Annual Report is compliant with the European Commission's Interinstitutional Style Guide as well as the latest guidelines elaborated by the European Commission's Secretariat General on the subject. In particular:
    - 'Kosovo*' in the tables refers to the following note: *(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence. In tables where the population of Kosovo is mentioned, the figures come from 2023 World Bank statistics as general UN statistics do not include that specific data.*
    - 'Palestine**' in the tables refers to the following note: *(**) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.*
- The grouping of ODA-eligible countries in four groups (Least Developed Countries or LDCs; Other Low-Income Countries or OLICs; Lower Middle-Income Countries or LMICs; Upper Middle-Income Countries or UMICs) is a dimension widely used by OECD DAC and other international organisations. It is based on Gross National Income (GNI) per capita calculations and on human development indexes.
- Activities of global nature targeting all developing countries, or activities targeting recipient countries in more than one continent (e.g. projects targeting North of Africa and Middle East) are classified as 'Developing countries, unspecified'.
- The activity sectors used in the tables are those used by OECD DAC for sectoral ventilation (DAC purpose codes).

There are a number of methodological differences between the presentation of the data in this Annual Report and the OECD DAC statistics, which makes it difficult to compare the two data sets. To give a few examples, on the one hand, co-financing (contributions by EU Member States directly to specific projects) are included in the Annual Report as they are part of the EU's operational portfolio, but not reported to OECD DAC in order to avoid double counting. On the other hand, transactions not funded by the Heading VI such as concessional loans by the European Investment Bank, Macro Financial Assistance loans to the European Neighbourhood and loans under the Ukraine Facility are reported to the OECD DAC but aren't included in this report. In 2024, considering the volume of loans to the European Neighbourhood, and in particular to Ukraine, they are included (for information only) in a specific box that is part of Table 1 in this financial annex.

Structure and common elements

The transition to the new MFF in 2021 introduced new instruments and substantially modified the financial structure of EU External Action. To reflect this as well as the evolution of reporting needs, the financial annexes were substantially modified and simplified at the time, while preserving the continuity of the series. This new layout has been used in 2024 as well.

Financial annexes of the 2024 Annual Report are structured in four sections as follows:

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- Tables 1 to 18 are the core of the financial reporting. These tables remain mostly unchanged year after year and ensure the continuity of the statistical series. They present commitments and payments funded by the Heading VI and the Ukraine Facility.
- Tables 19 to 22 are specific to the new MFF 2021-2027 and address specific needs and legal requirements.
- Tables TF1 to TF6 present data on the implementation of the European Union Trust Funds.
- Tables 3 Bis to 7 Bis are part of this report since 2023. They copy tables 3 to 7 in a way that has been specially adapted to be machine-readable for the visually impaired. Their presentation doesn't follow the standard layout of the Annual Report financial tables.

At the top right of each table, a small information box specifies whether the figures in the table are Commitments or Disbursements; whether only Official Development Assistance (ODA) figures or non-ODA figures are included (Yes or No, depending); which of the EDF, the INTPA (Directorate-General for International Partnerships) budget lines, and the non-INTPA budget lines (including Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations) are included (Yes or No, depending).

To improve readability, all numbers in the tables are presented as rounded up to the nearest EUR million. Negative numbers (e.g. in the case of decommitments) are reported in red color with the minus sign in front. When a table shows the number '0', it means that the exact figure is between EUR 0 and EUR 0.5 million. When a table shows a blank, it means that the exact figure is zero. When a table shows the number '- 0', it means that the exact figure is between EUR – 0.5 million and EUR 0.

A list of abbreviations is also provided in this annex.

8.1.2. Financial tables

Note: All amounts are displayed in EUR millions and computed as current prices.

The Annual Report main financial annex consists of the following tables:

1 – Percentage of EU Budget committed and disbursed on External Action in 2024

This table shows the relative importance of external assistance in the overall expenditure of the EU budget.

Since 2023, it includes an additional information box on loans to neighbourhood countries. The loans as such (except for their provisioning), are not funded by Heading VI of the EU budget so they are not part of this Annual Report in principle, but constitute ODA and are therefore reported to the OECD DAC in 'grant equivalent', the standard DAC reporting method for sovereign sector loans. They are included here for information.

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It should be noted that the amount of the EU Budget committed and disbursed on External Action in 2024 includes an amount of EUR 200.3 million of interest costs subsidised by the EU budget on loans extended to Ukraine in 2022[(149)].

2 – Proportion of External Action used for Official Development Assistance (ODA) in 2024

This table provides a breakdown between ODA and non-ODA by Directorate-General.

3A – General EU budget for External Action in 2024 by DG and instrument – Commitments

3B – General EU budget for External Action in 2024 by DG and instrument – Disbursements

These tables provide detailed breakdowns of the commitments and payments funded by the EU Budget by managing DG, instrument and source of funding (regular own resources contributions from Member States or co-financing).

4 – European Development Fund (EDF) in 2024 – Disbursements

This table presents a breakdown of the payments funded by the European Development Fund for 2024. New commitments targeting the geographical area of former EDFs are now made under NDICI-Global Europe and are part of the EU budget shown on table 3A above.

5A – Sectoral breakdown of ODA managed by the European Commission in 2024 - Commitments

5B – Sectoral breakdown of ODA managed by the European Commission in 2024 – Disbursements

6A – Country breakdown of European Commission development assistance in 2024 – Commitments

6B – Country breakdown of European Commission development assistance in 2024 – Disbursements

7 – Distribution of ODA by OECD Sector and Country Grouping in 2024

It should be noted that the category “Other” covers both, regional activities, as well as activities targeting developing countries in general.

8A – ODA Recipient Country by main OECD sector in 2024 – Commitments

8B – ODA Recipient Country by main OECD sector in 2024 – Disbursements

These tables combine a ventilation of ODA by sector and by country and includes a calculation of ODA *per capita*.

It should be noted that the category “Developing countries Unallocated” covers both, regional activities, as well as activities targeting developing countries in general.

9A – INTPA in 2024: A closer look. Sectoral breakdown per region – Commitments

9B – INTPA in 2024: A closer look. Sectoral breakdown per region – Disbursements

10A – Budget Non-INTPA in 2024: A closer look. Sectoral breakdown per region – Commitments

10B – Budget Non-INTPA in 2024: A closer look. Sectoral breakdown per region – Disbursements

[149] EUR 195.3 million for Macro Financial Assistance Loans extended in 2022, and EUR 5 million for loans under the MFA+ instrument.

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11A – Sectoral breakdown per instrument in 2024 – Commitments

11B – Sectoral breakdown per instrument in 2024 – Disbursements

12A – Breakdown by country and instrument for 2024 – Commitments

12B – Breakdown by country and instrument for 2024 – Disbursements

These tables provide a complete detailed breakdown of EU external assistance. They include ODA eligible countries as well as ineligible countries and territories, non-allocated flows, core funding to multilaterals and administrative costs to give a complete picture.

13A – Breakdown by co-operation modality and by instrument 2024 – Commitments

13B – Breakdown by co-operation modality and by instrument 2024 – Disbursements

Tables 14 to 17 show an evolution over the last five years of some key variables: sources of the external assistance by Directorate General, sectoral breakdown, breakdown by region, income group and aid modality.

14A – Sources of External Action in 2020 – 2024 and breakdown ODA / non-ODA – Commitments

14B – Sources of External Action in 2020 - 2024 and breakdown ODA / non-ODA – Disbursements

15 – Sectoral breakdown of Official Development Assistance (ODA) for 2020 – 2024

16A – Regional distribution of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries for 2020 – 2024

16B – Regional distribution of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries for 2020 – 2024

17 – Breakdown by co-operation modality for 2020 – 2024

18 – ODA by instrument for 2021 – 2027

This table (newly introduced in 2021) provides a history of commitments and disbursements under the new MFF broken down by instrument.

19 – Breakdown by Management Type - Disbursements in 2024

This table addresses requests by the Council of the European Union[150] and shows 2024 payments by type of implementation partners in both direct and indirect management, as referenced in the Financial Regulation[151].

Detailed lists of contracts signed with international organisations or development agencies in indirect management are available in the Annual Activity Reports (annex 6) of the Directorate General for International Partnerships (INTPA), the Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (NEAR), and the Directorate General for European Civil Protection and

[150] WK 1423/2020 REV 2.
[151] Financial Regulation Article 62 para 1 point c).

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Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) respectively, at the following link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/annual-activity-reports_en

20 – Disbursements - Breakdown by forms of Union Funding as defined in Articles 41 and 27 NDICI-Global Europe

This table provides a breakdown of 2024 payments by 'forms of union funding' using the new taxonomy defined in Article 27 of the NDICI-Global Europe basic act, as requested by Article 41 of the NDICI-Global Europe basic act[152], for both direct and indirect management modes.

For the sake of clarity, certain forms of EU funding that are not explicitly included in Article 27 NDICI-Global Europe are shown on distinct lines: this is in particular the case for Contribution and Delegation Agreements as well as Programme Estimates.

'Blending' is defined in the context of this table as payments on contracts funded by the European Commission leading to the mobilisation of additional public or private finance for the implementation of projects. Mobilised funds *per se* are not included.

21 – Disbursements related to the previous MFF

This table (added in 2021) provides a detailed breakdown of completion lines (disbursements funded by the previous MFF) by instrument, excluding the EDF covered by table 4 above.

22A – Amount of contributing programmes per SDG for 2024 – Commitments

22B – Amount of contributing programmes per SDG for 2024 – Disbursements

These tables (added in 2021) present the contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2024 for Commitments and Disbursements. Each transaction contributes to one 'main' SDG and up to nine 'significant' SDGs, for a maximum total of 10. As there can be only one 'main' SDG per transaction, there is no double counting of 'main' SDGs, and the total matches the total of transactions. The 'significant' SDGs reflects the transversal nature of SDGs.

Table TF1 to TF6 provide information on the implementation of EU Trust Funds. EU Trust Funds are funding tools that pool together resources from different donors (including the European Commission) in order to enable a quick, flexible, and collective EU response to the different dimensions of a situation requiring urgent response. They are specific instruments with their own accounts and financial management.

As of 2024, four EU Trust Funds are active: TF Africa (fostering stability and assisting a broad group of countries across the African continent), TF Bêkou (addressing the crisis in Central Africa), TF Madad (addressing the consequences of the Syrian crisis) and TF Colombia (in support of Colombia's post-conflict peace building efforts).

The tables TF 1 to TF 6 are shown to provide some information on the financial implementation of the EU Trust Funds in a way that is consistent with international DAC standards.

Annex TF 1 shows the incoming contributions to the Trust Funds, both during previous years and for 2024.

[152] REGULATION (EU) 2021/947 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 9 June 2021 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe.

Annexes TF 2 to TF 6 provide the breakdown of the expenditure realised by the active Trust Funds.

TF 1 Overview of incoming contributions (disbursements from contributors)

TF 2A Overview of committed and disbursed amounts

TF 2B Proportion of Trust Funds assistance used for Official Development Aid (ODA) in 2024

TF 3A Sectoral breakdown of Trust Fund Africa

TF 3B Regional breakdown of Trust Fund Africa

TF 4 Sectoral breakdown of Trust Fund Bêkou

TF 5 Sectoral breakdown of Trust Fund Colombia

TF 6 Sectoral breakdown of Trust Fund Madad

Tables 3A Bis to 7 Bis duplicate tables 3A to 7 in a way that has been specially adapted to be machine-readable for the visually impaired, in compliance with EC publication requirements.

3A - BIS General EU budget for External Action in 2024 by DG and instrument– Commitments

3B - BIS General EU budget for External Action in 2024 by DG and instrument– Disbursements

4 - BIS European Development Fund (EDF) in 2024 – Disbursements

5A - BIS Sectoral breakdown of ODA managed by the European Commission in 2024 – Commitments

5B - BIS Sectoral breakdown of ODA managed by the European Commission in 2024 – Disbursements

7 - BIS Distribution of ODA by OECD Sector and Country Grouping in 2024

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Commitments Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

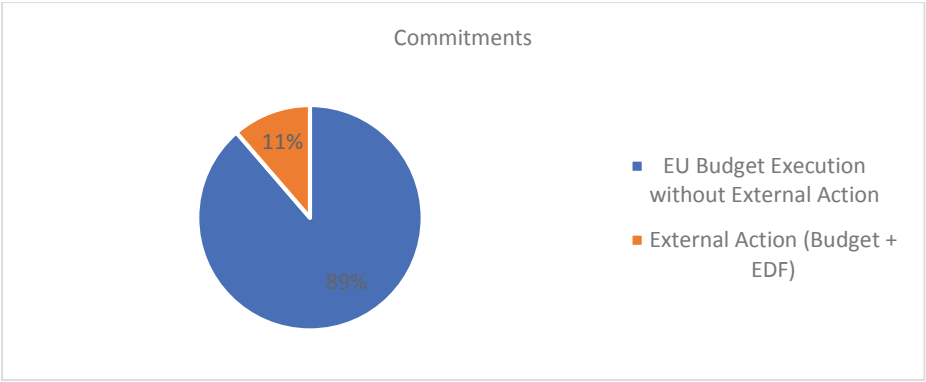
Table 1: Percentage of EU Budget committed and disbursed on External Action in 2024

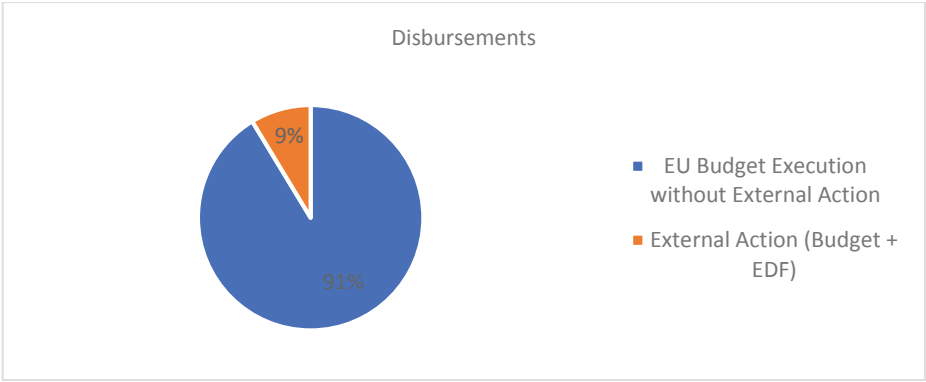
EU Budget Committed and Disbursed on External Action	Commitments	Disbursements
EU Budget Execution without External Action	184.829	222.088
External Action (Budget + EDF)	23.618	21.081
EU Budget + EDF	**208.447**	**243.169**

Memo item for Macro Financial Assistance (MFA) Loans.

2024 EC MFA Loans	Commitments	Disbursements	Grant Equivalent	Loan Programme
Egypt	1.000	1.000	401	Macro Financial Assistance
Moldova	95	95	24	Macro Financial Assistance
Macedonia	50	50	12	Macro Financial Assistance
Ukraine	13.112	13.112	5.153	Ukraine Facility

Graphs Table 1





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Commitments Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 2: Proportion of External Action used for Official Development Assistance (ODA) in 2024

Commitments (in EUR millions)

EU Budget	ODA	Non-ODA	Total
DG INTPA Budget	7.198	116	7.315
DG NEAR Budget	10.270	39	10.308
Other DGs Budget	5.813	184	5.997
EDF	-2		-2
Total	**23.279**	**339**	**23.618**

Disbursements (in EUR millions)

EU Budget	ODA	Non-ODA	Total
DG INTPA Budget	4.949	99	5.047
DG NEAR Budget	8.817	67	8.885
Other DGs Budget	5.407	337	5.744
EDF	1.294	111	1.405
Total	**20.467**	**614**	**21.081**

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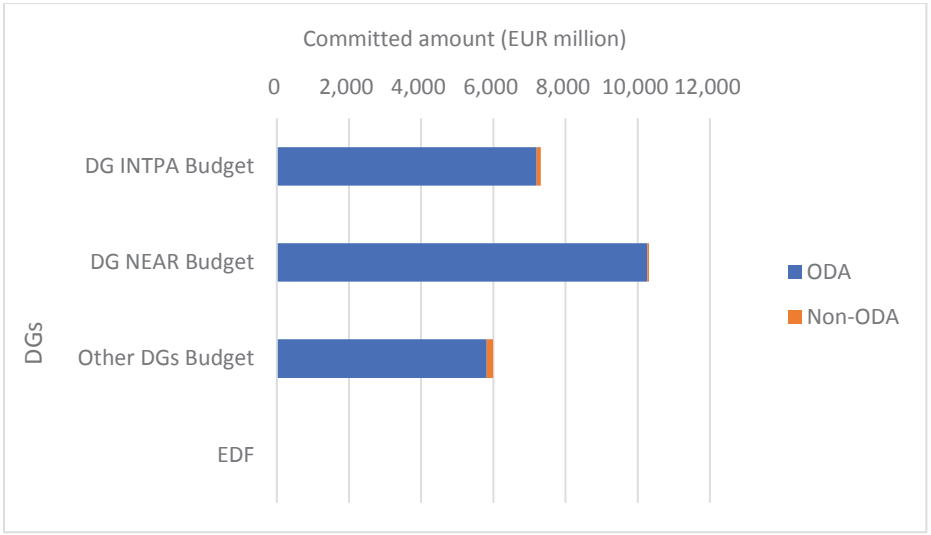
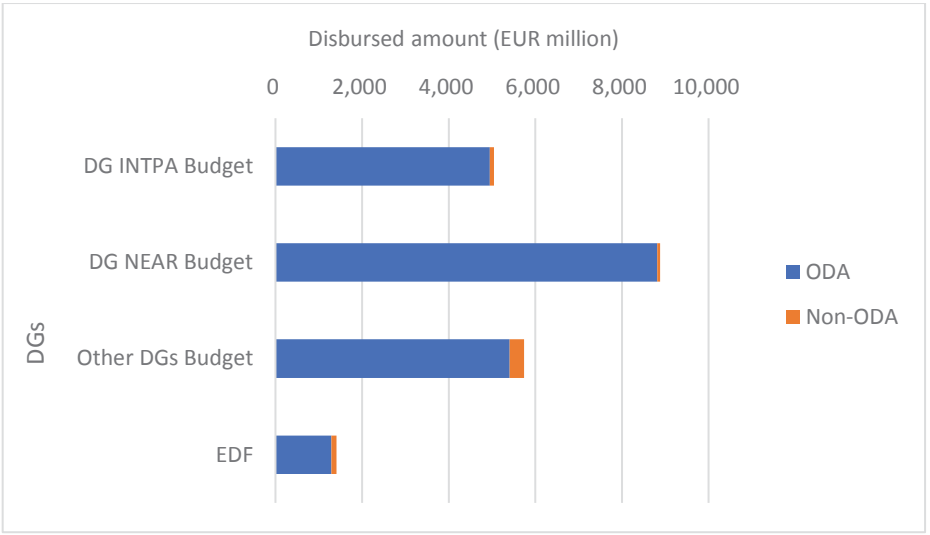
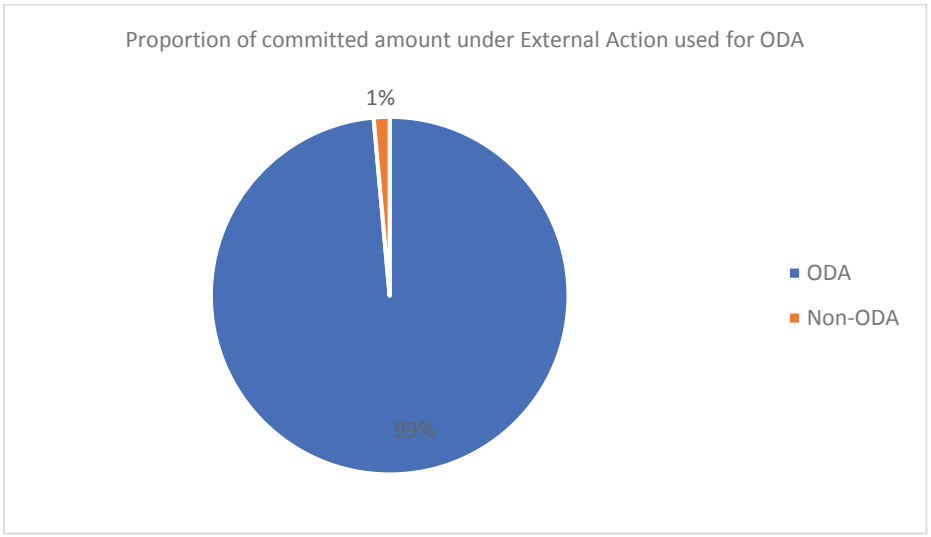
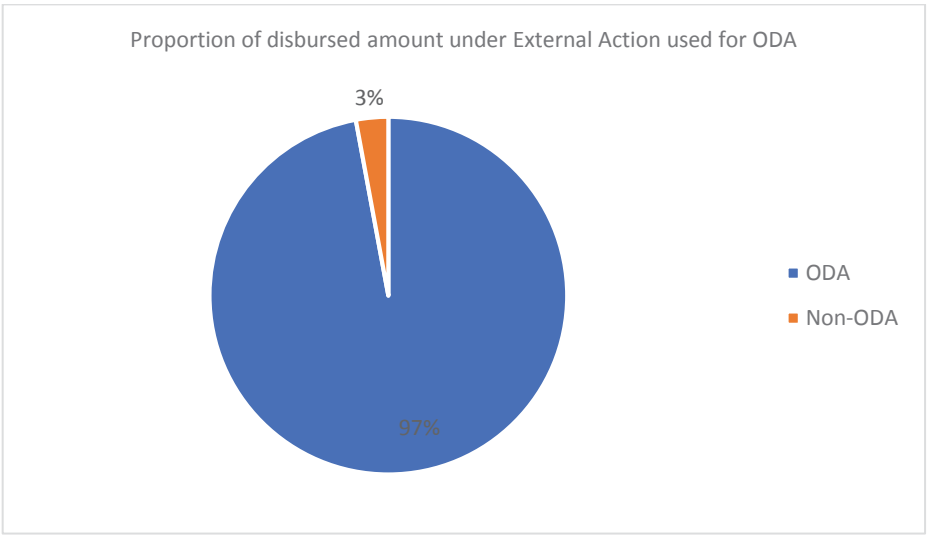
Graphs Table 2









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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 3A: General EU budget for External Action in 2024 by DG and instrument – Commitments (in EUR millions)

	Type of aid	Directorate-Generals	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
Regular Contribution	ODA	INTPA	5.730	766	149			4	0		39	17		23	-2	6.727
		NEAR	2.357	59	804		1.752	4.730	398					11		10.110
		ECHO				2.487								2		2.489
		FPI	2	171	251					314				0		739
		AGRI					158							58		216
		CLIMA		17										1		18
		ECFIN	149				6							57		212
		ENV		11										4		15
		REGIO	110				71							11		193
		Other DGs	371	0			77	4	1		3			11		467
		Commission's administration			319	10	57			1	1	0	620			1.009
		ODA Total	8.720	1.025	1.523	2.498	2.120	4.737	400	315	43	18	620	179	-2	22.196
	Non-ODA	All	94	8	29		0			73		53		72		329
		Commission's administration			4		0			0		1				5
		Non-ODA Total	94	8	32		0			73		54		72		334
Regular Contribution Total			**8.814**	**1.033**	**1.556**	**2.498**	**2.121**	**4.737**	**400**	**389**	**43**	**72**	**620**	**251**	**-2**	**22.530**
Cofinancing	ODA	INTPA	302													302
		NEAR	6					150						1		157
		ECHO				13										13
		Other DGs	11				4							569		584
		Commission's administration			0	0	4			0			23			28
		ODA Total	318		0	14	8	150		0			23	570		1.083
	Non-ODA	All	3		2											5
		Commission's administration			0		0			0						0
		Non-ODA Total	3		2		0			0						5
Cofinancing Total			**322**		**2**	**14**	**8**	**150**		**0**			**23**	**570**		**1.088**
Total			**9.135**	**1.033**	**1.558**	**2.511**	**2.129**	**4.887**	**400**	**389**	**43**	**72**	**643**	**821**	**-2**	**23.618**

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 3B: General EU budget for External Action in 2024 by DG and instrument – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

	Type of aid	Directorate-Generals	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Completion Lines	EDF	Total
Regular Contribution	ODA	INTPA	2.763	818	17		3	1			23	0		28	993	1.287	5.934
		NEAR	2.140	48	333		1.170	3.630						5	1.476		8.802
		ECHO	0			2.413	0							1	1		2.416
		FPI		127	219					315				0	76		737
		AGRI					59								36		95
		CLIMA		7										1	3		11
		ECFIN	279				6							28			313
		ENV		15										4	0		18
		REGIO	79				5								82		165
		Other DGs	231	0			55	3			3			16	33		341
		Commission's administration			329	10	56			1	1	0	621				1.019
		ODA Total	5.492	1.015	898	2.424	1.354	3.634		316	26	0	621	83	2.701	1.287	19.851
	Non-ODA	All	150	27	51	3	23		1	76	0	52		61	45	111	602
		Commission's administration			10	0	1			0	0	1					12
		Non-ODA Total	150	27	61	3	23		1	76	0	54		61	45	111	614
Regular Contribution Total			**5.643**	**1.042**	**959**	**2.427**	**1.377**	**3.634**	**1**	**392**	**26**	**54**	**621**	**144**	**2.746**	**1.399**	**20.464**
Cofinancing	ODA	INTPA	110												15	7	132
		NEAR						3							9		12
		ECHO				14											14
		Other DGs	9				4							416	1		429
		Commission's administration			1	0	5			0			23				29
		ODA Total	119		1	15	9	3		0			23	416	25	7	617
	Non-ODA	All													0		0
		Commission's administration			0	0	0			0							0
		Non-ODA Total			0	0	0			0					0		0
Cofinancing Total			**119**		**1**	**15**	**9**	**3**		**0**			**23**	**416**	**25**	**7**	**617**
Total			**5.761**	**1.042**	**960**	**2.442**	**1.386**	**3.637**	**1**	**393**	**26**	**54**	**643**	**560**	**2.771**	**1.405**	**21.081**

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	No	No
Budget Non INTPA	No	No
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 4: European Development Fund (EDF) in 2024 (in EUR millions)

			ODA	Non-ODA	Total
Cotonou	Regular Contribution	A Envelope	725	5	731
		Regional allocations	289	15	304
		Intra-ACP allocations	248	88	336
		B Envelope	15	0	16
		Implementation costs	10	3	13
	Regular Contribution Total		1.287	111	1.399
	Cofinancing	A Envelope	5		5
		Intra-ACP allocations	1		1
	Cofinancing Total		7		7
Cotonou Total			**1.294**	**111**	**1.405**
Total EDF			**1.294**	**111**	**1.405**

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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 5A: Sectoral breakdown of ODA managed by the European Commission in 2024 – Commitments (in EUR millions)

Sector	DG INTPA Budget	DG NEAR Budget	Other DGs Budget	EDF	Total
Social infrastructure and services	**3.355**	**3.086**	**1.173**		**7.615**
Education	**416**	**318**	**457**		**1.190**
Basic education	111	139	0		251
Education, level unspecified	65	133	234		432
Post-secondary education	40	34	223		296
Secondary education	200	12	0		211
Government and civil society	**1.819**	**1.577**	**712**		**4.108**
Conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security	172	116	642		929
Government and civil society, general	1.648	1.461	70		3.179
Health	**540**	**273**			**814**
Basic health	453	142			596
Health, general	82	121			204
Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)	5	10			14
Other social infrastructure and services	**306**	**613**	**4**		**923**
Other social infrastructure and services	306	613	4		923
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	**57**	**1**			**58**
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	57	1			58
Water and sanitation	**218**	**305**			**522**
Water and sanitation	218	305			522
Economic infrastructure and services	**979**	**1.598**	**25**		**2.602**
Banking and financial services	**98**	**23**	**0**		**121**
Banking and financial services	98	23	0		121
Business and other services	**127**	**101**			**229**
Business and other services	127	101			229
Communications	**195**	**156**	**0**		**351**
Communications	195	156	0		351
Energy	**419**	**339**	**23**		**781**
Energy generation, non-renewable sources	2	1	10		13
Energy generation, renewable sources	202	82	10		294
Energy policy	90	244			334
Heating, cooling and energy distribution	87	11			98
Nuclear energy plants	39		3		41
Transport and storage	**139**	**978**	**2**		**1.120**

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Sector	DG INTPA Budget	DG NEAR Budget	Other DGs Budget	EDF	Total
Transport and storage	139	978	2		1.120
Production sectors	**1.206**	**1.149**	**-43**	**-1**	**2.310**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	**555**	**167**	**-44**	**-1**	**677**
Agriculture	465	146	-44	-1	566
Fishing	43				43
Forestry	46	22			68
Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction	**332**	**953**		**-0**	**1.285**
Industry	289	883		-0	1.173
Mineral resources and mining	43	70			112
Trade and tourism	**319**	**29**	**1**		**348**
Tourism	16	9			25
Trade policy and regulations and trade-related adjustment	303	20	1		323
Multisector/Cross-cutting	**1.064**	**758**	**549**	**-0**	**2.371**
General environmental protection	**449**	**37**	**33**		**519**
General environmental protection	449	37	33		519
Other multisector	**615**	**721**	**516**	**-0**	**1.852**
Other multisector	615	721	516	-0	1.852
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	**316**	**3.328**	**730**		**4.374**
Developmental food assistance	**3**				**3**
Developmental food assistance	3				3
General budget support	**313**	**3.328**	**730**		**4.371**
General budget support	313	3.328	730		4.371
Humanitarian aid	**93**	**342**	**2.499**		**2.934**
Disaster preparedness	**15**	**5**	**80**		**100**
Disaster preparedness	15	5	80		100
Emergency response	**63**	**96**	**2.419**		**2.578**
Emergency response	63	96	2.419		2.578
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	**15**	**241**			**256**
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	15	241			256
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**185**	**7**	**881**		**1.073**
Administrative costs of donors	**172**	**4**	**876**		**1.053**
Administrative costs of donors	172	4	876		1.053
Unallocated / Unspecified	**13**	**3**	**4**		**21**
Unallocated / Unspecified	13	3	4		21
Total	**7.198**	**10.270**	**5.813**	**-2**	**23.279**

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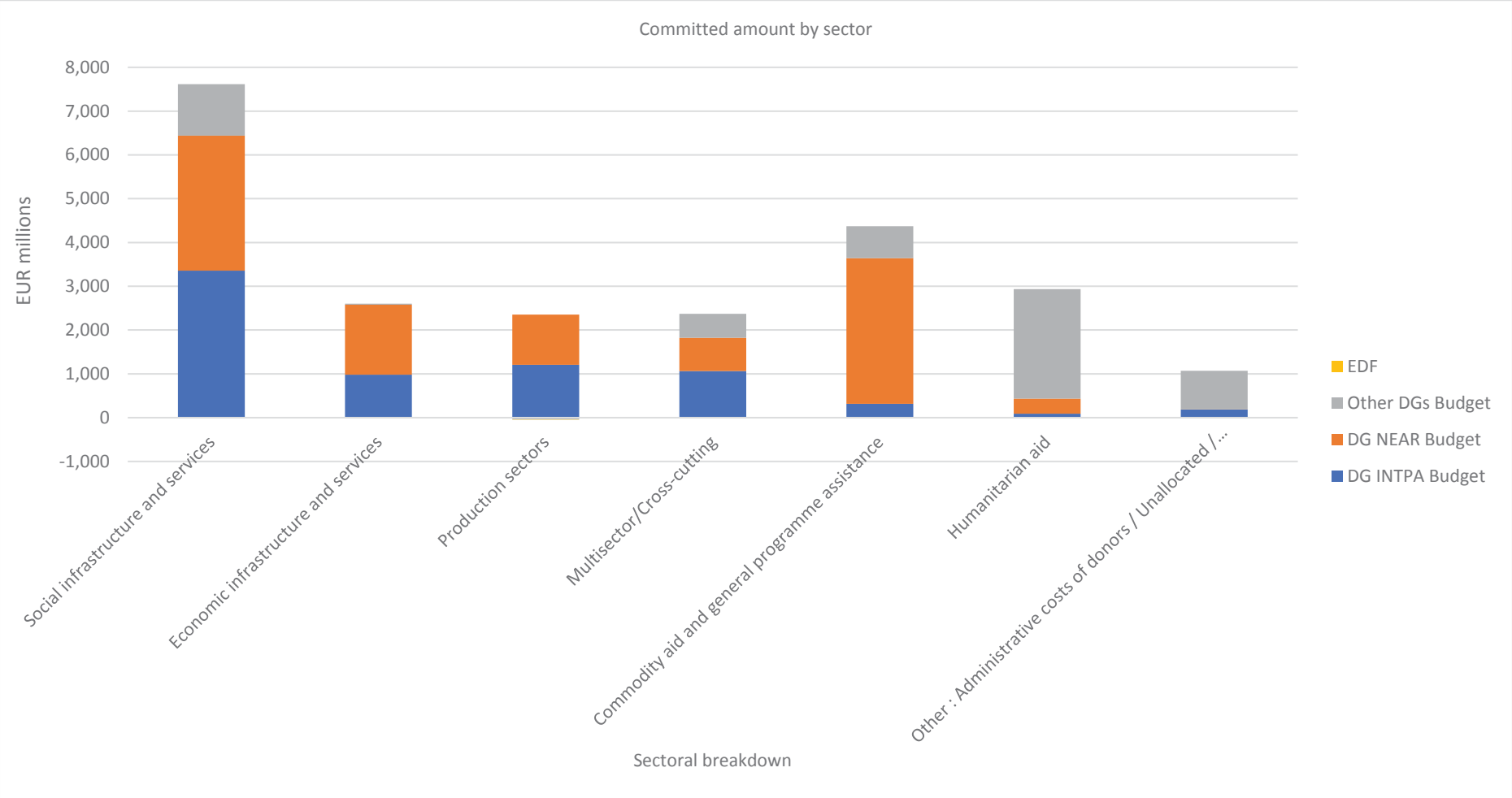
Graphs Table 5A



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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 5B: Sectoral breakdown of ODA managed by the European Commission in 2024 – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Sector	DG INTPA Budget	DG NEAR Budget	Other DGs Budget	EDF	Total
Social infrastructure and services	**2.661**	**2.866**	**1.026**	**362**	**6.915**
Education	**343**	**529**	**323**	**38**	**1.233**
Basic education	95	192	1	3	291
Education, level unspecified	83	174	225	18	499
Post-secondary education	24	40	75	5	144
Secondary education	141	123	22	13	299
Government and civil society	**1.276**	**1.166**	**667**	**155**	**3.265**
Conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security	121	61	607	43	833
Government and civil society, general	1.155	1.105	60	112	2.432
Health	**655**	**262**	**23**	**75**	**1.015**
Basic health	416	186	21	41	664
Health, general	222	70	2	27	321
Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)	17	6	0	7	30
Other social infrastructure and services	**223**	**570**	**10**	**26**	**830**
Other social infrastructure and services	223	570	10	26	830
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	**43**	**1**		**7**	**51**
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	43	1		7	51
Water and sanitation	**121**	**338**	**3**	**59**	**522**
Water and sanitation	121	338	3	59	522
Economic infrastructure and services	**676**	**804**	**39**	**359**	**1.877**
Banking and financial services	**146**	**22**	**1**	**12**	**181**
Banking and financial services	146	22	1	12	181
Business and other services	**65**	**41**	**1**	**33**	**140**
Business and other services	65	41	1	33	140
Communications	**104**	**63**	**5**	**17**	**188**
Communications	104	63	5	17	188
Energy	**334**	**358**	**27**	**165**	**884**
Energy generation, non-renewable sources	2		9		11
Energy generation, renewable sources	198	201	11	51	460
Energy policy	56	129	5	24	214
Heating, cooling and energy distribution	43	28		91	161
Nuclear energy plants	35		3		38
Transport and storage	**25**	**321**	**5**	**133**	**484**

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Sector	DG INTPA Budget	DG NEAR Budget	Other DGs Budget	EDF	Total
Transport and storage	25	321	5	133	484
Production sectors	**532**	**624**	**35**	**266**	**1.457**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	**375**	**115**	**29**	**175**	**694**
Agriculture	295	101	29	150	575
Fishing	18	2		17	37
Forestry	61	12		8	81
Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction	**96**	**474**	**1**	**51**	**622**
Construction	0			0	0
Industry	92	471	0	50	614
Mineral resources and mining	3	3	1	1	8
Trade and tourism	**61**	**35**	**5**	**40**	**141**
Tourism	3	11		3	17
Trade policy and regulations and trade-related adjustment	58	25	5	37	125
Multisector/Cross-cutting	**627**	**540**	**304**	**266**	**1.737**
General environmental protection	**271**	**99**	**79**	**54**	**503**
General environmental protection	271	99	79	54	503
Other multisector	**356**	**441**	**225**	**212**	**1.234**
Other multisector	356	441	225	212	1.234
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	**181**	**3.693**	**734**	**19**	**4.627**
Developmental food assistance	**18**		**0**	**1**	**19**
Developmental food assistance	18		0	1	19
General budget support	**163**	**3.693**	**734**	**18**	**4.608**
General budget support	163	3.693	734	18	4.608
Humanitarian aid	**51**	**278**	**2.387**	**18**	**2.734**
Disaster preparedness	**2**	**0**	**685**	**2**	**689**
Disaster preparedness	2	0	685	2	689
Emergency response	**48**	**181**	**1.702**	**16**	**1.947**
Emergency response	48	181	1.702	16	1.947
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	**1**	**97**	**0**	**0**	**99**
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	1	97	0	0	99
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**220**	**12**	**883**	**4**	**1.120**
Administrative costs of donors	**182**	**5**	**877**	**1**	**1.065**
Administrative costs of donors	182	5	877	1	1.065
Unallocated / Unspecified	**39**	**7**	**7**	**3**	**56**
Unallocated / Unspecified	39	7	7	3	56
Total	**4.949**	**8.817**	**5.407**	**1.294**	**20.467**

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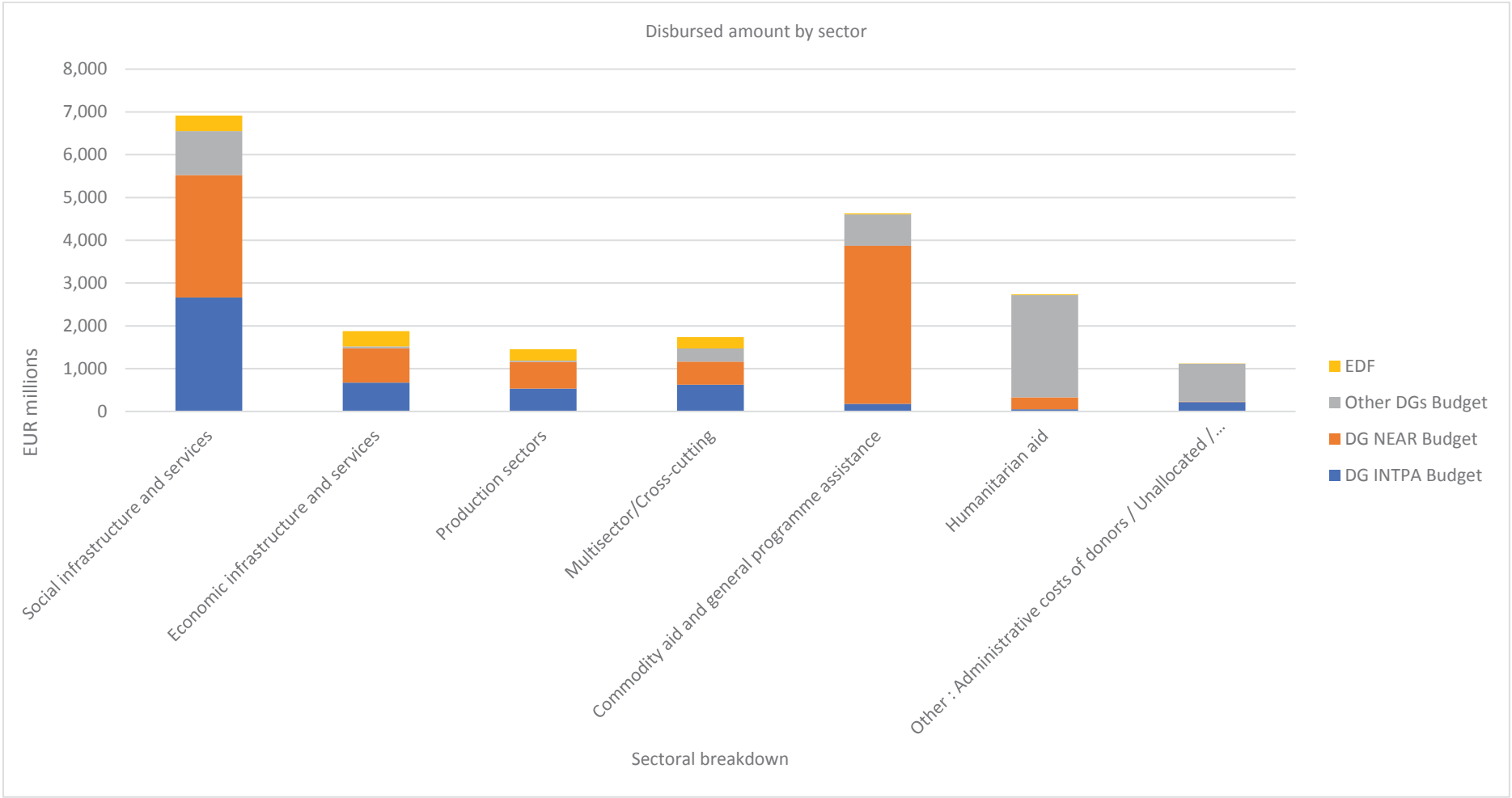
Graphs Table 5B



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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 6A: Country breakdown of European Commission development assistance in 2024 – Commitments (in EUR millions)

Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Part I: Developing Countries and Territories (Official Development Assistance)		7.198	10.270	5.813	-2	23.279
Bilateral		7.196	10.270	5.754	-2	23.218
Africa		4.454	354	1.234	-2	6.041
Africa (North of Sahara)			354	46		400
Algeria	LMICS		45			45
Egypt	LMICS		100	2		102
Libya	UMICS		35	26		61
Morocco	LMICS		181			181
North of Sahara, regional	UNALLOC		53	19		72
Tunisia	LMICS		-60	-1		-61
Africa (South of Sahara)		3.251		1.125	-2	4.374
Angola	LDCS	77				77
Benin	LDCS	44				44
Botswana	UMICS					
Burkina Faso	LDCS	82		6		88
Burundi	LDCS					
Cabo Verde	LMICS					
Cameroon	LMICS	48		4		52
Central African Republic	LDCS	55		13		68
Chad	LDCS	55		12		66
Comoros	LDCS					
Congo	LMICS					
Democratic Republic of the Congo	LDCS	102		12		114
Djibouti	LDCS	1				1
Eastern Africa, regional	UNALLOC	98		529		627
Equatorial Guinea	UMICS					
Eritrea	LDCS					
Eswatini	LMICS					
Ethiopia	LDCS	250		7		257
Gabon	UMICS	-7		3		-4
Gambia	LDCS	40				40
Ghana	LMICS	54				54
Guinea	LDCS	118		3		122

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Guinea-Bissau	LDCS	18				18
Ivory Coast	LMICS	52		5		57
Kenya	LMICS	52				52
Lesotho	LDCS	16		-0		16
Liberia	LDCS	108		-0		108
Madagascar	LDCS	71			-2	69
Malawi	LDCS	93				93
Mali	LDCS	97		28		125
Mauritania	LDCS	100		5		105
Mauritius	UMICS	2				2
Middle Africa, regional	UNALLOC	14		111		125
Mozambique	LDCS	109		0		109
Namibia	UMICS					
Niger	LDCS			-6		-6
Nigeria	LMICS			7	-0	7
Rwanda	LDCS	37				37
Sao Tome and Principe	LDCS					
Senegal	LDCS	1		5		6
Sierra Leone	LDCS	55				55
Somalia	LDCS	28		67		95
South Africa	UMICS					
South of Sahara, regional	UNALLOC	829		7		835
South Sudan	LDCS	44		0		45
Southern Africa, regional	UNALLOC	15		7		22
Sudan	LDCS	95		11		106
Tanzania	LDCS	17				17
Togo	LDCS	19				19
Uganda	LDCS	110				110
Western Africa, regional	UNALLOC	107		291		398
Zambia	LDCS	63				63
Zimbabwe	LMICS	80				80
Africa, unspecified		**1.204**		**63**		**1.267**
Africa, regional	UNALLOC	1.204		63		1.267
America		**434**		**182**		**615**
America (North & Central America)		**175**		**44**		**219**
Antigua And Barbuda	UMICS					
Belize	LMICS	0				0
Caribbean & Central America, regional	UNALLOC			13		13
Caribbean, regional	UNALLOC	19				19
Central America, regional	UNALLOC					
Costa Rica	UMICS					
Cuba	UMICS					
Dominican Republic	UMICS					
El Salvador	LMICS	7				7
Grenada	UMICS					

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Guatemala	UMICS	17		0		17
Haiti	LDCS	40		31		71
Honduras	LMICS	46				46
Jamaica	UMICS	16				16
Mexico	UMICS					
Nicaragua	LMICS	30				30
Panama	UMICS					
St. Lucia	UMICS					
St.Vincent & Grenadines	UMICS					
America (South America)		**106**		**44**		**151**
Argentina	UMICS					
Bolivia	LMICS	6		2		8
Brazil	UMICS	5				5
Colombia	UMICS	28				28
Ecuador	UMICS	10		2		12
Guyana	UMICS					
Paraguay	UMICS	28				28
Peru	UMICS	12				12
South America, regional	UNALLOC	17		23		40
Suriname	UMICS					
Venezuela	UMICS			18		18
America, unspecified		**152**		**94**		**246**
America, regional	UNALLOC	152		94		246
Asia		**1.065**	**756**	**1.094**		**2.915**
Asia (Far East Asia)		**167**				**167**
Cambodia	LDCS					
China	UMICS	23				23
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	OTHER_LICS					
Far East Asia, regional	UNALLOC	4				4
Indonesia	LMICS					
Lao (People's Democratic Republic)	LDCS					
Malaysia	UMICS					
Mongolia	LMICS					
Philippines	LMICS	64				64
Thailand	UMICS	-0				-0
Timor-Leste	LDCS	9				9
Viet Nam	LMICS	68				68
Asia (Middle East Asia)		**4**	**697**	**752**		**1.453**
Iran	LMICS					
Iraq	UMICS			47		47
Jordan	UMICS		167	0		167
Lebanon	UMICS		256	36		292
Middle East, regional	UNALLOC	4	4	260		267
Palestine**	LMICS		234	253		487
Syria	OTHER_LICS		36	27		63

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Yemen	LDCS			129		129
Asia (South & Central Asia)		**692**	**59**	**336**		**1.086**
Afghanistan	LDCS	194		2		196
Armenia	UMICS	13	45	19		77
Azerbaïjan	UMICS		14			14
Bangladesh	LDCS	90		2		92
Bhutan	LMICS					
Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC	73				73
Georgia	UMICS			24		24
India	LMICS	18				18
Kazakhstan	UMICS	11				11
Kyrgyz Republic	LMICS	22		-0		22
Maldives	UMICS	7				7
Myanmar	LDCS	90		6		96
Nepal	LDCS	58				58
Pakistan	LMICS	46				46
South & Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC			282		282
South Asia, regional	UNALLOC	31				31
Sri Lanka	LMICS	22		0		22
Tajikistan	LMICS	0		3		3
Turkmenistan	UMICS	4				4
Uzbekistan	LMICS	13				13
Asia, unspecified		**203**		**6**		**209**
Asia, regional	UNALLOC	203		6		209
Europe		**5**	**7.878**	**1.462**		**9.346**
Europe		**5**	**7.878**	**1.462**		**9.346**
Albania	UMICS		82	12		94
Belarus	UMICS		30			30
Bosnia-Herzegovina	UMICS		72	4		76
Europe, regional	UNALLOC	5	1.428	412		1.845
Kosovo*	UMICS		2	32		34
Moldova	UMICS		89	-4		85
Montenegro	UMICS		39	13		52
North Macedonia	UMICS		82	13		95
Serbia	UMICS		128	89		218
States Ex-Yugoslavia	UNALLOC					
Türkiye	UMICS		1.047	109		1.156
Ukraine	LMICS		4.879	782		5.661
Oceania		**79**				**79**
Oceania		**79**				**79**
Fiji	UMICS					
Kiribati	LDCS					
Marshall Islands	UMICS					
Melanesia, regional	UNALLOC					
Micronesia, Fed. States	LMICS					

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Oceania, regional	UNALLOC	37				37
Palau	UMICS					
Papua New Guinea	LMICS	5				5
Samoa	LMICS					
Solomon Islands	LDCS					
Tonga	UMICS					
Tuvalu	LDCS	1				1
Vanuatu	LMICS	19				19
Wallis & Futuna	UMICS	17				17
Developing countries		**1.159**	**1.282**	**1.782**		**4.223**
Developing countries, unspecified		**1.159**	**1.282**	**1.782**		**4.223**
Developing countries, unspecified	UNALLOC	1.159	1.282	1.782		4.223
Multilateral (inflows)		**2**		**58**		**61**
Other multilateral institution				**1**		**1**
Other multilateral institution				**1**		**1**
World Customs Organization Customs Co-operation Fund				1		1
United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN)		**2**		**1**		**3**
United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN)		**2**		**1**		**3**
FAO		2				2
UN						
UNFCCC				1		1
WHO-Assessed						
Regional Development Bank				**57**		**57**
Regional Development Bank				**57**		**57**
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development				57		57
Part II: Countries and Territories in Transition (NON-ODA eligible countries)		**42**	**10**	**32**		**84**
Bilateral		**42**	**10**	**32**		**84**
America		**9**				**9**
America (North & Central America)		**9**				**9**
Aruba	MADCTS	9				9
Barbados	MADCTS					
Curaçao	MADCTS					
Netherlands Antilles	MADCTS					
Saint Pierre And Miquelon	MADCTS					
Sint Maarten	MADCTS					
Trinidad And Tobago	MADCTS					
America (South America)		**0**				**0**
Chile	MADCTS					
Uruguay	MADCTS	0				0
Asia			**10**	**0**		**10**
Asia (Middle East Asia)			**10**	**0**		**10**
Israel	MADCTS		10			10
Saudi Arabia	MADCTS					
United Arab Emirates	MADCTS			0		0
Europe		**30**		**9**		**39**

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Europe		**30**		**9**		**39**
Greenland	MADCTS	30				30
Russia	CEECS/NIS			9		9
Oceania		**1**		**-0**		**1**
Oceania		**1**		**-0**		**1**
French Polynesia	MADCTS					
New Caledonia	MADCTS	1				1
Pitcairn Islands	MADCTS			-0		-0
Other		**2**	**0**	**23**		**24**
Other		**2**	**0**	**23**		**24**
MADCT Unallocated	MADCTS	2	0	23		24
Part III: ODA Countries Non-ODA Eligible Flows		**61**	**28**	**143**		**233**
Part IV: Other flows in non-ODA countries		**13**		**9**		**22**
TOTAL COMMITTED AMOUNT		**7.315**	**10.308**	**5.997**	**-2**	**23.618**

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.
(**) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 6B: Country breakdown of European Commission development assistance in 2024 – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Part I: Developing Countries and Territories (Official Development Assistance)		4.949	8.817	5.407	1.294	20.467
Bilateral		**4.924**	**8.808**	**5.402**	**1.294**	**20.428**
Africa		**2.144**	**781**	**1.214**	**1.081**	**5.220**
Africa (North of Sahara)		**0**	**781**	**74**		**855**
Algeria	LMICS		25	10		35
Egypt	LMICS		90	15		105
Libya	UMICS		41	39		81
Morocco	LMICS	0	270	0		270
North of Sahara, regional	UNALLOC		35	3		39
Tunisia	LMICS		319	6		325
Africa (South of Sahara)		**1.622**		**1.091**	**1.006**	**3.719**
Angola	LDCS	16		3	29	48
Benin	LDCS	49		5	19	73
Botswana	UMICS	4			3	7
Burkina Faso	LDCS	17		37	4	59
Burundi	LDCS	30		0	16	46
Cabo Verde	LMICS	8			6	14
Cameroon	LMICS	34		28	7	69
Central African Republic	LDCS	35		30	9	74
Chad	LDCS	36		68	26	130
Comoros	LDCS	6		0	3	9
Congo	LMICS	10		0	5	15
Democratic Republic of the Congo	LDCS	72		94	68	234
Djibouti	LDCS	16		0	9	26
Eastern Africa, regional	UNALLOC	29		125	27	181
Equatorial Guinea	UMICS	1				1
Eritrea	LDCS	3			90	93
Eswatini	LMICS	2			5	6
Ethiopia	LDCS	52		77	23	152
Gabon	UMICS	0		2	0	3

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Gambia	LDCS	16		0	8	25
Ghana	LMICS	24		1	17	42
Guinea	LDCS	29		2	22	53
Guinea-Bissau	LDCS	4			3	7
Ivory Coast	LMICS	58		6	6	70
Kenya	LMICS	38		14	32	84
Lesotho	LDCS	7		0	8	15
Liberia	LDCS	4		1	14	20
Madagascar	LDCS	12		10	59	81
Malawi	LDCS	51		8	41	100
Mali	LDCS	33		58	21	112
Mauritania	LDCS	54		11	12	76
Mauritius	UMICS	3			4	7
Middle Africa, regional	UNALLOC	18		2	2	22
Mozambique	LDCS	61		28	82	171
Namibia	UMICS	7			6	13
Niger	LDCS	26		25	3	54
Nigeria	LMICS	79		39	15	133
Rwanda	LDCS	61		1	7	69
Sao Tome and Principe	LDCS	2		0	2	4
Senegal	LDCS	25		7	21	53
Sierra Leone	LDCS	15		3	21	39
Somalia	LDCS	88		110	6	203
South Africa	UMICS	35		0		35
South of Sahara, regional	UNALLOC	95		68	87	250
South Sudan	LDCS	46		64	0	110
Southern Africa, regional	UNALLOC	11		5	0	16
Sudan	LDCS	50		90	0	140
Tanzania	LDCS	52			34	85
Togo	LDCS	32		2	14	47
Uganda	LDCS	37		27	18	82
Western Africa, regional	UNALLOC	31		24	23	78
Zambia	LDCS	79		6	62	147
Zimbabwe	LMICS	17		10	7	34
Africa, unspecified		**522**	**0**	**49**	**75**	**646**
Africa, regional	UNALLOC	522	0	49	75	646
America		**390**		**177**	**73**	**640**
America (North & Central America)		**166**		**50**	**69**	**284**
Antigua And Barbuda	UMICS				0	0
Belize	LMICS	4			1	5
Caribbean & Central America, regional	UNALLOC	1		0		1
Caribbean, regional	UNALLOC	10		1	28	39

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Central America, regional	UNALLOC	15		19	0	34
Costa Rica	UMICS	7				7
Cuba	UMICS	27		1		28
Dominican Republic	UMICS	5		1	5	10
El Salvador	LMICS	14				14
Grenada	UMICS			0	0	0
Guatemala	UMICS	41		1		42
Haiti	LDCS	4		22	24	51
Honduras	LMICS	23				23
Jamaica	UMICS	3			9	12
Mexico	UMICS	5		4		9
Nicaragua	LMICS	7		0		7
Panama	UMICS	0		0		0
St. Lucia	UMICS				2	2
St.Vincent & Grenadines	UMICS	0		0	0	0
America (South America)		**178**		**100**	**4**	**281**
Argentina	UMICS	5		1		6
Bolivia	LMICS	38		1		39
Brazil	UMICS	7		1		8
Colombia	UMICS	35		12		48
Ecuador	UMICS	13		13		26
Guyana	UMICS	7		0	0	7
Paraguay	UMICS	9		0		9
Peru	UMICS	9		1		10
South America, regional	UNALLOC	49		35		83
Suriname	UMICS	1			4	5
Venezuela	UMICS	5		35		40
America, unspecified		**47**		**28**		**75**
America, regional	UNALLOC	47		28		75
Asia		**1.241**	**889**	**1.059**	**4**	**3.193**
Asia (Far East Asia)		**190**		**16**	**4**	**209**
Cambodia	LDCS	45				45
China	UMICS	9		4		13
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	OTHER_LICS	0				0
Far East Asia, regional	UNALLOC	3		5		9
Indonesia	LMICS	16		0		16
Lao (People's Democratic Republic)	LDCS	23		0		23
Malaysia	UMICS	4				4
Mongolia	LMICS	16		0		17
Philippines	LMICS	28		5		33
Thailand	UMICS	5		0		6
Timor-Leste	LDCS	5		0	4	9

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Viet Nam	LMICS	36		0		36
Asia (Middle East Asia)		**120**	**744**	**688**		**1.552**
Iran	LMICS	13		11		24
Iraq	UMICS	59		73		131
Jordan	UMICS	0	77	18		95
Lebanon	UMICS		169	61		230
Middle East, regional	UNALLOC	1	1	5		8
Palestine**	LMICS		420	223		643
Syria	OTHER_LICS		77	180		256
Yemen	LDCS	47		117		164
Asia (South & Central Asia)		**637**	**145**	**327**		**1.109**
Afghanistan	LDCS	120		159		279
Armenia	UMICS	4	69	25		98
Azerbaïjan	UMICS		15	2		17
Bangladesh	LDCS	166		49		215
Bhutan	LMICS	4				4
Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC	53		6		59
Georgia	UMICS	1	61	24		85
India	LMICS	10		2		12
Kazakhstan	UMICS	5				5
Kyrgyz Republic	LMICS	16				16
Maldives	UMICS	1		0		1
Myanmar	LDCS	50		36		86
Nepal	LDCS	29		4		33
Pakistan	LMICS	66		16		81
South & Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC	4		0		5
South Asia, regional	UNALLOC	5		1		6
Sri Lanka	LMICS	20		1		20
Tajikistan	LMICS	60		0		60
Turkmenistan	UMICS	3				3
Uzbekistan	LMICS	22				22
Asia, unspecified		**294**	**0**	**29**		**323**
Asia, regional	UNALLOC	294	0	29		323
Europe		**69**	**6.383**	**1.218**		**7.670**
Europe		**69**	**6.383**	**1.218**		**7.670**
Albania	UMICS		72	3		75
Belarus	UMICS		19	0		20
Bosnia-Herzegovina	UMICS	0	98	7		104
Europe, regional	UNALLOC	62	676	144		881
Kosovo*	UMICS		31	33		64
Moldova	UMICS	1	95	61		156
Montenegro	UMICS		27	14		41

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
North Macedonia	UMICS		45	29		74
Serbia	UMICS	1	154	41		196
States Ex-Yugoslavia	UNALLOC		2			2
Türkiye	UMICS	0	1.047	137		1.184
Ukraine	LMICS	5	4.117	751		4.873
Oceania		**37**		**1**	**49**	**87**
Oceania		**37**		**1**	**49**	**87**
Fiji	UMICS	1			1	1
Kiribati	LDCS	1			2	4
Marshall Islands	UMICS	3			0	4
Melanesia, regional	UNALLOC	1				1
Micronesia, Fed. States	LMICS				2	2
Oceania, regional	UNALLOC	8		0	26	34
Palau	UMICS				0	0
Papua New Guinea	LMICS	14		0	13	27
Samoa	LMICS	3			0	3
Solomon Islands	LDCS	3		0	2	5
Tonga	UMICS	1				1
Tuvalu	LDCS	1			0	1
Vanuatu	LMICS	0		0	2	3
Wallis & Futuna	UMICS	0			0	0
Developing countries		**1.041**	**755**	**1.733**	**88**	**3.618**
Developing countries, unspecified		**1.041**	**755**	**1.733**	**88**	**3.618**
Developing countries, unspecified	UNALLOC	1.041	755	1.733	88	3.618
Bilateral, core contributions to NGOs and other private bodies / PPPs		**4**	**9**	**3**	0	**16**
Bilateral, core contributions to NGOs and other private bodies / PPPs		**4**	**9**	**3**		**16**
Bilateral, core contributions to NGOs and other private bodies / PPPs		**4**	**9**	**3**		**16**
Bilateral, core contributions to NGOs and other private bodies / PPPs		4	9	3		16
Multilateral (inflows)		**3**	0	**2**	0	**5**
Other multilateral institution				**1**		**1**
Other multilateral institution				**1**		**1**
World Customs Organization Customs Co-operation Fund				1		1
United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN)		**3**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**3**
United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN)		**3**		**1**		**3**
FAO		0				0
UN				0		0
UNFCCC				1		1
WHO-Assessed		2				2
Triangular co-operation		**18**	0	0	0	**18**
Africa		**2**				**2**
Africa (South of Sahara)		**2**				**2**
Senegal	LDCS	2				2

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
America		**12**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**12**
America (South America)		**3**				**3**
South America, regional	UNALLOC	3				3
America, unspecified		**9**				**9**
America, regional	UNALLOC	9				9
Asia		**4**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4**
Asia (Far East Asia)		**3**				**3**
Far East Asia, regional	UNALLOC	3				3
Asia (South & Central Asia)		**1**				**1**
Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC	1				1
Oceania		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Oceania		**0**				**0**
Oceania, regional	UNALLOC	0				0
Part II: Countries and Territories in Transition (NON-ODA eligible countries)		**60**	**9**	**42**	**20**	**131**
Bilateral		**60**	**9**	**42**	**20**	**131**
Africa		**0**		**1**	**2**	**3**
Africa (South of Sahara)		**0**		**1**	**2**	**3**
Seychelles	MADCTS	0		1	2	3
America		**12**		**1**	**18**	**30**
America (North & Central America)		**9**			**18**	**27**
Aruba	MADCTS	1			0	1
Barbados	MADCTS				2	2
Curaçao	MADCTS				0	0
Netherlands Antilles	MADCTS				13	13
Saint Pierre And Miquelon	MADCTS	7				7
Sint Maarten	MADCTS	0			1	1
Trinidad And Tobago	MADCTS	1			2	4
America (South America)		**3**		**1**		**3**
Chile	MADCTS	2		1		2
Uruguay	MADCTS	1				1
Asia		**0**	**4**	**7**	**0**	**11**
Asia (Far East Asia)				**2**		**2**
Brunei	MADCTS			0		0
Hong Kong, China	MADCTS			1		1
Korea	MADCTS			1		1
Singapore	MADCTS			0		0
Taiwan	MADCTS			1		1
Asia (Middle East Asia)			**4**	**4**		**9**
Israel	MADCTS		4	1		6
Saudi Arabia	MADCTS			1		1
United Arab Emirates	MADCTS			2		2
Europe		**30**	**4**	**4**	**0**	**39**

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Country / Region	Income Group	DG INTPA	DG NEAR	Other DGs	EDF	Total
Europe		**30**	**4**	**4**		**39**
Greenland	MADCTS	30				30
Russia	CEECS/NIS		4	4		8
Oceania		**12**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**12**
Oceania		**12**		**0**	**0**	**12**
French Polynesia	MADCTS	6			0	6
New Caledonia	MADCTS	6			0	6
Pitcairn Islands	MADCTS			0		0
Other		**5**	**0**	**30**	**0**	**35**
Other		**5**	**0**	**30**		**35**
MADCT Unallocated	MADCTS	5	0	30		35
Part III: ODA Countries Non-ODA Eligible Flows		**35**	**57**	**274**	**91**	**457**
Part IV: Other flows in non-ODA countries		**3**	**2**	**21**	**0**	**26**
TOTAL DISBURSED AMOUNT		**5.047**	**8.885**	**5.744**	**1.405**	**21.081**

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

(**) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

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Commitments Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 7: Distribution of ODA by OECD Sector and Country Grouping in 2024

Commitments (in EUR million)

Income Group	ODA Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
LDC + OLIC + LMIC + UMIC		**4.330**	**1.192**	**1.162**	**800**	**4.143**	**959**		**12.586**
Least Developed Countries	2,34	1.316	354	399	176	263	211		2.718
Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories	2,32	1.092	630	701	204	3.855	606		7.088
Other Low Income Countries	1,26	37			7		18		63
Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories	1,12	1.885	208	63	413	25	124		2.717
Other		**3.284**	**1.410**	**1.148**	**1.572**	**231**	**1.975**	**1.073**	**10.693**
Total Commitments		**7.615**	**2.602**	**2.310**	**2.371**	**4.374**	**2.934**	**1.073**	**23.279**

Disbursements (in EUR million)

Income Group	Income Group Commitments Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
LDC + OLIC + LMIC + UMIC		**4.736**	**903**	**901**	**919**	**4.333**	**2.225**	**15**	**14.032**
Least Developed Countries	3,06	1.380	360	273	342	176	1.021	5	3.557
Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories	2,35	1.292	416	469	212	4.069	727	3	7.190
Other Low Income Countries	5,12	37		0	53	0	165	1	256
Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories	1,25	2.027	127	158	312	87	312	7	3.029
Other		**2.179**	**974**	**556**	**817**	**294**	**509**	**1.105**	**6.435**
Total Disbursements		**6.915**	**1.877**	**1.457**	**1.737**	**4.627**	**2.734**	**1.120**	**20.467**

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Commitments (in EUR million)

Region	ODA Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
Africa	4	2.519	591	975	672	266	1.018		6.041
America	1	202	65	69	113		165		615
Asia	0,62	1.267	211	119	205	25	1.088		2.915
Europe	15,8	2.052	1.327	726	909	3.930	400	-0	9.346
Oceania	1,74	21	15	29	14				79
Developing countries, unspecified	0	1.553	392	392	458	153	262	1.073	4.283
Total	-	**7.615**	**2.602**	**2.310**	**2.371**	**4.374**	**2.934**	**1.073**	**23.279**

Disbursements (in EUR million)

Region	ODA Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
Africa	3,53	2.121	575	515	593	431	980	12	5.226
America	0,62	260	60	71	111	6	137	7	653
Asia	0,69	1.639	147	168	191	28	1.019	6	3.199
Europe	12,98	1.959	639	383	407	3.876	394	18	7.677
Oceania	1,92	25	2	20	36	4	0		87
Developing countries, unspecified	0	911	454	299	398	282	204	1.078	3.625
Total	-	**6.915**	**1.877**	**1.457**	**1.737**	**4.627**	**2.734**	**1.120**	**20.467**

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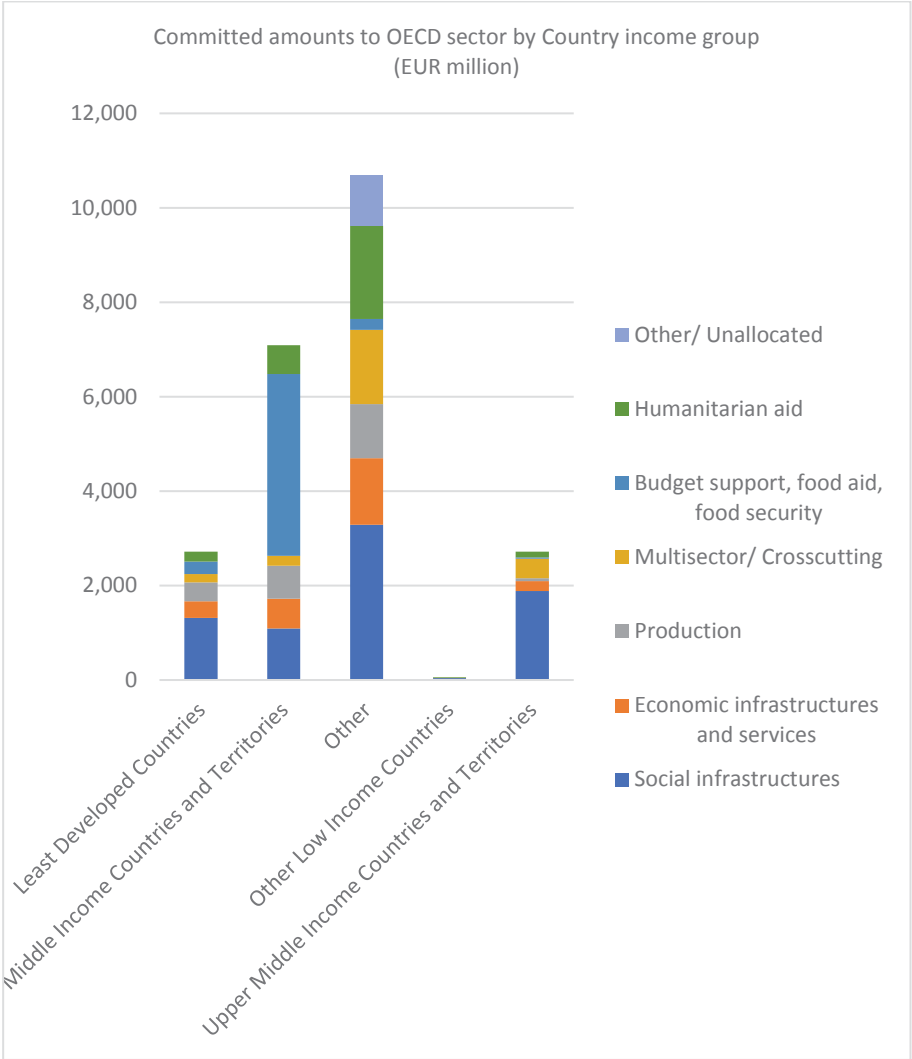
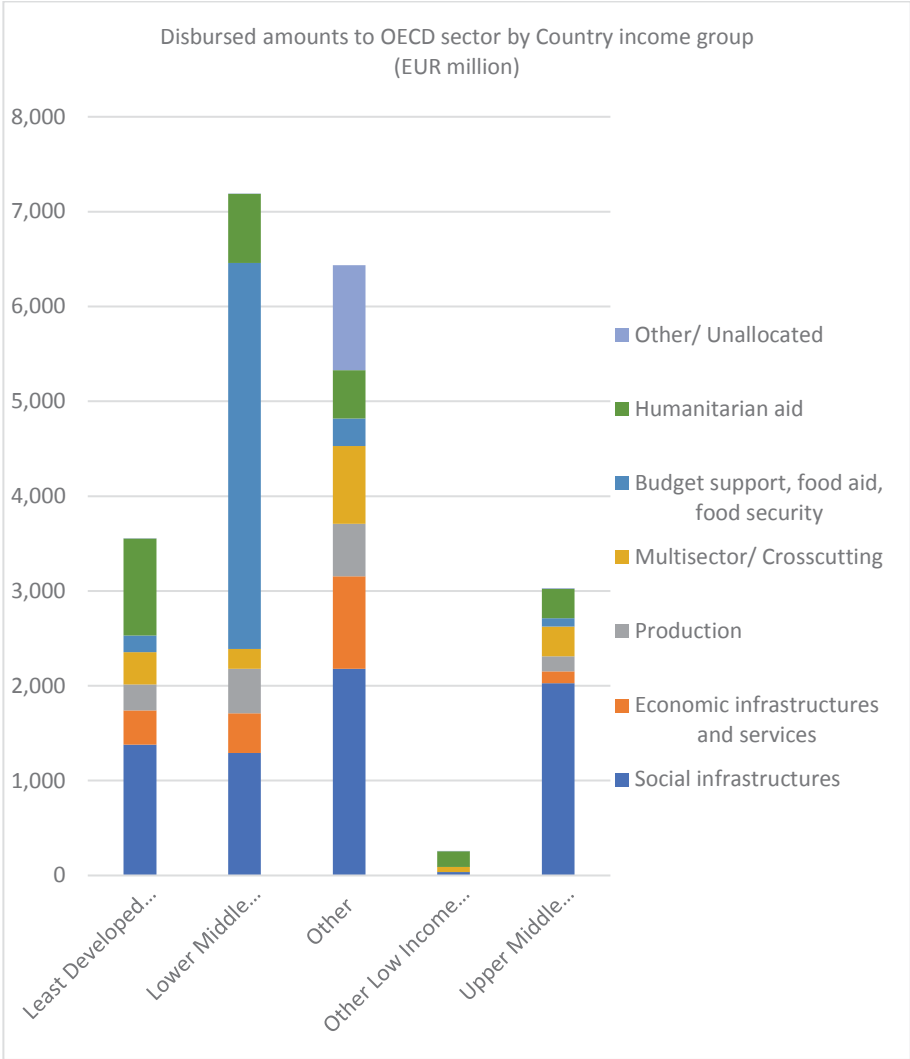
Graphs Table 7





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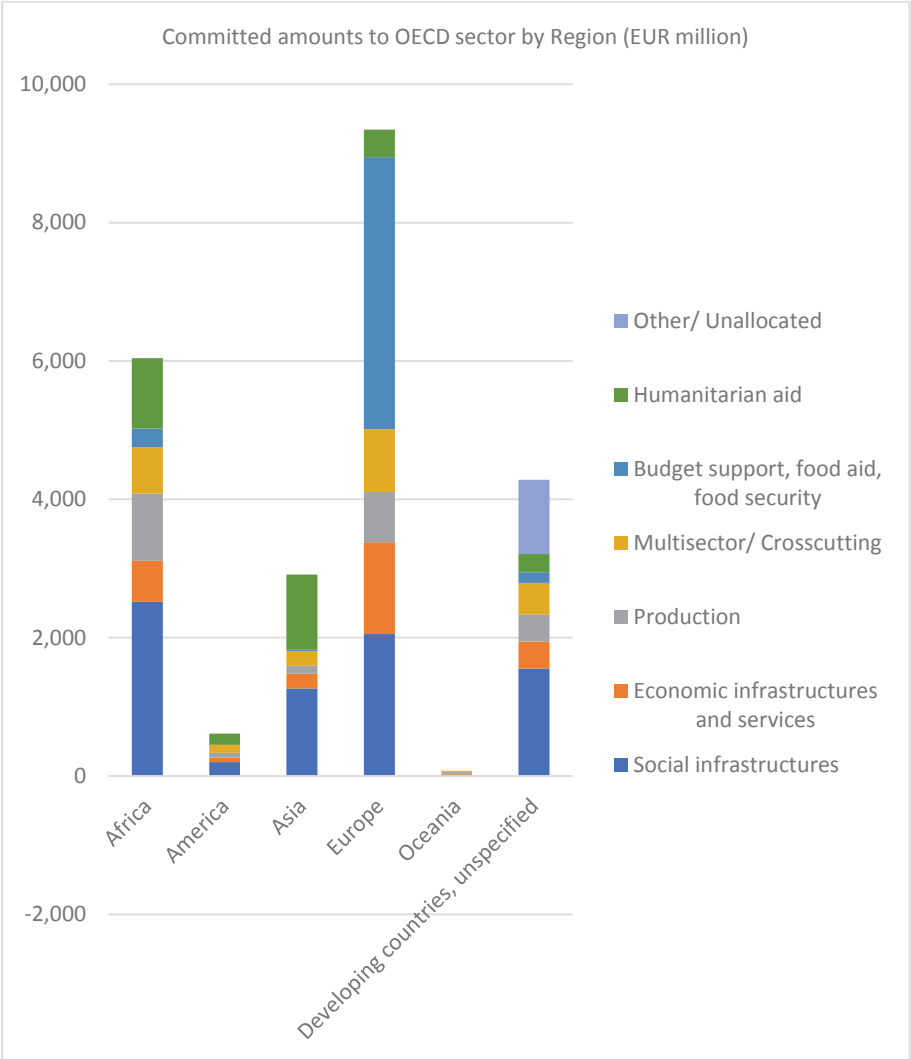

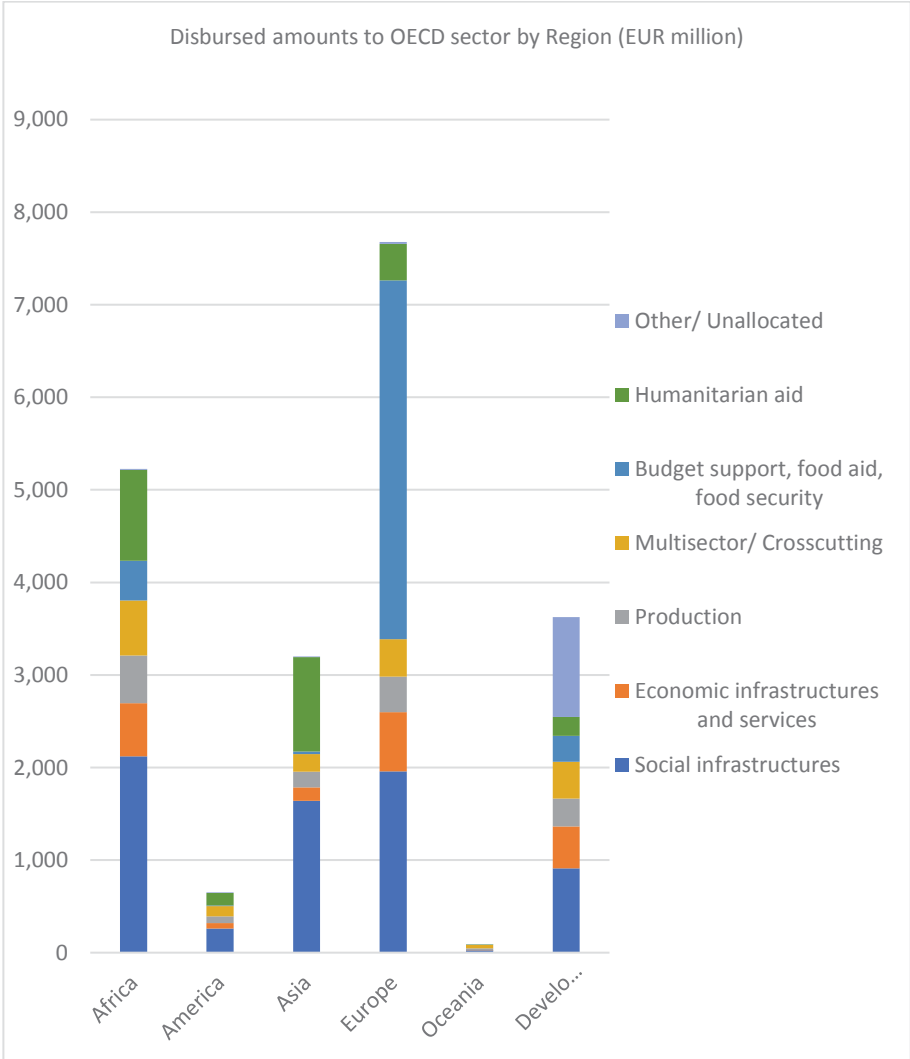

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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 8A: ODA Recipient Country by main OECD sector in 2024 – Commitments (in EUR millions)

Income Group	Country	Commitments Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
Least Developed Countries	Afghanistan	4,72	166		29					196
	Angola	2,08	50	4	4	18				77
	Bangladesh	0,53	57					35		92
	Benin	3,15	9	15			20			44
	Burkina Faso	3,81	50	18	20					88
	Central African Republic	13,16	68							68
	Chad	3,43	33	25				9		66
	Democratic Republic of the Congo	1,08	12	40	54	9				114
	Djibouti	0,43	1							1
	Ethiopia	2	133	52	45	28				257
	Gambia	14,83	22		14	4				40
	Guinea	8,45	101	11	10					122
	Guinea-Bissau	8,36	17			1				18
	Haiti	6,06	26		14	10		21		71
	Lesotho	6,92	6	10						16
	Liberia	19,66	18		20	7	63			108
	Madagascar	2,22	25	11	14	20				69
	Malawi	4,41	8	30			55			93
	Mali	5,26	73	5	35	12				125
	Mauritania	20,91	2				100	3		105
	Mozambique	3,25	29	42	24	12		3		109
	Myanmar	1,78	72	10		13		1		96
	Nepal	1,95	27	27	3	1				58
	Niger	-0,22	-6							-6
	Rwanda	2,65	15		1	21				37

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Income Group	Country	Commitments Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
	Senegal	0,34	6							6
	Sierra Leone	6,46	19	0	25	0	10			55
	Somalia	5,17	74	19	2					95
	Sudan	2,12	94				0	12		106
	Tanzania	0,26	14	1	2					17
	Timor-Leste	6,5	9							9
	Togo	2,04	4				15			19
	Tuvalu	69,49	0		0	0				1
	Uganda	2,26	52	32	21	6				110
	Yemen	3,29	3					127		129
	Zambia	3,06	29	1	33					63
	South Sudan	3,9			30	14		0		45
Least Developed Countries Total			1.316	354	399	176	263	211		2.718
	Algeria	0,98	22	18		5				45
	Belize	0,49	0		0	0				0
	Bolivia	0,61	8							8
	Cameroon	1,82	26			26				52
	Egypt	0,89	65	0	8	27		3		102
	El Salvador	1,17	7							7
	Ghana	1,59	24			30				54
	Honduras	4,35	18		7	21				46
	India	0,01	3	8		8		0		18
	Ivory Coast	1,81	6	1		0	50			57
	Kenya	0,94	34	9		9		-0		52
	Kyrgyz Republic	3,14	22							22
Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories	Morocco	4,8	99	21	48		13			181
	Nicaragua	4,39	30			-0				30
	Nigeria	0,03	7		-0					7
	Pakistan	0,18	23	3	9	7		4		46
	Palestine**	90,07	159	0				328		487
	Papua New Guinea	0,51	4	0	0	1				5
	Philippines	0,56	47	6		6		6		64
	Sri Lanka	0,96	8	1	8	5				22
	Tajikistan	0,25	3	0	0					3
	Ukraine	150,03	403	549	584	8	3.852	266		5.661
	Uzbekistan	0,35	5		0	7				13
	Vanuatu	58,75	8		4	8				19
	Viet Nam	0,68	40	1	14	13				68
	Zimbabwe	4,9	23	13	18	26				80

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Income Group	Country	Commitments Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
	Tunisia	-5,01				-1	-60			-61
Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories Total			1.092	630	701	204	3.855	606		7.088
Other Low Income Countries	Syria	2,67	37			7		18		63
Other Low Income Countries Total			37			7		18		63
Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories	Albania	33,41	46	7	6	34				94
	Armenia	26,11	19	13		20	25			77
	Azerbaïjan	1,31	10	3						14
	Belarus	3,29	24			6				30
	Bosnia-Herzegovina	23,91	30	16	6	4		20		76
	China	0,02	7		4	12				23
	Colombia	0,54	19	2		8				28
	Ecuador	0,68	5		5			2		12
	Gabon	-1,69	-2	-2						-4
	Georgia	6,27	24							24
	Guatemala	0,92	7	2		8				17
	Iraq	1,04	24					23		47
	Jamaica	5,63	10			6				16
	Jordan	14,61	122	41		4				167
	Kosovo*	19,62	34							34
	Lebanon	50,56	247	5	5			35		292
	Libya	8,36	39	8		14		0		61
	Maldives	13,12	0			7				7
	Moldova	27,56	45	30	20	-11				85
	Montenegro	81,55	29	4	-6	25				52
	North Macedonia	52,07	56	20	-2	21				95
	Paraguay	4,09	17		7	4				28
	Peru	0,35	8			4				12
	Serbia	32,16	67	45	2	104				218
	Thailand	0	-0		-0					-0
	Türkiye	13,24	992	12	-1	126		26		1.156
	Wallis & Futuna	1581,82	7		10					17
	Mauritius	1,94		2		1				2
	Brazil	0,02			5					5
	Kazakhstan	0,54				11				11
	Turkmenistan	0,54				4				4
	Venezuela	0,64						18		18
Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories Total			1.885	208	63	413	25	124		2.717
Other	Developing Countries Unallocated	0	3.284	1.410	1.148	1.572	231	1.975	1.073	10.693

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Income Group	Country	Commitments Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
Other Total			3.284	1.410	1.148	1.572	231	1.975	1.073	10.693
TOTAL			**7.615**	**2.602**	**2.310**	**2.371**	**4.374**	**2.934**	**1.073**	**23.279**

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.
(**) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 8B: ODA Recipient Country by main OECD sector in 2024 – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Income Group	Country	Disbursements Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
Least Developed Countries	Afghanistan	6,74	105	5	11	7		150		279
	Angola	1,31	24	9	13	0		1		48
	Bangladesh	1,25	139	0	3	2	13	58		215
	Benin	5,16	21	25	7	1	19	0		73
	Burkina Faso	2,55	18	2	5	2	0	32		59
	Burundi	3,38	32	12	1	1		0		46
	Cambodia	2,56	18	2	20	5	0			45
	Central African Republic	14,33	42	1		6	6	19	0	74
	Chad	6,85	38	4	5	19	1	66	0	132
	Comoros	11,11	5	2	2	1		0		9
	Democratic Republic of the Congo	2,21	74	44	13	11	0	91		234
	Djibouti	22,13	25	0	0			0		26
	Eritrea	26,69	2	0	1	90			0	93
	Ethiopia	1,18	34	4	27	9		78	1	152
	Gambia	9,22	3	6	3	1	11		0	25
	Guinea	3,71	33	17	2	1	0	0		53
	Guinea-Bissau	3,42	5	0	2	1			0	7
	Haiti	4,36	9	3	6	8	5	20	0	51
	Kiribati	26,51					4			4
	Lao (People's Democratic Republic)	3,01	15	1	6	1		0		23
	Lesotho	6,69	13	2				0	0	15
	Liberia	3,56	3	11	3	2				20
	Madagascar	2,59	24	21	19	7		10		81
	Malawi	4,73	42	18	11	0	20	8	0	100
	Mali	4,73	60	6	10	10		26	0	112
	Mauritania	15,08	39	1	0	3	23	9		76
	Mozambique	5,08	70	23	6	54	0	17	1	171

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Income Group	Country	Disbursements Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
	Myanmar	1,59	38	4	1	8		36		86
	Nepal	1,09	22	2	2	2		4	0	33
	Niger	2,07	6	1	3	11	3	30	0	54
	Rwanda	4,92	38	1	13	10		6		69
	Sao Tome and Principe	19,26	4		0	1				4
	Senegal	3,11	29	19	4	1	3			56
	Sierra Leone	4,64	18	5	5	1	11			39
	Solomon Islands	5,63	3		0	2	0			5
	Somalia	11,06	108	10	6	7	9	63	0	203
	South Sudan	9,6	39		5	2		65		110
	Sudan	2,8	32		8	17	0	83		140
	Tanzania	1,28	34	25	12	13	0		1	85
	Timor-Leste	6,4	6		1	2				9
	Togo	5,1	14	6	4	4	20	0		47
	Tuvalu	119,85	0		0	1				1
	Uganda	1,68	21	15	17	2		27	0	82
	Yemen	4,17	31	3	0	15	0	116		164
	Zambia	7,07	45	52	15	1	29	6		147
Least Developed Countries Total			**1.380**	**360**	**273**	**342**	**176**	**1.021**	**5**	**3.557**
Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories	Algeria	0,76	16	0	6	3		10		35
	Belize	11,81	2	1		2				5
	Bhutan	5,02	0		2	2				4
	Bolivia	3,16	20	0	6	11		1	0	39
	Cabo Verde	27,01	1	5		1	7			14
	Cameroon	2,44	15	2	9	17		25	0	69
	Congo	2,47	6	1	3	5		0		15
	Egypt	0,92	60	4	15	15		11	0	105
	El Salvador	2,25	12	2	0	0				14
	Eswatini	5,21	2	1	3	0				6
	Ghana	1,24	20	6	9	7			0	42
	Honduras	2,15	13	1	5	3		0		23
	India	0,01	3	5	1	2		1	0	12
	Indonesia	0,06	3	5	3	3		2		16
	Iran	0,26	8	3		1		11		24
	Ivory Coast	2,24	20	27	10	5	6	2		70
	Kenya	1,52	37	21	7	6		14	0	84
	Kyrgyz Republic	2,39	14	2	1	0			0	17
	Micronesia, Fed. States	19,83	1			1				2
	Mongolia	4,82	9	1	6	0		0		17

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Income Group	Country	Disbursements Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
	Morocco	7,17	129	10	22	8	101	0	0	270
	Nicaragua	1,05	5	0	1	1	0	0		7
	Nigeria	0,58	68	19	5	2	2	37		133
	Pakistan	0,33	26	8	23	7		17		81
	Palestine**	119	341	3	9	2		287	1	644
	Papua New Guinea	2,63	8	1	5	13		0		27
	Philippines	0,29	13	4	12	1		5		33
	Samoa	15,23	3			0				3
	Sri Lanka	0,88	8	2	4	7		0		20
	Tajikistan	5,77	39	16	2	2				60
	Tunisia	26,64	135	5	14	15	155	0	1	325
	Ukraine	129,25	224	242	263	55	3.799	293		4.877
	Uzbekistan	0,62	6	0	11	5		0		22
	Vanuatu	9,12	1		2	0		0		3
	Viet Nam	0,36	7	18	3	7			0	36
	Zimbabwe	2,05	16	1	6	1		10	0	34
Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories Total			**1.292**	**416**	**469**	**212**	**4.069**	**727**	**3**	**7.190**
Other Low Income Countries	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0					0			0
	Syria	10,86	37		0	53		165	1	256
Other Low Income Countries Total			**37**		**0**	**53**	**0**	**165**	**1**	**256**
Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories	Albania	26,58	55	2	4	6	8		0	75
	Antigua And Barbuda	0,3	0					0		0
	Argentina	0,14	5	0	0	1		1		6
	Armenia	33,46	60	9	5	4	15	5		98
	Azerbaïjan	1,67	11	1	2	2		1		17
	Belarus	2,17	15	3		2				20
	Bosnia-Herzegovina	32,8	82	9	8	2		2	1	104
	Botswana	2,78	2	0	1	4				7
	Brazil	0,04	5	0	1	0	0	1		8
	China	0,01	3	4	1	4				13
	Colombia	0,91	17	3	7	11		9		48
	Costa Rica	1,54	2	3	0	2				8
	Cuba	2,5	7	5	12	4		1		28
	Dominican Republic	0,92	8	1	0	1		1		10
	Ecuador	1,45	12	1	4	4		5		26
	Equatorial Guinea	0,46	1							1
	Fiji	1,36	1		0	0				1
	Gabon	1,14	3		0	0				3

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Income Group	Country	Disbursements Per Capita	Social infrastructures	Economic infrastructures and services	Production	Multisector/ Crosscutting	Budget support, food aid, food security	Humanitarian aid	Other/ Unallocated	Total
	Georgia	22,44	52	11	6	16		0	0	85
	Grenada	2,57	0			0		0		0
	Guatemala	2,31	23	6	8	3			0	42
	Guyana	8,81	1		2	5				7
	Iraq	2,92	89	6	3	0		31	2	131
	Jamaica	4,29	8	3	0	1			0	12
	Jordan	8,33	66	5	2	7		16		95
	Kazakhstan	0,24	4		0	0		0		5
	Kosovo*	36,36	57	2	2	1	1	0	1	64
	Lebanon	39,86	116	2	5	3		104	0	230
	Libya	11,22	61	2		2		17		82
	Malaysia	0,13	3		1	1				4
	Maldives	2,11	1							1
	Marshall Islands	90,75		0		3				4
	Mauritius	5,51	2	1	3	1				7
	Mexico	0,07	5		0	1		3		9
	Moldova	51,39	46	13	6	13	63	18		158
	Montenegro	64,85	15	4	11	11				41
	Namibia	4,47	6	2	5	0			0	13
	North Macedonia	40,27	27	5	13	28				74
	Palau	4,71				0				0
	Panama	0,04	0							0
	Paraguay	1,28	6		2	1				9
	Peru	0,31	8	0	0	1		1		10
	Serbia	28,98	93	15	20	64	0	5		196
	South Africa	0,55	20	1	12	2	0		0	35
	St. Lucia	8,46	1		0					2
	St.Vincent & Grenadines	0,9	0		0			0		0
	Suriname	8,26	2		3	0				5
	Thailand	0,08	3		1	1		1		6
	Tonga	13,46	1	0			0			1
	Türkiye	13,56	1.015	4	8	99		56	1	1.184
	Turkmenistan	0,42	0	3		0				3
	Venezuela	1,41	5		0	1	0	34	0	40
	Wallis & Futuna	10,52	0	0						0
Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories Total			**2.027**	**127**	**158**	**312**	**87**	**312**	**7**	**3.029**
Other	Developing Countries Unallocated	0	2.179	974	556	817	294	509	1.105	6.435
Other Total			**2.179**	**974**	**556**	**817**	**294**	**509**	**1.105**	**6.435**
Total			**6.915**	**1.877**	**1.457**	**1.737**	**4.627**	**2.734**	**1.120**	**20.467**

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(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.
(**) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	No	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 9A: INTPA in 2024: A closer look. Sectoral breakdown per region – Commitments (in EUR millions)

Sector	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Developing countries, unspecified	Total
Social infrastructure and services	**2.008**	**186**	**566**	**5**	**21**	**569**	**3.355**
Education	**269**	**32**	**94**		**4**	**16**	**416**
Basic education	66	3	33			9	111
Education, level unspecified	41	9	13			2	65
Post-secondary education	31		3			5	40
Secondary education	130	20	46		4		200
Government and civil society	**1.153**	**86**	**272**	**3**	**11**	**294**	**1.819**
Conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security	107	27	39			-1	172
Government and civil society, general	1.046	59	233	3	11	295	1.648
Health	**285**	**9**	**52**			**193**	**540**
Basic health	206	6	48			193	453
Health, general	79	3					82
Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)			5				5
Other social infrastructure and services	**130**	**22**	**118**	**2**	**2**	**31**	**306**
Other social infrastructure and services	130	22	118	2	2	31	306
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	**47**		**3**			**7**	**57**
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	47		3			7	57
Water and sanitation	**124**	**37**	**26**		**4**	**27**	**218**
Water and sanitation	124	37	26		4	27	218
Economic infrastructure and services	**545**	**65**	**159**		**15**	**195**	**979**
Banking and financial services	**25**	**9**				**64**	**98**
Banking and financial services	25	9				64	98
Business and other services	**80**	**10**	**20**			**16**	**127**
Business and other services	80	10	20			16	127
Communications	**154**	**3**	**10**			**27**	**195**
Communications	154	3	10			27	195
Energy	**214**	**23**	**79**		**15**	**87**	**419**
Energy generation, renewable sources	140	22	1		5	35	202
Energy policy	16		41		8	27	90

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Sector	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Developing countries, unspecified	Total
Heating, cooling and energy distribution	59	-0	25		3		87
Energy generation, non-renewable sources		2					2
Nuclear energy plants			13			26	39
Transport and storage	**71**	**19**	**50**				**139**
Transport and storage	71	19	50				139
Production sectors	**919**	**69**	**114**		**29**	**73**	**1.204**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	**390**	**31**	**57**		**18**	**57**	**553**
Agriculture	349	22	43		4	46	464
Fishing	19		1		14	9	43
Forestry	21	9	13		0	3	46
Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction	**250**	**34**	**48**			**-1**	**332**
Industry	218	27	45			-1	289
Mineral resources and mining	33	7	3				43
Trade and tourism	**279**	**4**	**9**		**10**	**17**	**319**
Tourism	5				10		16
Trade policy and regulations and trade-related adjustment	274	4	9			17	303
Multisector/Cross-cutting	**627**	**113**	**174**		**14**	**136**	**1.064**
General environmental protection	**202**	**52**	**69**		**6**	**121**	**449**
General environmental protection	202	52	69		6	121	449
Other multisector	**425**	**61**	**105**		**8**	**15**	**615**
Other multisector	425	61	105		8	15	615
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	**313**					**3**	**316**
Developmental food assistance	**0**					**3**	**3**
Developmental food assistance	0					3	3
General budget support	**313**						**313**
General budget support	313						313
Humanitarian aid	**40**		**52**				**93**
Disaster preparedness	**-0**		**15**				**15**
Disaster preparedness	-0		15				15
Emergency response	**25**		**38**				**63**
Emergency response	25		38				63
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	**15**						**15**
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	15						15
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified				**-0**		**185**	**185**
Unallocated / Unspecified				**-0**		**14**	**13**
Unallocated / Unspecified				-0		14	13
Administrative costs of donors						**172**	**172**
Administrative costs of donors						172	172
Total	**4.452**	**434**	**1.065**	**5**	**79**	**1.161**	**7.196**

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	No	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 9B: INTPA in 2024: A closer look. Sectoral breakdown per region – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Sector	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Developing countries, unspecified	Total
Social infrastructure and services	**1.443**	**223**	**871**	**40**	**25**	**421**	**3.023**
Education	**195**	**22**	**144**	**1**	**0**	**18**	**381**
Basic education	77	0	20			1	98
Education, level unspecified	63	10	25	0	0	1	100
Post-secondary education	13	0	4	0		10	29
Secondary education	42	12	95			6	154
Government and civil society	**848**	**118**	**337**	**36**	**18**	**74**	**1.432**
Conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security	132	12	19		1	1	164
Government and civil society, general	716	106	318	36	17	74	1.267
Health	**177**	**20**	**269**		**1**	**263**	**730**
Basic health	132	14	72		1	239	458
Health, general	45	2	185		0	17	249
Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)	1	4	12			7	24
Other social infrastructure and services	**81**	**32**	**91**	**3**		**43**	**250**
Other social infrastructure and services	81	32	91	3		43	250
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	**32**	**3**	**3**			**12**	**50**
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	32	3	3			12	50
Water and sanitation	**110**	**28**	**26**		**5**	**11**	**180**
Water and sanitation	110	28	26		5	11	180
Economic infrastructure and services	**554**	**60**	**117**	**10**	**2**	**291**	**1.035**
Banking and financial services	**15**	**6**	**14**		**0**	**123**	**158**
Banking and financial services	15	6	14		0	123	158
Business and other services	**54**	**13**	**21**	**1**		**10**	**99**
Business and other services	54	13	21	1		10	99
Communications	**52**	**25**	**4**		**1**	**39**	**121**
Communications	52	25	4		1	39	121
Energy	**286**	**10**	**75**	**9**	**1**	**119**	**499**
Energy generation, non-renewable sources	0	2	0				2
Energy generation, renewable sources	112	2	32		1	102	249

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Sector	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Developing countries, unspecified	Total
Energy policy	45	4	27	0	0	4	80
Heating, cooling and energy distribution	125	2	6			0	133
Nuclear energy plants	4		10	9		13	35
Transport and storage	**148**	**4**	**4**	**1**	**0**	**1**	**158**
Transport and storage	148	4	4	1	0	1	158
Production sectors	**458**	**71**	**139**	**1**	**20**	**109**	**798**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	**308**	**42**	**86**	**1**	**11**	**102**	**550**
Agriculture	271	30	60	0	3	81	445
Fishing	12	0	14		4	6	35
Forestry	26	12	12	0	5	15	70
Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction	**87**	**17**	**35**		**1**	**7**	**147**
Construction	0						0
Industry	83	17	35		1	6	142
Mineral resources and mining	3	0	0			1	4
Trade and tourism	**63**	**12**	**18**	**0**	**8**	**1**	**101**
Tourism	4		2				6
Trade policy and regulations and trade-related adjustment	59	12	16	0	8	1	95
Multisector/Cross-cutting	**539**	**107**	**92**	**5**	**36**	**115**	**893**
General environmental protection	**133**	**64**	**26**		**22**	**81**	**325**
General environmental protection	133	64	26		22	81	325
Other multisector	**407**	**43**	**66**	**5**	**13**	**34**	**568**
Other multisector	407	43	66	5	13	34	568
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	**175**	**6**	**13**		**4**	**2**	**200**
Developmental food assistance	**4**	**0**	**13**			**2**	**19**
Developmental food assistance	4	0	13			2	19
General budget support	**172**	**5**	**0**		**4**		**181**
General budget support	172	5	0		4		181
Humanitarian aid	**50**	**3**	**15**				**69**
Disaster preparedness	**2**		**2**				**4**
Disaster preparedness	2		2				4
Emergency response	**48**	**3**	**13**				**64**
Emergency response	48	3	13				64
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation		**1**	**1**				**1**
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation		1	1				1
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**10**	**6**	**3**	**13**		**193**	**225**
Administrative costs of donors	**0**					**183**	**183**
Administrative costs of donors	0					183	183
Unallocated / Unspecified	**10**	**6**	**3**	**13**		**10**	**41**
Unallocated / Unspecified	10	6	3	13		10	41
Total	**3.229**	**476**	**1.250**	**69**	**87**	**1.132**	**6.243**

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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	No	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	No	No

Table 10A: Budget Non-INTPA in 2024: A closer look. Sectoral breakdown per region – Commitments (in EUR millions)

Sector	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Developing countries, unspecified	Total
Social infrastructure and services	**511**	**16**	**701**	**2.047**	**984**	**4.259**
Education	**44**		**80**	**231**	**421**	**775**
Education, level unspecified	15		13	113	226	367
Post-secondary education	29		4	30	194	256
Basic education			59	80	0	139
Secondary education			4	8		12
Government and civil society	**320**	**16**	**349**	**1.178**	**426**	**2.289**
Conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security	227	16	188	249	77	757
Government and civil society, general	93	0	161	929	348	1.532
Health	**42**		**66**	**141**	**25**	**273**
Basic health	42		28	58	15	142
Health, general			38	73	10	121
Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)				10		10
Other social infrastructure and services	**25**		**166**	**419**	**7**	**617**
Other social infrastructure and services	25		166	419	7	617
Water and sanitation	**81**		**40**	**78**	**105**	**305**
Water and sanitation	81		40	78	105	305
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health				**1**		**1**
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health				1		1
Economic infrastructure and services	**47**		**52**	**1.327**	**198**	**1.623**
Banking and financial services	**15**		**5**	**3**	**0**	**23**
Banking and financial services	15		5	3	0	23
Business and other services	**4**		**8**	**80**	**9**	**101**
Business and other services	4		8	80	9	101
Energy	**27**		**16**	**299**	**19**	**361**
Energy generation, renewable sources	27		16	44	5	92
Energy generation, non-renewable sources				11		11
Energy policy				239	5	244
Heating, cooling and energy distribution				2	9	11

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Sector	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Developing countries, unspecified	Total
Nuclear energy plants				3		3
Communications			**0**	**128**	**29**	**156**
Communications			0	128	29	156
Transport and storage			**22**	**818**	**141**	**980**
Transport and storage			22	818	141	980
Production sectors	**56**		**5**	**726**	**318**	**1.106**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	**8**			**107**	**9**	**124**
Agriculture	8			94		102
Forestry				13	9	22
Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction	**48**		**5**	**591**	**309**	**953**
Industry	48		5	521	309	883
Mineral resources and mining				70		70
Trade and tourism				**29**	**1**	**29**
Tourism				9		9
Trade policy and regulations and trade-related adjustment				20	1	20
Multisector/Cross-cutting	**45**		**31**	**909**	**322**	**1.307**
Other multisector	**45**		**27**	**882**	**283**	**1.237**
Other multisector	45		27	882	283	1.237
General environmental protection			**4**	**27**	**39**	**70**
General environmental protection			4	27	39	70
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	**-47**		**25**	**3.930**	**150**	**4.058**
General budget support	**-47**		**25**	**3.930**	**150**	**4.058**
General budget support	-47		25	3.930	150	4.058
Humanitarian aid	**978**	**165**	**1.036**	**400**	**262**	**2.841**
Disaster preparedness	**31**	**20**	**21**	**2**	**11**	**85**
Disaster preparedness	31	20	21	2	11	85
Emergency response	**946**	**145**	**1.015**	**206**	**204**	**2.516**
Emergency response	946	145	1.015	206	204	2.516
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation				**193**	**47**	**241**
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation				193	47	241
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified				**0**	**888**	**888**
Administrative costs of donors				**0**	**881**	**881**
Administrative costs of donors				0	881	881
Unallocated / Unspecified					**7**	**7**
Unallocated / Unspecified					7	7
Total	**1.589**	**182**	**1.849**	**9.341**	**3.122**	**16.083**

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	No	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	No	No

Table 10B: Budget Non-INTPA in 2024: A closer look. Sectoral breakdown per region – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Sector	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Developing countries, unspecified	Grand Total
Social infrastructure and services	**677**	**37**	**768**	**1.919**	**0**	**489**	**3.892**
Education	**76**	**3**	**76**	**421**	**0**	**275**	**851**
Basic education	9		26	157		1	193
Education, level unspecified	20		35	132		212	399
Post-secondary education	28	0	4	28	0	56	115
Secondary education	19	2	12	105		7	145
Government and civil society	**487**	**30**	**508**	**678**	**0**	**129**	**1.833**
Conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security	220	17	174	204	0	53	668
Government and civil society, general	267	13	333	475	0	76	1.165
Health	**55**	**4**	**53**	**164**		**9**	**285**
Basic health	28	4	16	158		1	206
Health, general	27		31	6		8	72
Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)	0		6	1			6
Other social infrastructure and services	**30**		**64**	**479**		**7**	**580**
Other social infrastructure and services	30		64	479		7	580
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	**1**		**0**	**0**			**1**
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	1		0	0			1
Water and sanitation	**28**		**68**	**176**		**69**	**341**
Water and sanitation	28		68	176		69	341
Economic infrastructure and services	**22**	**0**	**30**	**629**		**163**	**843**
Banking and financial services	**8**		**2**	**10**		**3**	**23**
Banking and financial services	8		2	10		3	23
Business and other services	**8**	**0**	**6**	**19**		**9**	**42**
Business and other services	8	0	6	19		9	42
Communications	**1**		**3**	**44**		**19**	**67**
Communications	1		3	44		19	67
Energy	**5**		**15**	**349**		**17**	**385**
Energy generation, renewable sources	2		3	196		10	212
Energy policy	3		7	119		5	134

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Sector	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Developing countries, unspecified	Grand Total
Heating, cooling and energy distribution			5	22		1	28
Energy generation, non-renewable sources				9			9
Nuclear energy plants				3		0	3
Transport and storage			**4**	**206**		**115**	**326**
Transport and storage			4	206		115	326
Production sectors	**58**	**0**	**30**	**382**		**189**	**659**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	**42**		**15**	**71**		**15**	**144**
Agriculture	31		15	69		15	130
Fishing	1			1			2
Forestry	10			1		1	12
Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction	**13**	**0**	**9**	**286**		**167**	**475**
Industry	13	0	9	283		167	471
Mineral resources and mining	0			3		1	4
Trade and tourism	**3**		**6**	**25**		**6**	**40**
Tourism	3		1	7		0	11
Trade policy and regulations and trade-related adjustment	0		5	18		6	30
Multisector/Cross-cutting	**54**	**5**	**99**	**403**		**283**	**843**
General environmental protection	**14**	**2**	**21**	**102**		**38**	**178**
General environmental protection	14	2	21	102		38	178
Other multisector	**39**	**3**	**78**	**300**		**245**	**666**
Other multisector	39	3	78	300		245	666
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	**256**		**15**	**3.876**		**280**	**4.427**
Developmental food assistance	**0**						**0**
Developmental food assistance	0						0
General budget support	**256**		**15**	**3.876**		**280**	**4.427**
General budget support	256		15	3.876		280	4.427
Humanitarian aid	**930**	**134**	**1.003**	**394**	**0**	**204**	**2.665**
Disaster preparedness	**290**	**95**	**227**	**0**		**72**	**685**
Disaster preparedness	290	95	227	0		72	685
Emergency response	**640**	**39**	**774**	**303**	**0**	**128**	**1.883**
Emergency response	640	39	774	303	0	128	1.883
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation			**2**	**91**		**4**	**97**
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation			2	91		4	97
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**2**	**1**	**3**	**5**		**885**	**896**
Administrative costs of donors	**0**			**0**		**881**	**881**
Administrative costs of donors	0			0		881	881
Unallocated / Unspecified	**1**	**1**	**3**	**4**		**4**	**14**
Unallocated / Unspecified	1	1	3	4		4	14
Grand Total	**1.997**	**177**	**1.949**	**7.607**	**1**	**2.493**	**14.225**

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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 11A: Sectoral breakdown per instrument in 2024 – Commitments (in EUR millions)

Sector	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
Social infrastructure and services	**4.366**	**773**	**1.107**		**709**	**334**		**314**		**7**		**6**		**7.615**
Education	**882**	**16**	**7**		**212**	**70**				**4**		**0**		**1.190**
Basic education	162	9			10	70								251
Education, level unspecified	282	2	4		144							0		432
Post-secondary education	241	5			50							0		296
Secondary education	197		3		8					4				211
Government and civil society	**2.123**	**533**	**654**		**291**	**187**		**314**				**5**		**4.108**
Conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security	257	114	220		24			314				0		929
Government and civil society, general	1.866	419	433		268	187						5		3.179
Health	**482**	**175**	**50**		**36**	**70**								**814**
Basic health	357	175	50		14									596
Health, general	121				13	70								204
Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)	5				10									14
Other social infrastructure and services	**480**	**27**	**314**		**91**	**7**				**2**		**0**		**923**
Other social infrastructure and services	480	27	314		91	7				2		0		923
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	**50**	**7**			**1**									**58**
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	50	7			1									58
Water and sanitation	**348**	**14**	**82**		**77**					**1**				**522**
Water and sanitation	348	14	82		77					1				522
Economic infrastructure and services	**1.128**	**78**	**24**		**788**	**542**			**41**			**0**		**2.602**
Banking and financial services	**101**	**17**			**3**							**0**		**121**
Banking and financial services	101	17			3							0		121
Business and other services	**148**	**16**			**54**	**10**						**0**		**229**
Business and other services	148	16			54	10						0		229
Communications	**202**	**18**	**0**		**46**	**84**						**-0**		**351**

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Sector	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
Communications	202	18	0		46	84						-0		351
Energy	**474**	**27**	**24**		**45**	**170**			**41**					**781**
Energy generation, non-renewable sources	2		10		1									13
Energy generation, renewable sources	272		14		9									294
Energy policy	106	27			33	170								334
Heating, cooling and energy distribution	95				2									98
Nuclear energy plants									41					41
Transport and storage	**202**				**639**	**278**								**1.120**
Transport and storage	202				639	278								1.120
Production sectors	**1.479**	**63**	**42**		**127**	**587**				**10**		**3**	**-1**	**2.310**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	**497**	**47**	**42**		**-9**	**99**						**2**	**-1**	**677**
Agriculture	410	36	42		-22	99						2	-1	566
Fishing	34	9												43
Forestry	53	3			13									68
Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction	**677**	**-1**			**122**	**487**							**-0**	**1.285**
Industry	634	-1			122	418							-0	1.173
Mineral resources and mining	43					70								112
Trade and tourism	**306**	**17**			**14**					**10**		**1**		**348**
Tourism	5				9					10				25
Trade policy and regulations and trade-related adjustment	301	17			5							1		323
Multisector/Cross-cutting	**1.352**	**100**	**25**		**418**		**325**					**150**	**-0**	**2.371**
General environmental protection	**403**	**85**			**27**							**5**		**519**
General environmental protection	403	85			27							5		519
Other multisector	**950**	**15**	**25**		**391**		**325**					**145**	**-0**	**1.852**
Other multisector	950	15	25		391		325					145	-0	1.852
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	**491**	**3**			**6**	**3.228**	**73**					**574**		**4.374**
Developmental food assistance		**3**										**0**		**3**
Developmental food assistance		3										0		3
General budget support	**491**				**6**	**3.228**	**73**					**574**		**4.371**
General budget support	491				6	3.228	73					574		4.371
Humanitarian aid	**220**	**0**	**6**	**2.498**	**20**	**188**						**1**		**2.934**
Disaster preparedness	**16**		**4**	**80**										**100**
Disaster preparedness	16		4	80										100
Emergency response	**156**	**0**	**3**	**2.419**								**1**		**2.578**
Emergency response	156	0	3	2.419								1		2.578
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	**48**				**20**	**188**								**256**
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	48				20	188								256
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**1**	**8**	**319**	**13**	**61**	**8**	**2**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**643**	**15**		**1.073**
Administrative costs of donors	**1**		**319**	**11**	**61**	**8**	**2**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**643**	**4**		**1.053**

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Sector	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
Administrative costs of donors	1		319	11	61	8	2	2	1	0	643	4		1.053
Unallocated / Unspecified		**8**		**2**								**10**		**21**
Unallocated / Unspecified		8		2								10		21
Total	**9.038**	**1.025**	**1.524**	**2.511**	**2.128**	**4.887**	**400**	**316**	**43**	**18**	**643**	**749**	**-2**	**23.279**

Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

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Table 11B: Sectoral breakdown per instrument in 2024 – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Sector	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Completion Lines	EDF	Total
Social infrastructure and services	**2.532**	**885**	**524**	**22**	**735**	**19**		**315**		**0**		**1**	**1.520**	**362**	**6.915**
Education	**563**	**8**	**207**		**106**								**310**	**38**	**1.233**
Basic education	131	3	138		3								12	3	291
Education, level unspecified	266	2	0		67								145	18	499
Post-secondary education	81	3			27								29	5	144
Secondary education	84	1	69		9								124	13	299
Government and civil society	**1.304**	**460**	**190**	**2**	**234**	**19**		**315**		**0**		**0**	**585**	**155**	**3.265**
Conflict prevention and resolution, peace and security	132	87	167	2	9			315					77	43	833
Government and civil society, general	1.172	373	23		225	19				0		0	508	112	2.432
Health	**277**	**368**	**0**	**21**	**102**								**172**	**75**	**1.015**
Basic health	189	184		21	95								135	41	664
Health, general	71	184	0		8								31	27	321
Non-communicable diseases (NCDs)	17	0	0										6	7	30
Other social infrastructure and services	**229**	**30**	**123**		**185**							**1**	**235**	**26**	**830**
Other social infrastructure and services	229	30	123		185							1	235	26	830

Sector	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Completion Lines	EDF	Total
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	**26**	**14**											**4**	**7**	**51**
Population policies/programmes and reproductive health	26	14											4	7	51
Water and sanitation	**133**	**5**	**3**		**108**								**214**	**59**	**522**
Water and sanitation	133	5	3		108								214	59	522
Economic infrastructure and services	**629**	**29**	**25**		**298**	**139**			**25**			**6**	**368**	**359**	**1.877**
Banking and financial services	**150**	**1**	**0**		**1**							**0**	**16**	**12**	**181**
Banking and financial services	150	1	0		1							0	16	12	181
Business and other services	**64**	**7**	**0**		**4**								**33**	**33**	**140**
Business and other services	64	7	0		4								33	33	140
Communications	**92**	**17**	**1**		**41**							**3**	**17**	**17**	**188**
Communications	92	17	1		41							3	17	17	188
Energy	**288**	**3**	**23**		**46**	**138**			**25**			**2**	**195**	**165**	**884**
Energy generation, non-renewable sources	2		9												11
Energy generation, renewable sources	207	1	11		36	96							59	51	460
Energy policy	51	2	3		2	42						2	90	24	214
Heating, cooling and energy distribution	28				9								33	91	161
Nuclear energy plants			0						25				13		38
Transport and storage	**35**	**2**			**206**	**1**							**108**	**133**	**484**
Transport and storage	35	2			206	1							108	133	484
Production sectors	**487**	**30**	**11**		**96**	**235**						**3**	**329**	**266**	**1.457**
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	**270**	**27**			**13**							**1**	**208**	**175**	**694**
Agriculture	217	25			13							1	169	150	575
Fishing	4	1											15	17	37
Forestry	48	1											23	8	81
Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction	**171**	**3**	**11**		**73**	**235**							**79**	**51**	**622**
Construction	0													0	0
Industry	168	2	11		73	232							78	50	614
Mineral resources and mining	3	1				2							1	1	8
Trade and tourism	**47**	**1**			**10**							**2**	**42**	**40**	**141**
Tourism	2				0								12	3	17
Trade policy and regulations and trade-related adjustment	45	1			10							2	31	37	125
Multisector/Cross-cutting	**748**	**53**	**4**	**23**	**152**	**1**						**27**	**462**	**266**	**1.737**
General environmental protection	**196**	**49**	**1**		**15**	**1**						**4**	**183**	**54**	**503**
General environmental protection	196	49	1		15	1						4	183	54	503
Other multisector	**553**	**4**	**3**	**23**	**137**							**23**	**278**	**212**	**1.234**

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Sector	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Completion Lines	EDF	Total
Other multisector	553	4	3	23	137							23	278	212	1.234
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	**892**	**0**			**14**	**3.228**						**449**	**25**	**19**	**4.627**
Developmental food assistance	**0**	**0**											**18**	**1**	**19**
Developmental food assistance	0	0											18	1	19
General budget support	**892**				**14**	**3.228**						**449**	**7**	**18**	**4.608**
General budget support	892				14	3.228						449	7	18	4.608
Humanitarian aid	**305**	**1**	**5**	**2.381**	**6**	**12**						**0**	**8**	**18**	**2.734**
Disaster preparedness		**0**	**1**	**684**									**1**	**2**	**689**
Disaster preparedness		0	1	684									1	2	689
Emergency response	**221**	**0**	**4**	**1.697**	**6**							**0**	**4**	**16**	**1.947**
Emergency response	221	0	4	1.697	6							0	4	16	1.947
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	**84**		**0**			**12**							**3**	**0**	**99**
Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation	84		0			12							3	0	99
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**18**	**17**	**330**	**12**	**62**	**4**		**1**	**1**	**0**	**643**	**12**	**15**	**4**	**1.120**
Administrative costs of donors	**3**	**0**	**330**	**11**	**61**	**4**		**1**	**1**	**0**	**643**	**9**	**0**	**1**	**1.065**
Administrative costs of donors	3	0	330	11	61	4		1	1	0	643	9	0	1	1.065
Unallocated / Unspecified	**15**	**17**	**0**	**1**	**1**							**3**	**15**	**3**	**56**
Unallocated / Unspecified	15	17	0	1	1							3	15	3	56
Total	**5.611**	**1.015**	**899**	**2.438**	**1.363**	**3.637**		**316**	**26**	**0**	**643**	**499**	**2.726**	**1.294**	**20.467**

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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 12A: Breakdown by country and instrument for 2024 – Commitments (in EUR millions)

Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
Part I: Developing Countries and Territories (Official Development Assistance)		**9.038**	**1.025**	**1.205**	**2.501**	**2.068**	**4.879**	**400**	**314**	**41**	**17**		**749**	**-2**	**22.234**
Bilateral		**9.038**	**1.025**	**1.205**	**2.501**	**2.068**	**4.879**	**400**	**314**	**41**	**17**		**688**	**-2**	**22.173**
Africa		**4.725**	**30**	**179**	**977**				**131**				**0**	**-2**	**6.041**
Africa (North of Sahara)		**353**		**-0**	**21**				**26**				**0**		**400**
Algeria	LMICS	45											0		45
Egypt	LMICS	100			2								0		102
Libya	UMICS	35		-0	0				26						61
Morocco	LMICS	181													181
North of Sahara, regional	UNALLOC	53			19										72
Tunisia	LMICS	-61													-61
Africa (South of Sahara)		**3.173**	**0**	**147**	**956**				**99**				**0**	**-2**	**4.374**
Angola	LDCS	77													77
Benin	LDCS	44													44
Burkina Faso	LDCS	82		6											88
Cameroon	LMICS	48		4											52
Central African Republic	LDCS	55							13						68
Chad	LDCS	55		3	9										66
Democratic Republic of the Congo	LDCS	60		54											114
Djibouti	LDCS	1													1
Eastern Africa, regional	UNALLOC	98			529										627
Ethiopia	LDCS	250		7											257
Gabon	UMICS	-7		3											-4
Gambia	LDCS	40													40
Ghana	LMICS	54													54
Guinea	LDCS	118		3											122
Guinea-Bissau	LDCS	18													18
Ivory Coast	LMICS	52		5											57

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
Kenya	LMICS	52													52
Lesotho	LDCS	16	-0												16
Liberia	LDCS	108	-0												108
Madagascar	LDCS	71												-2	69
Malawi	LDCS	93													93
Mali	LDCS	97							28						125
Mauritania	LDCS	100		2	3										105
Mauritius	UMICS	2													2
Middle Africa, regional	UNALLOC	14			111										125
Mozambique	LDCS	109	0												109
Niger	LDCS								-6						-6
Nigeria	LMICS			7										-0	7
Rwanda	LDCS	37													37
Senegal	LDCS	1		5											6
Sierra Leone	LDCS	55													55
Somalia	LDCS	28		4					63						95
South of Sahara, regional	UNALLOC	829			7										835
South Sudan	LDCS	44			0										45
Southern Africa, regional	UNALLOC	15			7										22
Sudan	LDCS	95		11									0		106
Tanzania	LDCS	17													17
Togo	LDCS	19													19
Uganda	LDCS	110													110
Western Africa, regional	UNALLOC	72		35	291										398
Zambia	LDCS	63													63
Zimbabwe	LMICS	80													80
Africa, unspecified		**1.199**	**30**	**32**					**6**				**0**		**1.267**
Africa, regional	UNALLOC	1.199	30	32					6				0		1.267
America		**412**	**2**	**34**	**165**				**3**				**0**		**615**
America (North & Central America)		**165**	**0**	**20**	**34**										**219**
Belize	LMICS	0													0
Caribbean & Central America, regional	UNALLOC				13										13
Caribbean, regional	UNALLOC	9		10											19
El Salvador	LMICS	7													7
Guatemala	UMICS	17	0												17
Haiti	LDCS	40	0	10	21										71
Honduras	LMICS	46													46
Jamaica	UMICS	16													16
Nicaragua	LMICS	30													30

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
America (South America)		**96**	**0**	**12**	**40**				**3**						**151**
Bolivia	LMICS	6		2											8
Brazil	UMICS	5													5
Colombia	UMICS	28													28
Ecuador	UMICS	10	0		2										12
Paraguay	UMICS	28													28
Peru	UMICS	12													12
South America, regional	UNALLOC	7		10	20				3						40
Venezuela	UMICS				18										18
America, unspecified		**150**	**2**	**2**	**92**								**0**		**246**
America, regional	UNALLOC	150	2	2	92								0		246
Asia		**1.770**	**0**	**96**	**938**				**83**	**13**			**15**		**2.915**
Asia (Far East Asia)		**167**													**167**
China	UMICS	23													23
Far East Asia, regional	UNALLOC	4													4
Philippines	LMICS	64													64
Thailand	UMICS	-0													-0
Timor-Leste	LDCS	9													9
Viet Nam	LMICS	68													68
Asia (Middle East Asia)		**701**	**0**	**57**	**655**				**40**				**0**		**1.453**
Iraq	UMICS				23				24						47
Jordan	UMICS	167	0										0		167
Lebanon	UMICS	256		7	29										292
Middle East, regional	UNALLOC	8		38	222				0						267
Palestine**	LMICS	234			237				16				0		487
Syria	OTHER_LICS	36		9	18										63
Yemen	LDCS			3	127										129
Asia (South & Central Asia)		**722**	**0**	**25**	**283**				**43**	**13**					**1.086**
Afghanistan	LDCS	194		2											196
Armenia	UMICS	45							19	13					77
Azerbaïjan	UMICS	14													14
Bangladesh	LDCS	90		2											92
Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC	73													73
Georgia	UMICS								24						24
India	LMICS	18													18
Kazakhstan	UMICS	11													11
Kyrgyz Republic	LMICS	22		-0											22
Maldives	UMICS	7													7
Myanmar	LDCS	90		5	1										96

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
Nepal	LDCS	58													58
Pakistan	LMICS	31		15											46
South & Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC				282										282
South Asia, regional	UNALLOC	31													31
Sri Lanka	LMICS	22	0												22
Tajikistan	LMICS	0		3											3
Turkmenistan	UMICS	4													4
Uzbekistan	LMICS	13													13
Asia, unspecified		**180**		**14**									**15**		**209**
Asia, regional	UNALLOC	180		14									15		209
Europe		**499**	**82**	**874**	**215**	**1.660**	**4.879**	**398**	**91**	**3**			**646**		**9.346**
Europe		**499**	**82**	**874**	**215**	**1.660**	**4.879**	**398**	**91**	**3**			**646**		**9.346**
Albania	UMICS					94									94
Belarus	UMICS	30													30
Bosnia-Herzegovina	UMICS					72			4						76
Europe, regional	UNALLOC	375	82	14	89	869		398	5				13		1.845
Kosovo*	UMICS		0			2			32						34
Moldova	UMICS	78							6						85
Montenegro	UMICS					48							4		52
North Macedonia	UMICS	0				95							-0		95
Serbia	UMICS	1				163							55		218
Türkiye	UMICS	7		804	26	317							1		1.156
Ukraine ***	LMICS	8		55	100		4.879		42	3			574		5.661
Oceania		**62**									**17**				**79**
Oceania		**62**									**17**				**79**
Oceania, regional	UNALLOC	37													37
Papua New Guinea	LMICS	5													5
Tuvalu	LDCS	1													1
Vanuatu	LMICS	19													19
Wallis & Futuna	UMICS										17				17
Developing countries		**1.569**	**911**	**23**	**206**	**408**		**2**	**7**	**26**			**27**		**3.178**
Developing countries, unspecified		**1.569**	**911**	**23**	**206**	**408**		**2**	**7**	**26**			**27**		**3.178**
Developing countries, unspecified	UNALLOC	1.569	911	23	206	408		2	7	26			27		3.178
Multilateral (inflows)													**61**		**61**
Other multilateral institution													**1**		**1**
Other multilateral institution													**1**		**1**
World Customs Organization Customs Co-operation Fund													1		1
United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN)													**3**		**3**

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN)													**3**		**3**
FAO													2		2
UNFCCC													1		1
Regional Development Bank													**57**		**57**
Regional Development Bank													**57**		**57**
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development													57		57
Part II: Countries and Territories in Transition (NON-ODA eligible countries)		**10**	**0**	**9**							**40**		**19**		**79**
Bilateral		**10**	**0**	**9**							**40**		**19**		**79**
America			**0**								**9**				**9**
America (North & Central America)											**9**				**9**
Aruba	MADCTS										9				9
America (South America)			**0**												**0**
Uruguay	MADCTS		0												0
Asia		**10**													**10**
Asia (Middle East Asia)		**10**													**10**
Israel	MADCTS	10													10
United Arab Emirates	MADCTS	0													0
Europe				**9**							**30**				**39**
Europe				**9**							**30**				**39**
Greenland	MADCTS										30				30
Russia	CEECS/NIS			9											9
Oceania											**1**		**-0**		**1**
Oceania											**1**		**-0**		**1**
New Caledonia	MADCTS										1				1
Pitcairn Islands	MADCTS												-0		-0
Other			**0**										**19**		**19**
Other			**0**										**19**		**19**
MADCT Unallocated	MADCTS		0										19		19
Part III: ODA Countries Non-ODA Eligible Flows		**78**	**7**	**21**		**0**			**73**				**53**		**233**
Part IV: Other flows in non-ODA countries		**9**									**13**				**22**
Administrative Costs Ex-BA lines - Heading 6				**323**	**11**	**61**	**8**		**2**	**1**	**1**				**407**
Administrative Costs - Heading 7												**643**			**643**
TOTAL COMMITTED AMOUNT		**9.135**	**1.033**	**1.558**	**2.511**	**2.129**	**4.887**	**400**	**389**	**43**	**72**	**643**	**821**	**-2**	**23.618**

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

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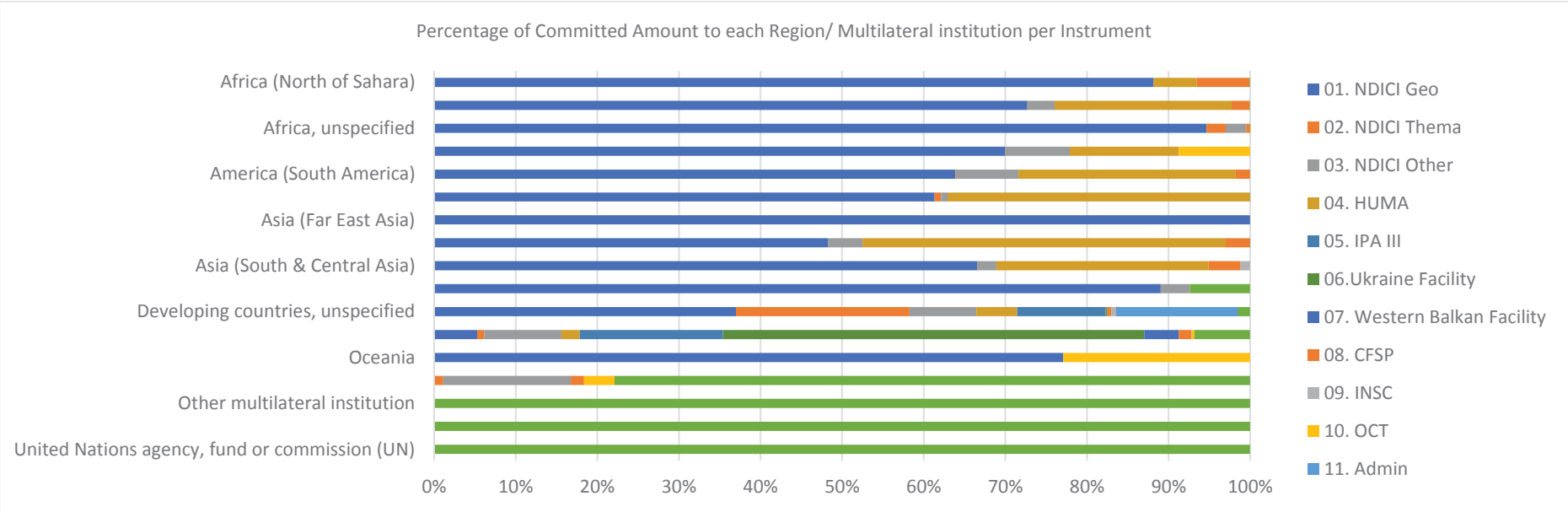
(**) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

(***) The allocation for Ukraine in 2024 under Humanitarian aid (HUMA) and the European Instrument for International Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC) is partially reported either within the 'Europe, regional'category or the 'Developing Countries, unspecified' category due to the co-existence of regional/global actions. The support committed for Ukraine in 2024 under HUMA is EUR 165 million while the allocation under INSC in 2024 is EUR 18 million.

Graphs Table 12A



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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 12B: Breakdown by country and instrument for 2024 – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Comp-letion Lines	EDF	Total
Part I: Developing Countries and Territories (Official Development Assistance)		**5.611**	**1.015**	**569**	**2.428**	**1.302**	**3.633**		**315**	**25**	**0**		**499**	**2.726**	**1.294**	**19.416**
Bilateral		**5.604**	**1.012**	**566**	**2.428**	**1.300**	**3.633**		**315**	**25**	**0**		**497**	**2.703**	**1.294**	**19.377**
Africa		**2.314**	**163**	**89**	**932**	**0**			**113**	**4**			**1**	**523**	**1.081**	**5.220**
Africa (North of Sahara)		**536**	**6**	**20**	**22**				**26**				**0**	**245**		**855**
Algeria	LMICS	16	1		10									8		35
Egypt	LMICS	39	1	6	9								0	51		105
Libya	UMICS	36	2	11	2				26					3		81
Morocco	LMICS	214	1		0									54		270
North of Sahara, regional	UNALLOC	35			1									2		39
Tunisia	LMICS	195	1	3										126		325
Africa (South of Sahara)		**1.384**	**121**	**69**	**910**				**81**	**1**			**1**	**146**	**1.006**	**3.719**
Angola	LDCS	14	2	1	1									1	29	48
Benin	LDCS	41	1	9	0									3	19	73
Botswana	UMICS	3	1												3	7
Burkina Faso	LDCS	10	3	3	32									6	4	59
Burundi	LDCS	27	3		0									0	16	46
Cabo Verde	LMICS	8	0											0	6	14
Cameroon	LMICS	24	3	3	25									7	7	69
Central African Republic	LDCS	32	1	4	19				7					2	9	74
Chad	LDCS	27	2	10	65									1	26	130
Comoros	LDCS	5	1		0									0	3	9
Congo	LMICS	7	1		0									1	5	15
Democratic Republic of the Congo	LDCS	63	3	3	91								0	5	68	234
Djibouti	LDCS	13	1		0									2	9	26

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Comp-letion Lines	EDF	Total
Eastern Africa, regional	UNALLOC	24	1	0	124									3	27	181
Equatorial Guinea	UMICS		1													1
Eritrea	LDCS	0	2											1	90	93
Eswatini	LMICS	1	1											0	5	6
Ethiopia	LDCS	46	3	5	72									2	23	152
Gabon	UMICS		0	2										0	0	3
Gambia	LDCS	13	2											1	8	25
Ghana	LMICS	20	3	0						0				1	17	42
Guinea	LDCS	29	1	2	0									0	22	53
Guinea-Bissau	LDCS	3	0											1	3	7
Ivory Coast	LMICS	52	2	4	2									4	6	70
Kenya	LMICS	32	5	1	14									1	32	84
Lesotho	LDCS	6	1		0									0	8	15
Liberia	LDCS	3	1											1	14	20
Madagascar	LDCS	9	1		10									2	59	81
Malawi	LDCS	49	2		8									1	41	100
Mali	LDCS	28	4	3	27				28					0	21	112
Mauritania	LDCS	51	1	1	9									1	12	76
Mauritius	UMICS	0	1											2	4	7
Middle Africa, regional	UNALLOC	18	1											2	2	22
Mozambique	LDCS	56	8	3	18								0	4	82	171
Namibia	UMICS	5	1											0	6	13
Niger	LDCS	23	0		19				5					4	3	54
Nigeria	LMICS	72	2	2	37					0			0	5	15	133
Rwanda	LDCS	57	0		1									3	7	69
Sao Tome and Principe	LDCS	2	0											1	2	4
Senegal	LDCS	22	4	4										2	21	53
Sierra Leone	LDCS	14	5												21	39
Somalia	LDCS	83	5	3	59				41					6	6	203
South Africa	UMICS	2	2							1				29		35
South of Sahara, regional	UNALLOC	71	3		64									25	87	250
South Sudan	LDCS	43	2		63									1	0	110
Southern Africa, regional	UNALLOC	8	8											0	0	16
Sudan	LDCS	41	8	3	86									2	0	140
Tanzania	LDCS	50	2											0	34	85
Togo	LDCS	30	1	1	0									1	14	47
Uganda	LDCS	30	5	0	27									2	18	82
Western Africa, regional	UNALLOC	27	5		19									4	23	78

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Comp-letion Lines	EDF	Total
Zambia	LDCS	76	2		6									1	62	147
Zimbabwe	LMICS	12	3	0	10									2	7	34
Africa, unspecified		**394**	**36**			**0**			**6**	**2**			**0**	**132**	**75**	**646**
Africa, regional	UNALLOC	394	36			0			6	2			0	132	75	646
America		**198**	**61**	**11**	**140**				**1**				**2**	**154**	**73**	**640**
America (North & Central America)		**89**	**17**	**7**	**40**								**0**	**63**	**69**	**284**
Antigua And Barbuda	UMICS														0	0
Belize	LMICS	4	0												1	5
Caribbean & Central America, regional	UNALLOC				0									1		1
Caribbean, regional	UNALLOC	7	3		1										28	39
Central America, regional	UNALLOC	11	1	4	15									2	0	34
Costa Rica	UMICS	4	0											3		7
Cuba	UMICS	18	1		1									8		28
Dominican Republic	UMICS	1	3		1									1	5	10
El Salvador	LMICS	3	1											10		14
Grenada	UMICS				0										0	0
Guatemala	UMICS	25	4										0	13		42
Haiti	LDCS	2	0	3	20									2	24	51
Honduras	LMICS	8	0											14		23
Jamaica	UMICS	2	0										0	1	9	12
Mexico	UMICS	0	3		3									3		9
Nicaragua	LMICS	3	1		0									3		7
Panama	UMICS		0											0		0
St. Lucia	UMICS														2	2
St.Vincent & Grenadines	UMICS				0									0	0	0
America (South America)		**76**	**35**	**4**	**78**				**1**					**83**	**4**	**281**
Argentina	UMICS	1	1		1									4		6
Bolivia	LMICS	21	1	0	1									16		39
Brazil	UMICS	1	2		1									4		8
Colombia	UMICS	8	2	2	9									27		48
Ecuador	UMICS	6	8	2	5									5		26
Guyana	UMICS	7	0											0	0	7
Paraguay	UMICS	3	1											4		9
Peru	UMICS	5	1	0	1									3		10
South America, regional	UNALLOC	23	15		26				1					18		83
Suriname	UMICS	1	0											0	4	5

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Comp-letion Lines	EDF	Total
Venezuela	UMICS	1	4		35									1		40
America, unspecified		**33**	**9**	**0**	**22**				**0**				**2**	**9**		**75**
America, regional	UNALLOC	33	9	0	22				0				2	9		75
Asia		**1.166**	**270**	**53**	**868**				**101**	**3**			**2**	**725**	**4**	**3.193**
Asia (Far East Asia)		**73**	**4**		**8**									**120**	**4**	**209**
Cambodia	LDCS	20												25		45
China	UMICS	5												8		13
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	OTHER_LICS													0		0
Far East Asia, regional	UNALLOC				2									6		9
Indonesia	LMICS	5												11		16
Lao (People's Democratic Republic)	LDCS	18	1		0									5		23
Malaysia	UMICS	3	2											0		4
Mongolia	LMICS	5	0		0									11		17
Philippines	LMICS	6	1		5									22		33
Thailand	UMICS	4			0									1		6
Timor-Leste	LDCS	3	1											1	4	9
Viet Nam	LMICS	5	0											30		36
Asia (Middle East Asia)		**628**	**12**	**30**	**594**				**59**	**1**			**0**	**228**		**1.552**
Iran	LMICS	6	2		11					0				4		24
Iraq	UMICS	2		1	31				41				0	57		131
Jordan	UMICS	40	4		15					0			0	36		95
Lebanon	UMICS	142	1	1	60									26		230
Middle East, regional	UNALLOC	2	0	2	1				2					2		8
Palestine**	LMICS	385	1	11	195				16				0	34		643
Syria	OTHER_LICS	19	2	15	165									55		256
Yemen	LDCS	32	2	1	117									13		164
Asia (South & Central Asia)		**413**	**11**	**20**	**261**				**43**	**1**			**0**	**359**		**1.109**
Afghanistan	LDCS	80		10	149									41		279
Armenia	UMICS	41	2	1	5				19	1				30		98
Azerbaïjan	UMICS	5	0	1	1									10		17
Bangladesh	LDCS	75	1	1	48								0	90		215
Bhutan	LMICS	4												0		4
Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC	39		2	1									17		59
Georgia	UMICS	22	3		0				24					37		85
India	LMICS	6	0		1									5		12
Kazakhstan	UMICS	4	1											0		5

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Comp-letion Lines	EDF	Total
Kyrgyz Republic	LMICS	10	0											6		16
Maldives	UMICS	1	0													1
Myanmar	LDCS	39	1	0	36									9		86
Nepal	LDCS	24	1		4									4		33
Pakistan	LMICS	23	1	5	16									37		81
South & Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC	4												0		5
South Asia, regional	UNALLOC	3												3		6
Sri Lanka	LMICS	7	0	0	0									12		20
Tajikistan	LMICS	13		0										47		60
Turkmenistan	UMICS	2	0											1		3
Uzbekistan	LMICS	12												10		22
Asia, unspecified		**53**	**243**	**3**	**4**					**2**			**1**	**18**		**323**
Asia, regional	UNALLOC	53	243	3	4					2			1	18		323
Europe		**646**	**87**	**409**	**277**	**935**	**3.633**		**93**	**8**			**457**	**1.125**		**7.670**
Europe		**646**	**87**	**409**	**277**	**935**	**3.633**		**93**	**8**			**457**	**1.125**		**7.670**
Albania	UMICS		0			29							0	45		75
Belarus	UMICS	12	3	0										5		20
Bosnia-Herzegovina	UMICS		0	1	2	44			4					54		104
Europe, regional	UNALLOC	115	75	37	19	336			8	1			8	283		881
Kosovo*	UMICS		0			12			32					19		64
Moldova	UMICS	68	2	9	18				6				28	26		156
Montenegro	UMICS		0			24								17		41
North Macedonia	UMICS	0	0			32							0	41		74
Serbia	UMICS	1				106								90		196
States Ex-Yugoslavia	UNALLOC					2										2
Türkiye	UMICS	7	1	303	56	351				0				465		1.184
Ukraine	LMICS	443	5	58	182		3.633		42	7			421	81		4.873
Oceania		**32**	**1**		**0**						**0**			**4**	**49**	**87**
Oceania		**32**	**1**		**0**						**0**			**4**	**49**	**87**
Fiji	UMICS	0	0											0	1	1
Kiribati	LDCS	1													2	4
Marshall Islands	UMICS	3													0	4
Melanesia, regional	UNALLOC	1														1
Micronesia, Fed. States	LMICS														2	2
Oceania, regional	UNALLOC	6												2	26	34
Palau	UMICS														0	0
Papua New Guinea	LMICS	13	0		0									1	13	27
Samoa	LMICS	3													0	3

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Comp-letion Lines	EDF	Total
Solomon Islands	LDCS	2	0											1	2	5
Tonga	UMICS	1	0													1
Tuvalu	LDCS	1													0	1
Vanuatu	LMICS	0			0									0	2	3
Wallis & Futuna	UMICS										0				0	0
Developing countries		**1.248**	**430**	**4**	**209**	**365**			**7**	**10**			**35**	**171**	**88**	**2.567**
Developing countries, unspecified		**1.248**	**430**	**4**	**209**	**365**			**7**	**10**			**35**	**171**	**88**	**2.567**
Developing countries, unspecified	UNALLOC	1.248	430	4	209	365			7	10			35	171	88	2.567
Bilateral, core contributions to NGOs and other private bodies / PPPs		**4**	**3**	**3**		**1**								**6**		**16**
Bilateral, core contributions to NGOs and other private bodies / PPPs		**4**	**3**	**3**		**1**								**6**		**16**
Bilateral, core contributions to NGOs and other private bodies / PPPs		**4**	**3**	**3**		1								**6**		**16**
Bilateral, core contributions to NGOs and other private bodies / PPPs		4	3	3		1								6		16
Multilateral (inflows)				**0**									**2**	**2**		**5**
Other multilateral institution													**1**			**1**
Other multilateral institution													**1**			**1**
World Customs Organization Customs Co-operation Fund													1			1
United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN)				**0**									**1**	**2**		**3**
United Nations agency, fund or commission (UN)				**0**									**1**	**2**		**3**
FAO													0			0
UN				0												0
UNFCCC													1			1
WHO-Assessed														2		2
Triangular co-operation		**3**												**15**		**18**
Africa		**2**														**2**
Africa (South of Sahara)		**2**														**2**

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Comp-letion Lines	EDF	Total
Senegal	LDCS	2														2
America														**12**		**12**
America (South America)														**3**		**3**
South America, regional	UNALLOC													3		3
America, unspecified														**9**		**9**
America, regional	UNALLOC													9		9
Asia		**1**												**3**		**4**
Asia (Far East Asia)														**3**		**3**
Far East Asia, regional	UNALLOC													3		3
Asia (South & Central Asia)		**1**														**1**
Central Asia, regional	UNALLOC	1														1
Oceania		**0**														**0**
Oceania		**0**														**0**
Oceania, regional	UNALLOC	0														0
Part II: Countries and Territories in Transition (NON-ODA eligible countries)		**7**	**4**	**6**				**1**			**49**		**17**	**14**	**20**	**119**
Bilateral		**7**	**4**	**6**				**1**			**49**		**17**	**14**	**20**	**119**
Africa			**0**	**1**											**2**	**3**
Africa (South of Sahara)			**0**	**1**											**2**	**3**
Seychelles	MADCTS		0	1											2	3
America		**3**	**0**								**8**			**2**	**18**	**30**
America (North & Central America)		**1**									**8**			**0**	**18**	**27**
Aruba	MADCTS										1				0	1
Barbados	MADCTS														2	2
Curaçao	MADCTS														0	0
Netherlands Antilles	MADCTS														13	13
Saint Pierre And Miquelon	MADCTS										7					7
Sint Maarten	MADCTS										0				1	1
Trinidad And Tobago	MADCTS	1												0	2	4
America (South America)		**2**	**0**											**2**		**3**
Chile	MADCTS	1												1		2
Uruguay	MADCTS	1	0											0		1
Asia		**4**	**1**	**3**										**3**		**11**
Asia (Far East Asia)		**1**		**1**										**0**		**2**
Brunei	MADCTS			0												0
Hong Kong, China	MADCTS	0		0												1
Korea	MADCTS	1												0		1

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Country / Region	Income group	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Comp-letion Lines	EDF	Total
Singapore	MADCTS	0														0
Taiwan	MADCTS	0		0										0		1
Asia (Middle East Asia)		**3**	**1**	**2**										**2**		**9**
Israel	MADCTS	1	1	1										2		6
Saudi Arabia	MADCTS	0		1												1
United Arab Emirates	MADCTS	2														2
Europe			**3**	**2**							**30**			**4**		**39**
Europe			**3**	**2**							**30**			**4**		**39**
Greenland	MADCTS										30			1		30
Russia	CEECS/NIS		3	2										3		8
Oceania											**12**		**0**		**0**	**12**
Oceania											**12**		**0**		**0**	**12**
French Polynesia	MADCTS										6				0	6
New Caledonia	MADCTS										6				0	6
Pitcairn Islands	MADCTS												0			0
Other			**0**					**1**					**17**	**6**		**23**
Other			**0**					**1**					**17**	**6**		**23**
MADCT Unallocated	MADCTS		0					1					17	6		23
Part III: ODA Countries Non-ODA Eligible Flows		**135**	**22**	**37**	**3**	**22**			**76**	**0**			**43**	**26**	**91**	**457**
Part IV: Other flows in non-ODA countries		**8**	**0**	**7**		**1**					**3**		**1**	**6**	**0**	**26**
Administrative Costs Ex-BA lines - Heading 6				**340**	**11**	**62**	**4**		**1**	**1**	**1**					**420**
Administrative Costs - Heading 7												**643**				**643**
TOTAL DISBURSED AMOUNT		**5.761**	**1.042**	**960**	**2.442**	**1.386**	**3.637**	**1**	**393**	**26**	**54**	**643**	**560**	**2.771**	**1.405**	**21.081**

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.
(**) This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

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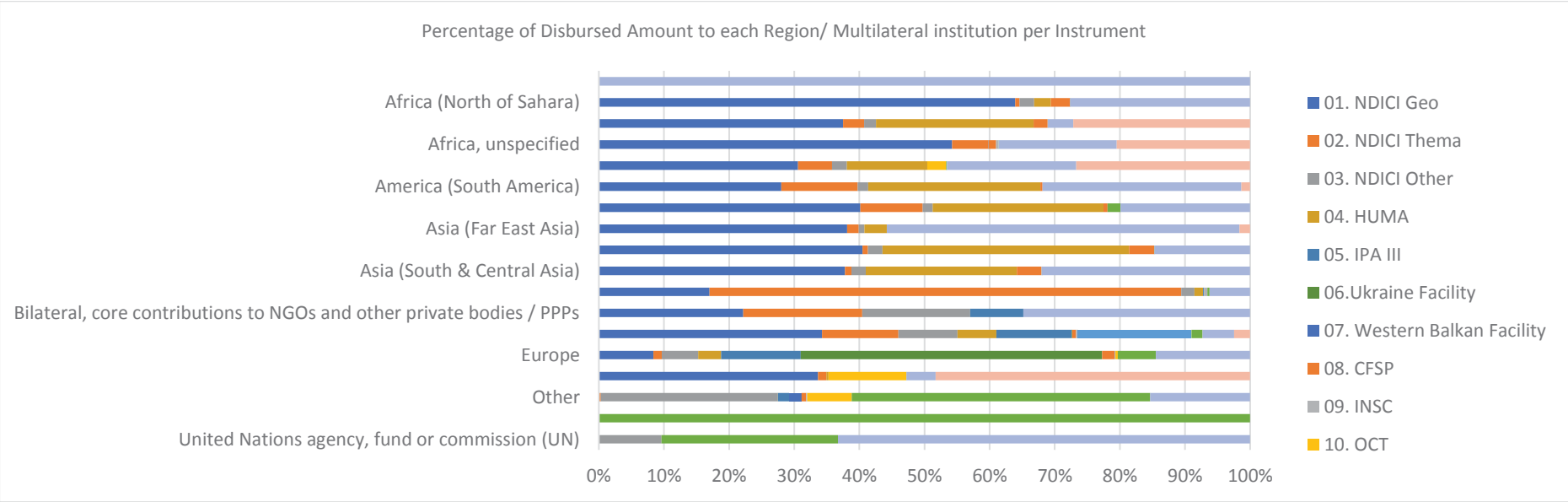
Graphs Table 12A



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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 13A: Breakdown by co-operation modality and by instrument 2024 – Commitments (in EUR millions)

	Cooperation modality	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6.Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
A01	General budget support	491	0	0	0	6	3.228	73	0	0	0	0	574	0	4.371
A02	Sector budget support	386	0	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	462
B01	Core support to NGOs, other private bodies, PPPs and research institutes	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
B02	Core contributions to multilateral institutions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	0	61
B03	Contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by international organisations (multilateral, INGO)	332	82	13	0	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	444
C01	Project-type interventions	7.617	933	1.182	2.498	1.952	1.650	325	314	41	0	0	92	-2	16.603
D02	Other technical assistance	20	1	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	35
E01	Scholarships/training in donor country	191	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	229
G01	Administrative costs not included elsewhere	1	0	319	11	61	8	2	2	1	0	643	4	0	1.053
H01	Development awareness	0	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	21
	Total	**9.038**	**1.025**	**1.524**	**2.511**	**2.128**	**4.887**	**400**	**316**	**43**	**18**	**643**	**749**	**-2**	**23.279**

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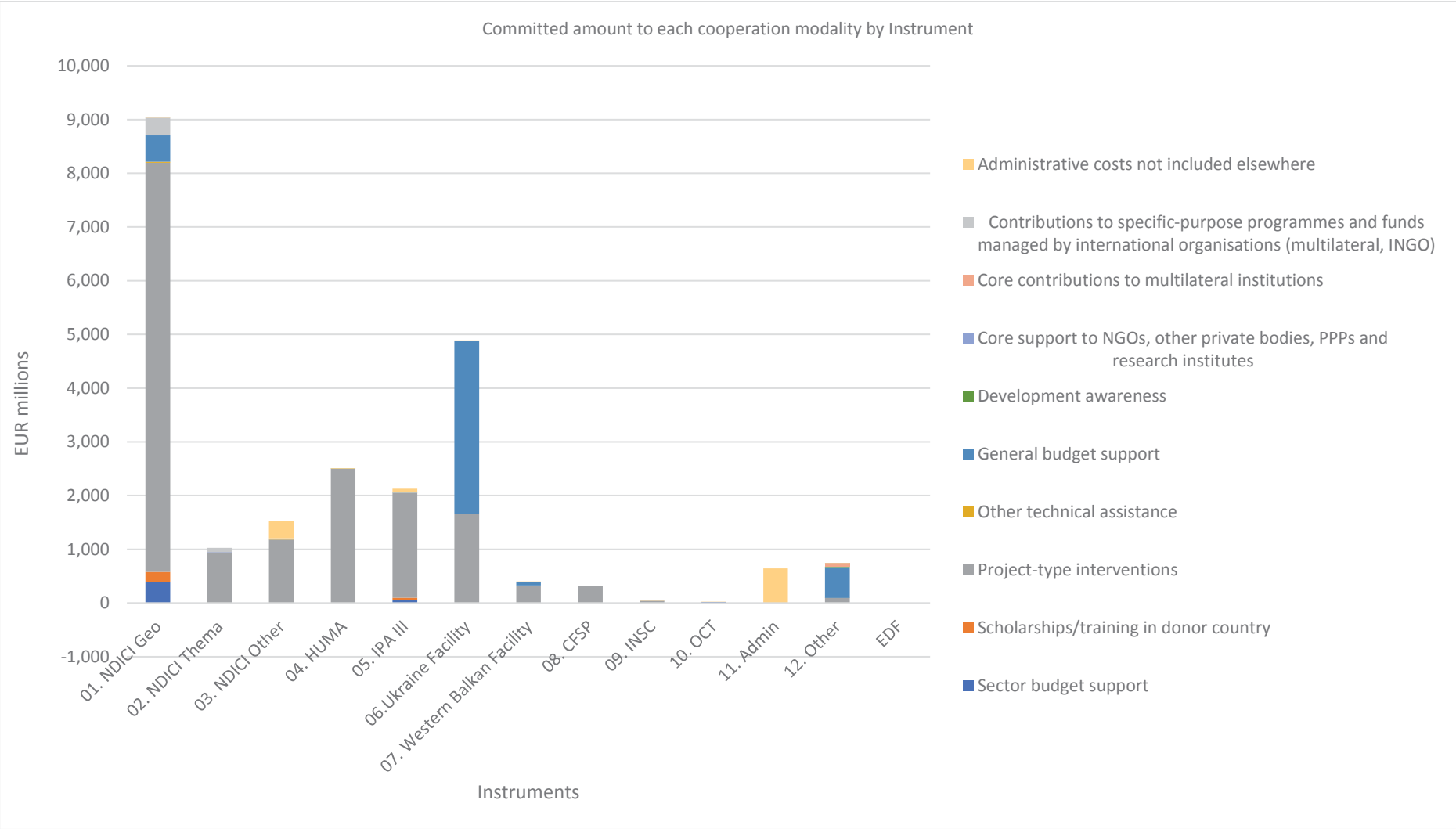
Graphs Table 13A



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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 13B: Breakdown by co-operation modality and by instrument 2024 – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

	Cooperation modality	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6.Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan Facility	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Completion Lines	EDF	Total
A01	General budget support	892	0	0	0	14	3.228	0	0	0	0	0	449	7	18	4.608
A02	Sector budget support	358	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	259	31	659
B01	Core support to NGOs, other private bodies, PPPs and research institutes	4	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	17
B02	Core contributions to multilateral institutions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	5
B03	Contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by international organisations (multilateral, INGO)	242	302	7	0	13	1	0	0	2	0	0	7	18	11	605
B04	Basket funds/pooled funding	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	87	16	107
C01	Project-type interventions	3.859	686	558	2.427	1.214	405	0	315	23	0	0	20	2.260	1.173	12.939
D01	Donor country personnel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
D02	Other technical assistance	18	7	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	62	40	139
E01	Scholarships/training in donor country	230	0	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	2	299
G01	Administrative costs not included elsewhere	3	0	330	11	61	4	0	1	1	0	643	9	0	1	1.065
H01	Development awareness	0	16	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	24
	Total	**5.611**	**1.015**	**899**	**2.438**	**1.363**	**3.637**	**0**	**316**	**26**	**0**	**643**	**499**	**2.726**	**1.294**	**20.467**

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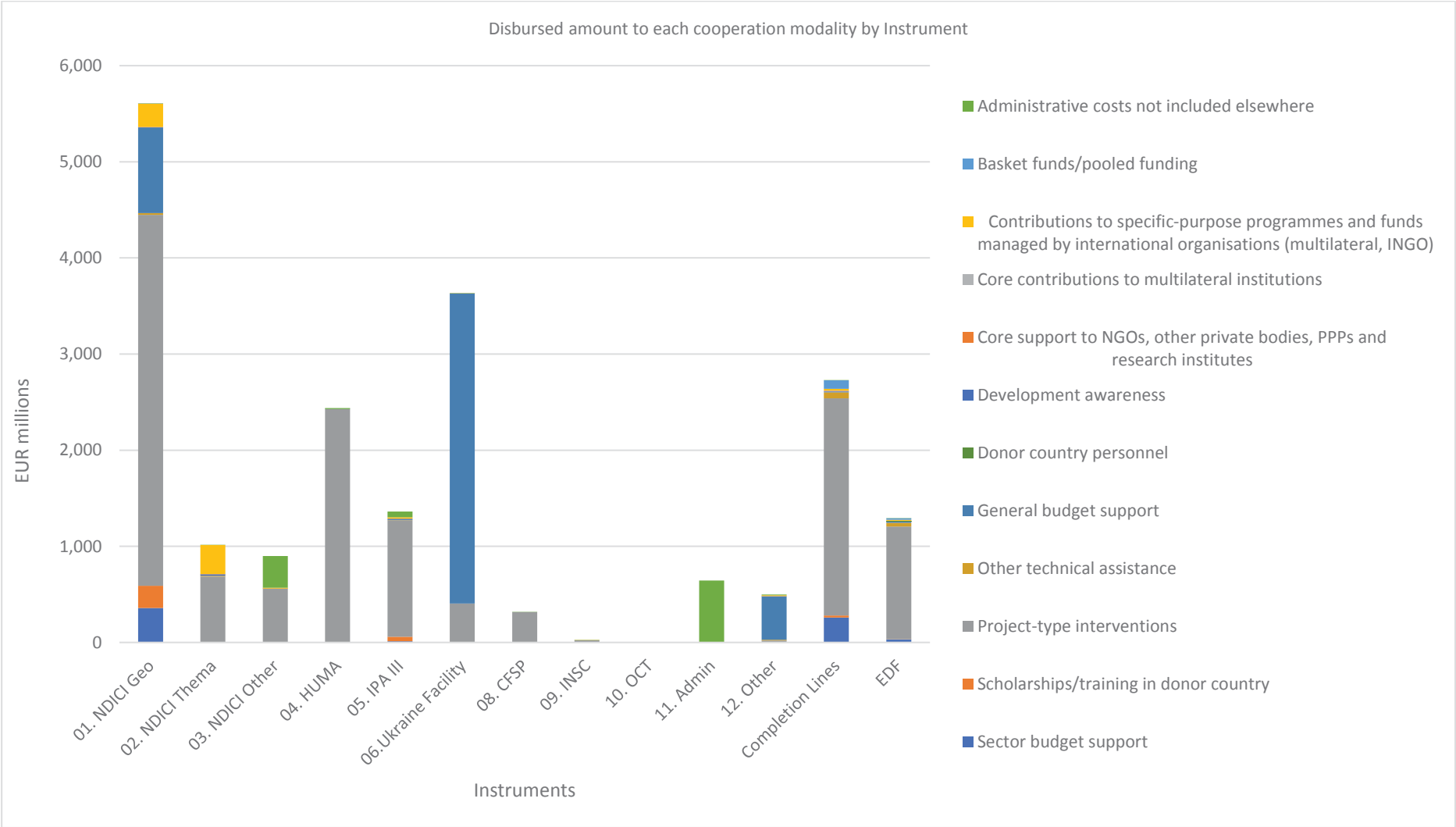
Graphs Table 13B



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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 14A: Sources of External Action in 2020 - 2024 – Commitments (in EUR millions)

Budget	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
DG INTPA Budget	**3.511**	**8.299**	**7.284**	**8.259**	**7.315**	**34.667**
ODA	3.475	8.231	7.186	8.147	7.198	34.238
Non-ODA	36	68	98	111	116	429
DG NEAR Budget	**4.165**	**3.530**	**7.368**	**5.867**	**10.308**	**31.238**
ODA	4.159	3.526	7.264	5.692	10.270	30.910
Non-ODA	6	4	104	176	39	328
Other DGs Budget	**4.461**	**3.899**	**5.312**	**5.155**	**5.997**	**24.823**
ODA	4.216	3.716	5.042	4.696	5.813	23.484
Non-ODA	245	183	269	458	184	1.339
EDF	**3.892**	**19**	**602**	**0**	**-2**	**4.511**
ODA	3.733	19	602	0	-2	4.352
Non-ODA	159	0	0	0	0	159
Total	**16.030**	**15.747**	**20.565**	**19.280**	**23.618**	**95.240**

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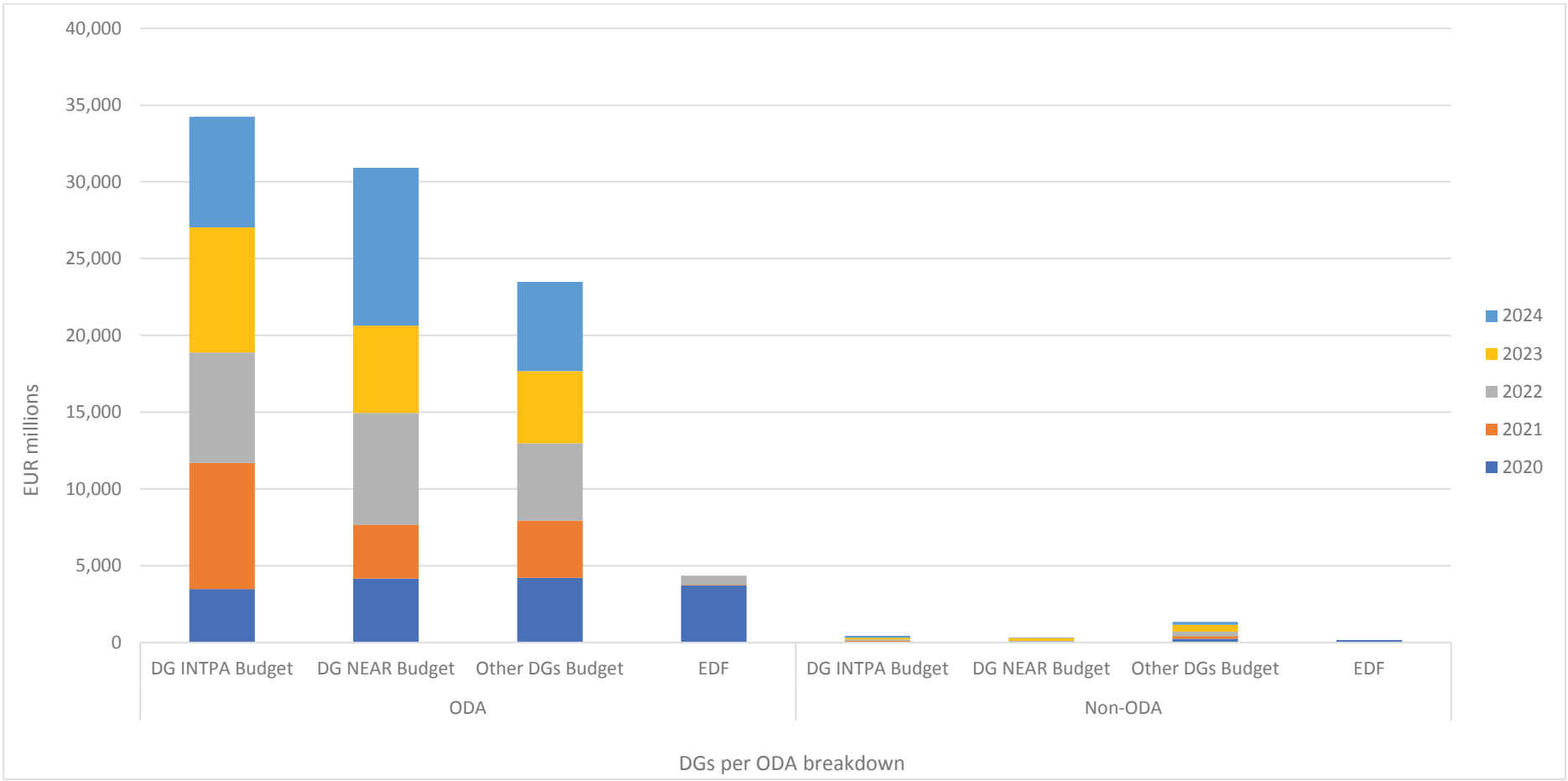
Graphs Table 14A – Committed amount between 2020 and 2024 by DG



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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 14B: Sources of External Action in 2020 - 2024 – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Budget	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
DG INTPA Budget	**3.337**	**3.154**	**4.368**	**5.567**	**5.047**	**21.473**
ODA	3.292	3.138	4.323	5.493	4.949	21.193
Non-ODA	46	16	45	75	99	280
DG NEAR Budget	**4.142**	**3.801**	**5.716**	**4.886**	**8.885**	**27.430**
ODA	4.129	3.783	5.702	4.841	8.817	27.274
Non-ODA	13	18	13	45	67	157
Other DGs Budget	**4.092**	**4.475**	**4.980**	**5.356**	**5.744**	**24.648**
ODA	3.905	4.237	4.742	4.814	5.407	23.105
Non-ODA	188	238	239	542	337	1.543
EDF	**4.679**	**3.435**	**2.451**	**2.103**	**1.405**	**14.073**
ODA	4.354	3.231	2.379	2.045	1.294	13.304
Non-ODA	324	203	72	58	111	769
Total	**16.250**	**14.865**	**17.515**	**17.912**	**21.081**	**87.625**

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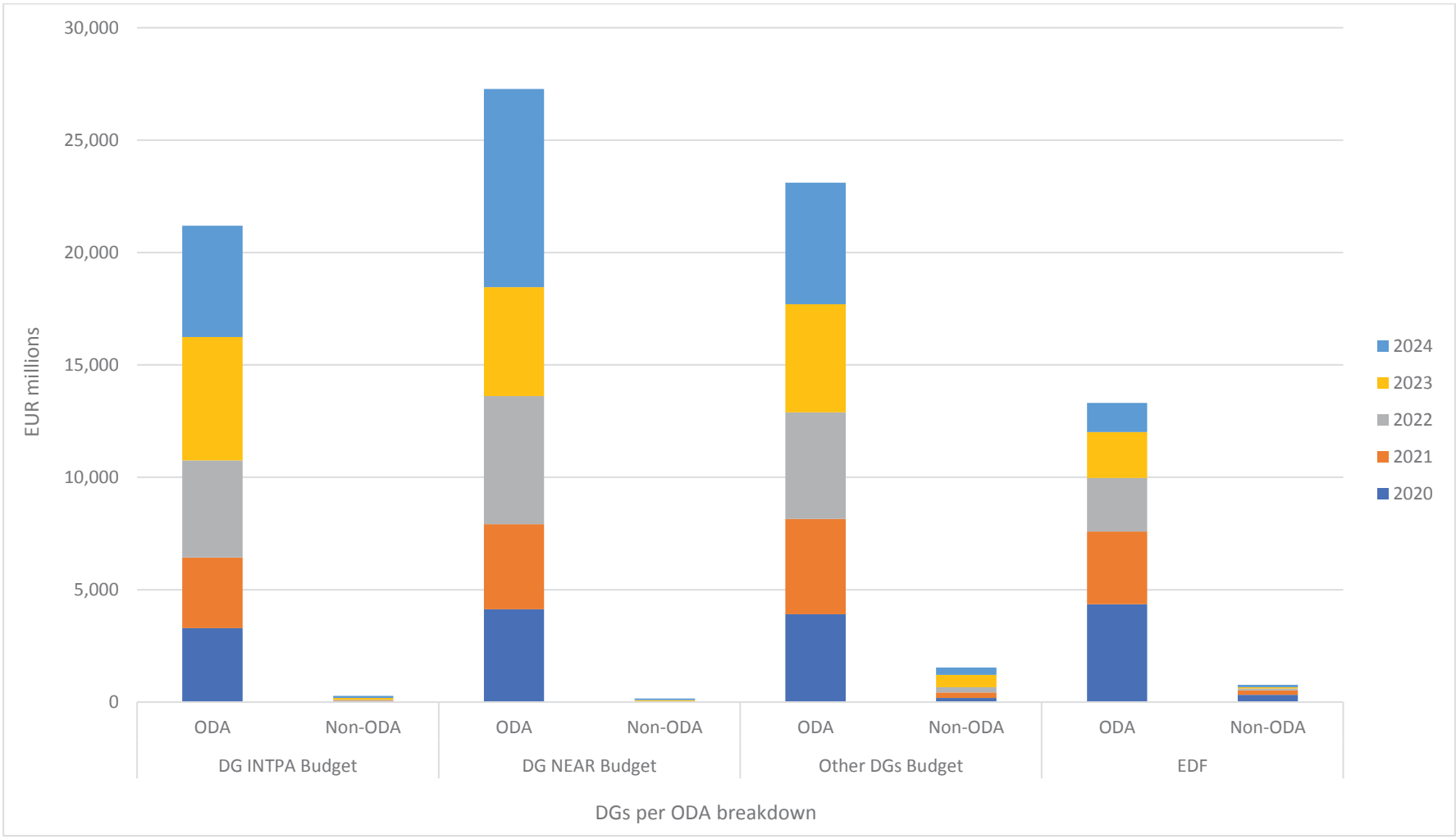
Graphs Table 14B – Disbursed amount between 2020 and 2024 by DG



Commitments Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 15: Sectoral breakdown of Official Development Assistance (ODA) for 2020 - 2024

Commitments: Sector of Destination (in EUR millions)

Sector of destination	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Social infrastructure and services	5.795	7.089	7.891	8.295	7.615	36.685
Economic infrastructure and services	1.745	2.799	2.706	1.558	2.602	11.410
Production sectors	1.706	612	1.673	1.612	2.310	7.914
Multisector/Cross-cutting	1.463	1.060	1.759	1.636	2.371	8.288
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	903	610	998	1.560	4.374	8.445
Debt Relief	92					92
Humanitarian aid	2.964	2.366	3.112	2.747	2.934	14.123
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	915	956	1.956	1.127	1.073	6.028
Total	**15.583**	**15.492**	**20.095**	**18.535**	**23.279**	**92.984**

Disbursements: Sector of Destination (in EUR millions)

Sector of destination	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Social infrastructure and services	7.545	5.817	7.054	6.644	6.915	33.976
Economic infrastructure and services	1.354	1.190	1.550	2.085	1.877	8.057
Production sectors	1.093	1.260	1.139	1.312	1.457	6.262
Multisector/Cross-cutting	1.198	2.162	1.546	1.875	1.737	8.518
Commodity aid and general programme assistance	1.231	198	1.241	1.101	4.627	8.397
Debt Relief		183				183
Humanitarian aid	2.568	2.603	2.756	2.899	2.734	13.561
Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	690	975	1.860	1.276	1.120	5.922
Total	**15.680**	**14.389**	**17.147**	**17.193**	**20.467**	**84.876**

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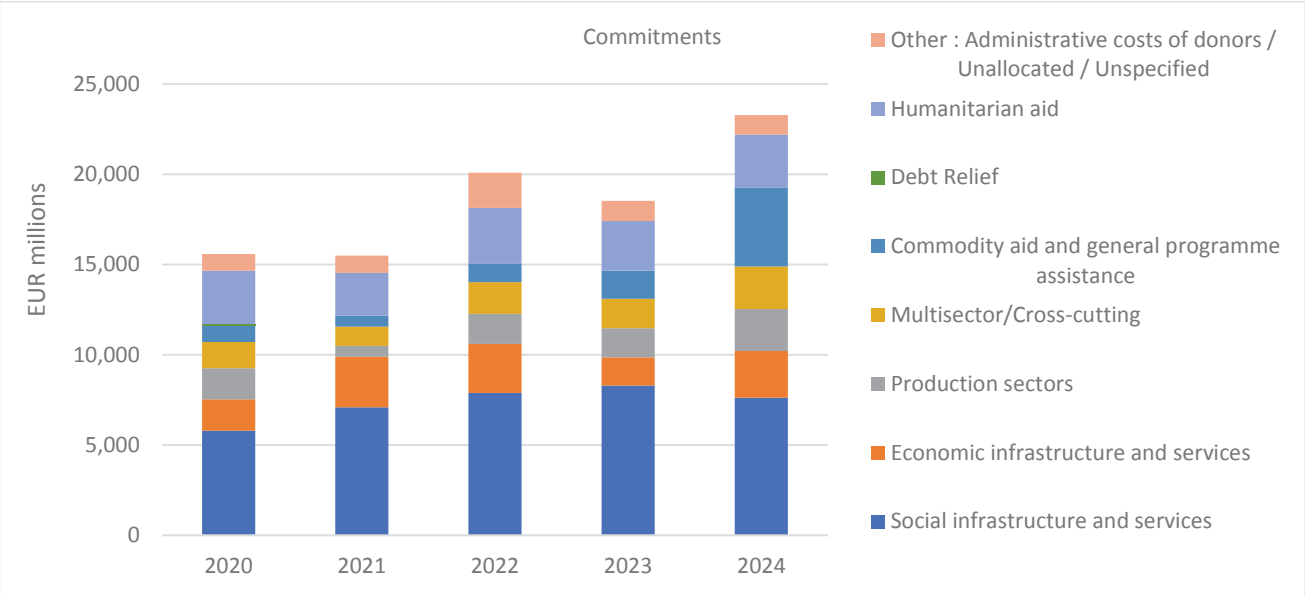
Graphs Table 15 – Committed/Disbursed amount per sector between 2020 and 2024



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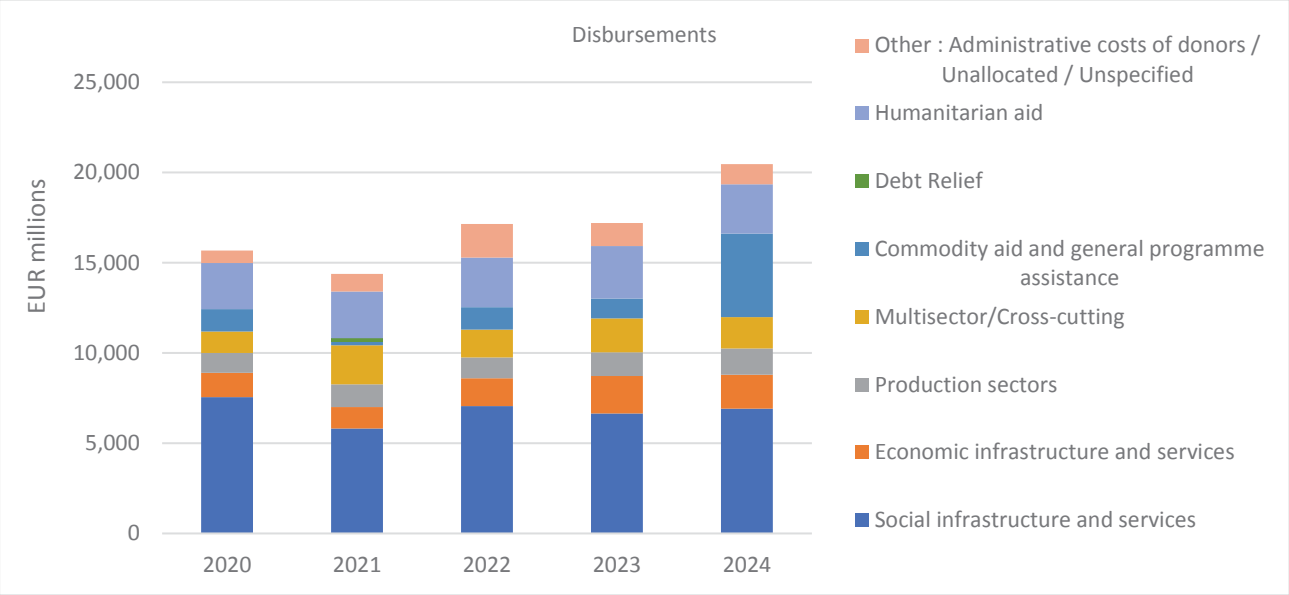

Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 16A: Regional distribution of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries for 2020 - 2024

Commitments (in EUR millions)

Region	Sub-region	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Africa		**4.819**	**6.325**	**6.965**	**5.938**	**6.041**	**30.089**
	Africa (South of Sahara)	3.351	3.836	3.944	3.622	4.374	19.127
	Africa, unspecified	659	1.743	2.222	1.717	1.267	7.609
	Africa (North of Sahara)	810	745	799	599	400	3.354
America		**747**	**539**	**516**	**588**	**615**	**3.005**
	America (South America)	213	68	72	171	151	674

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Region	Sub-region	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
	America (North & Central America)	304	212	209	185	219	1.128
	America, unspecified	230	259	235	233	246	1.203
Asia		**3.253**	**2.029**	**2.944**	**2.994**	**2.915**	**14.134**
	Asia (South & Central Asia)	890	505	814	593	1.086	3.888
	Asia (Middle East Asia)	1.666	944	1.533	1.459	1.453	7.055
	Asia (Far East Asia)	275	66	183	199	167	891
	Asia, unspecified	422	514	414	742	209	2.300
Europe		**3.071**	**2.923**	**4.990**	**4.546**	**9.346**	**24.875**
	Europe	3.071	2.923	4.990	4.546	9.346	24.875
Oceania		**107**	**53**	**89**	**34**	**79**	**362**
	Oceania	107	53	89	34	79	362
Developing countries		**3.586**	**3.623**	**4.579**	**4.435**	**4.283**	**20.507**
	Developing countries, unspecified	3.586	3.623	4.579	4.435	4.283	20.507
Other				**12**			**12**
	Other			12			12
Total		**15.583**	**15.492**	**20.095**	**18.535**	**23.279**	**92.984**

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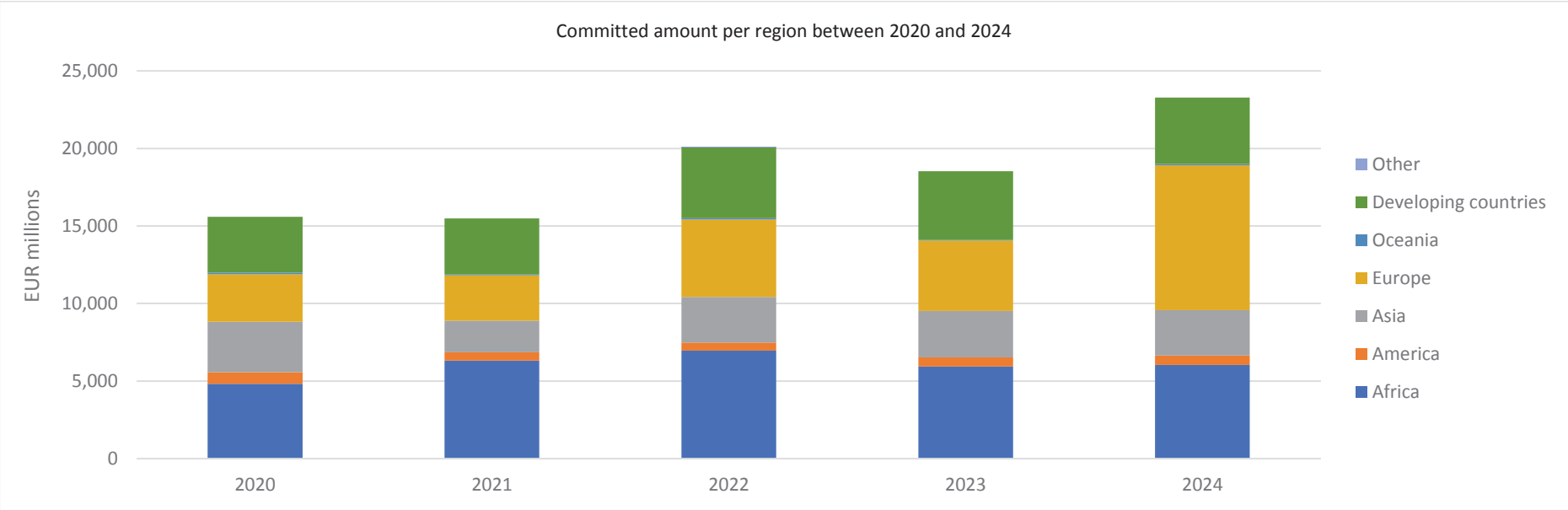
Distribution by income for 2020 - 2024 (in EUR millions)

Income group		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
LDCS	Least Developed Countries	2.751	2.490	2.851	2.740	2.718	13.549
LMICS	Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories	3.382	1.535	3.028	2.568	7.088	17.600
OTHER_LICS	Other Low Income Countries	33		67	67	63	230
MADCTS	More Advanced Developing Countries			12			12
UMICS	Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories	2.245	1.959	3.293	2.993	2.717	13.207
UNALLOC	Unallocated	7.172	9.509	10.845	10.167	10.693	48.386
Total		**15.583**	**15.492**	**20.095**	**18.535**	**23.279**	**92.984**

Distribution by region and income for year 2024 (in EUR millions)

Region	LDCS	LMICS	UMICS	UNALLOC	OTHER_LICS	Total
Africa	2.068	568	59	3.346		6.041
America	71	91	136	317		615
Asia	579	743	665	865	63	2.915
Europe		5.661	1.840	1.845		9.346
Oceania	1	24	17	37		79
Developing countries, unspecified				4.283		4.283
Total	**2.718**	**7.088**	**2.717**	**10.693**	**63**	**23.279**

Graphs Table 16A



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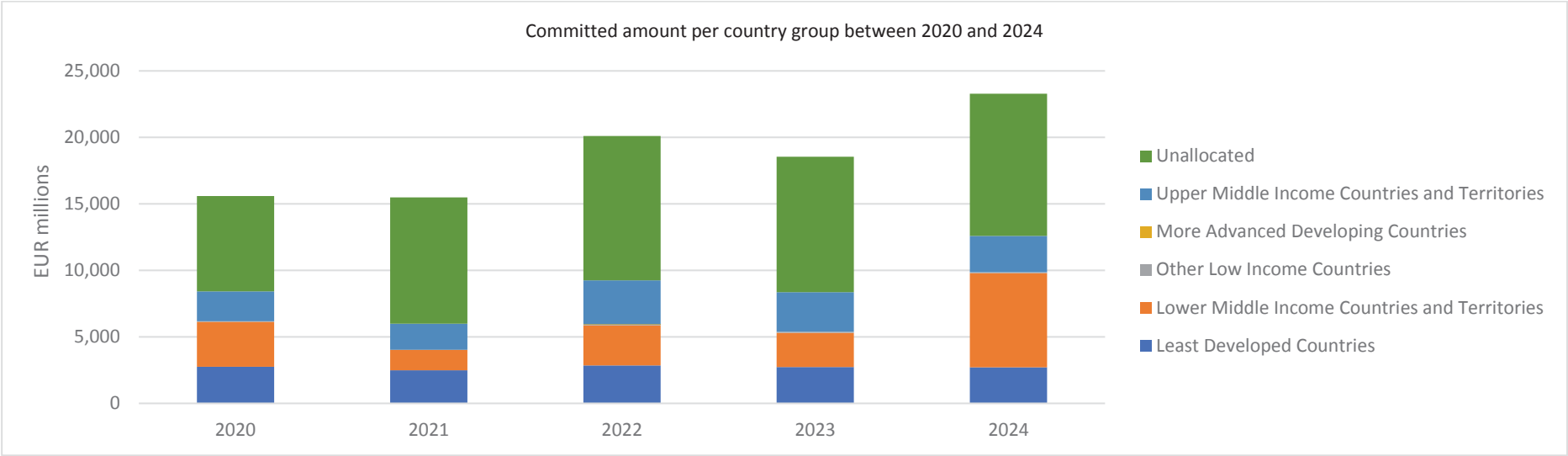

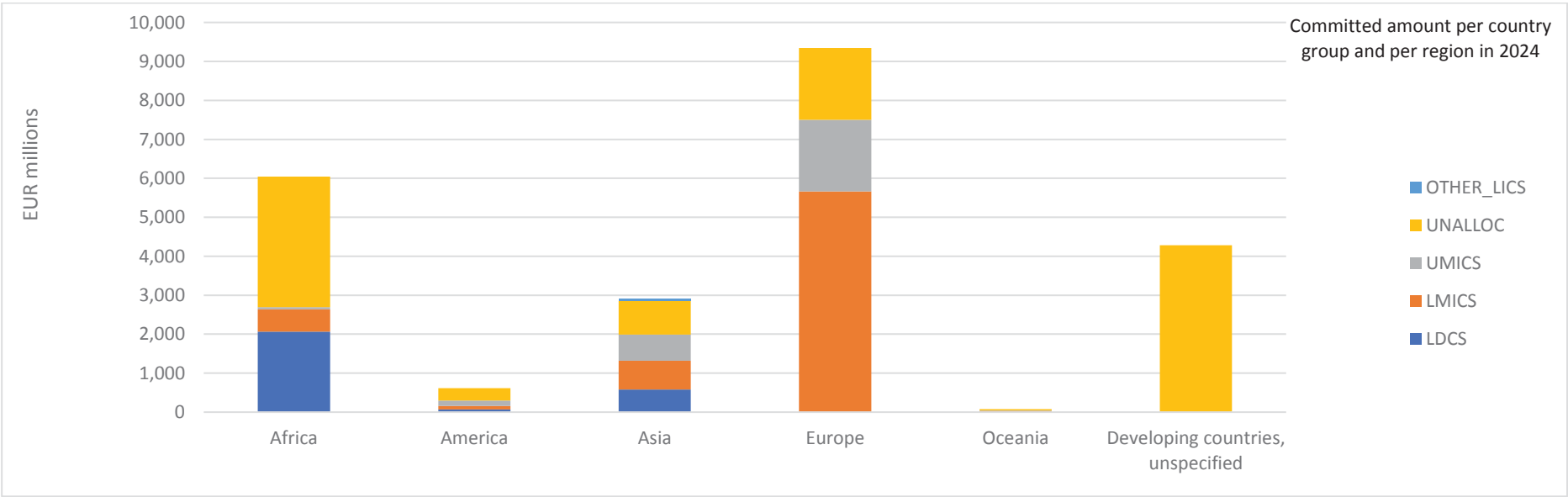

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 16B: Regional distribution of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries for 2020 - 2024

Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Region	Sub-region	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Africa		**6.477**	**4.906**	**5.253**	**5.253**	**5.226**	**27.115**
	Africa (North of Sahara)	1.112	626	777	584	856	3.956
	Africa (South of Sahara)	4.449	3.756	3.712	3.946	3.724	19.587
	Africa, unspecified	916	524	764	722	646	3.572
America		**802**	**726**	**651**	**653**	**653**	**3.485**
	America (North & Central America)	421	375	293	248	285	1.621
	America (South America)	331	292	283	301	284	1.491
	America, unspecified	50	60	75	104	84	373
Asia		**3.133**	**2.879**	**2.738**	**2.951**	**3.199**	**14.900**
	Asia (Far East Asia)	316	298	268	258	212	1.351
	Asia (Middle East Asia)	1.279	1.313	1.329	1.433	1.552	6.906
	Asia (South & Central Asia)	1.450	1.213	1.079	1.123	1.111	5.975
	Asia, unspecified	88	56	62	138	323	667
Europe		**3.022**	**3.412**	**4.212**	**3.939**	**7.677**	**22.261**
	Europe	3.022	3.412	4.212	3.939	7.677	22.261
Oceania		**109**	**113**	**98**	**120**	**87**	**528**
	Oceania	109	113	98	120	87	528
Developing countries		**2.138**	**2.352**	**4.189**	**4.279**	**3.625**	**16.583**
	Developing countries, unspecified	2.138	2.352	4.189	4.279	3.625	16.583
Other			**0**	**5**			**5**
	Other		0	5			5
Total		**15.680**	**14.389**	**17.147**	**17.193**	**20.467**	**84.876**

Distribution by income for 2020 - 2024 (in EUR millions)

	Income group	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
LDCS	Least Developed Countries	4.063	3.472	3.305	3.679	3.557	18.076
LMICS	Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories	3.501	2.880	3.204	2.684	7.190	19.457

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Income group		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
OTHER_LICS	Other Low Income Countries	105	54	391	210	256	1.016
MADCTS	More Advanced Developing Countries		0	5			5
UMICS	Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories	3.108	3.279	3.282	3.565	3.029	16.263
UNALLOC	Unallocated	4.904	4.704	6.960	7.056	6.435	30.059
CEECS/NIS	Central and Eastern European Countries / New Independent States			0			0
Total		**15.680**	**14.389**	**17.147**	**17.193**	**20.467**	**84.876**

Distribution by region and income for year 2024 (in EUR millions)

Region	LDCS	LMICS	UMICS	UNALLOC	OTHER_LICS	Total
Africa	2.644	1.203	148	1.232		5.226
America	51	88	270	244		653
Asia	854	986	690	413	256	3.199
Europe		4.877	1.915	885		7.677
Oceania	9	36	6	36		87
Developing countries, unspecified				3.625		3.625
Total	**3.557**	**7.190**	**3.029**	**6.435**	**256**	**20.467**

Graphs Table 16B

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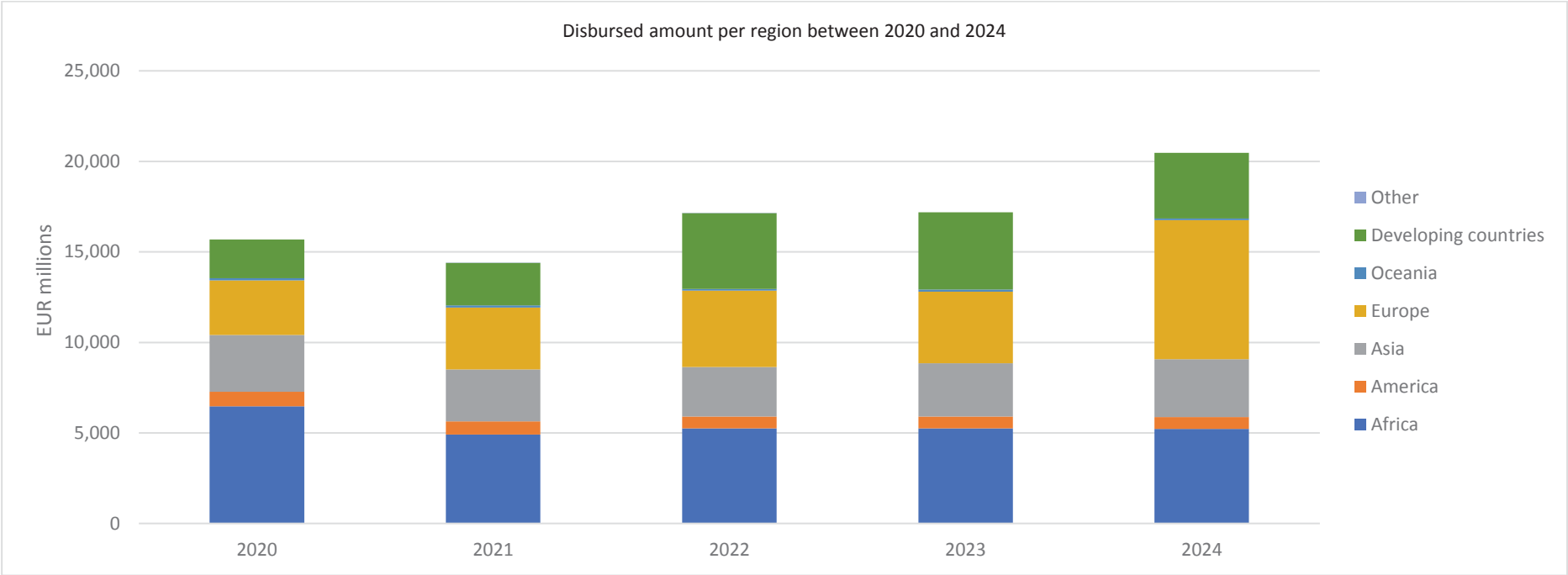

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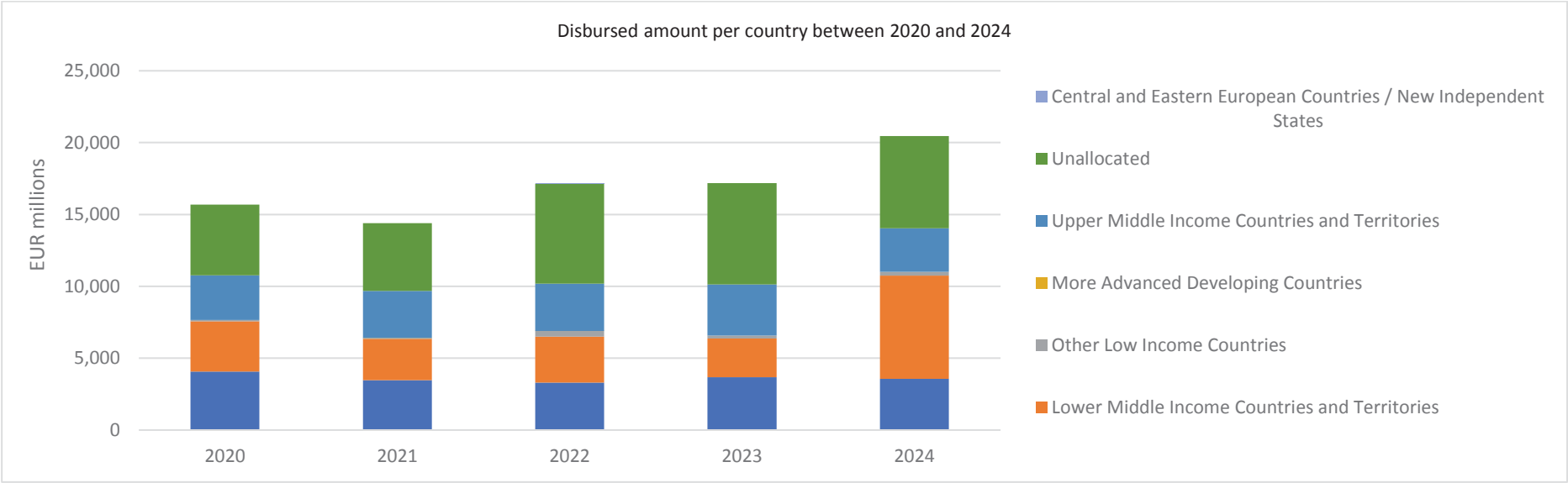

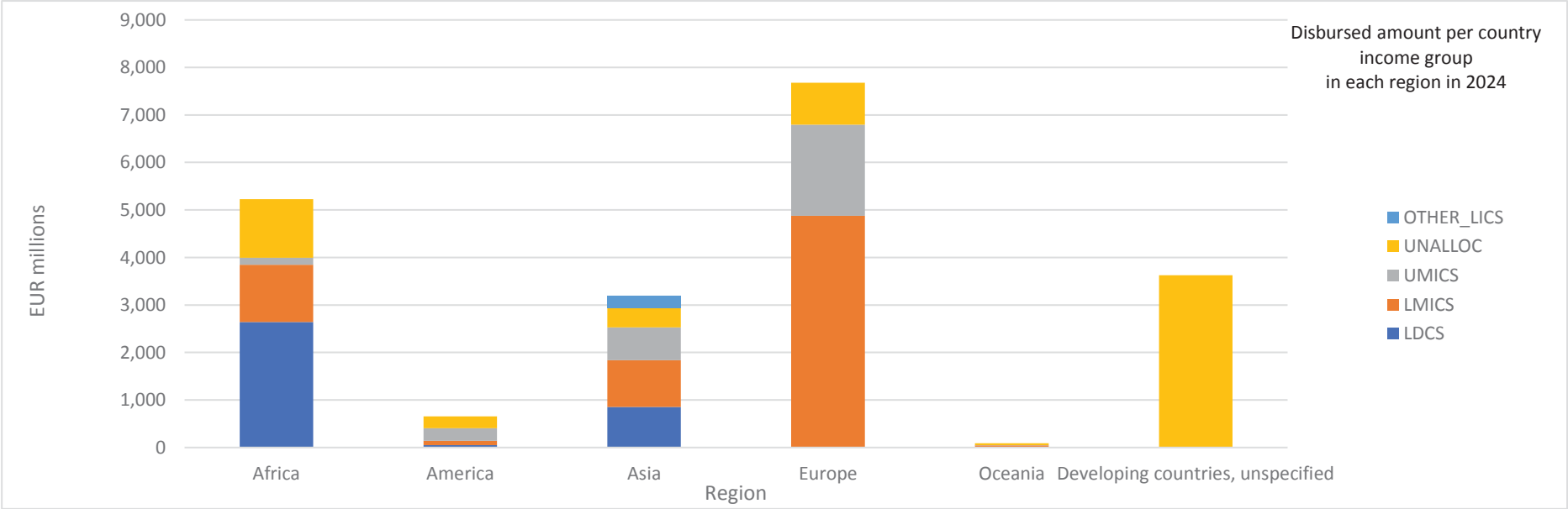

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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 17: Breakdown by co-operation modality for 2020 - 2024

Commitments (in EUR millions)

Co-operation modality	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
A01						
General budget support	883	591	1.032	1.547	4.371	8.425
A02						
Sector budget support	988	575	945	456	462	3.426
B01						
Core support to NGOs, other private bodies, PPPs and research institutes	5	1			1	6
B02						
Core contributions to multilateral institutions	234	5	3	3	61	305
B03						
Contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by international organisations (multilateral, INGO)	386	771	1.290	1.317	444	4.207
B04						
Basket funds/pooled funding	603					603
C01						
Project-type interventions	11.116	12.515	15.303	14.092	16.603	69.630
D01						
Donor country personnel	82					82
D02						
Other technical assistance	140	97	66	21	35	359
E01						
Scholarships/training in donor country	316	30	392	51	229	1.018
G01						
Administrative costs not included elsewhere	771	881	951	988	1.053	4.643
H01						
Development awareness	59	26	68	61	21	233
-						
Other mechanisms			46			46
Total	**15.583**	**15.492**	**20.095**	**18.535**	**23.279**	**92.984**

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Graphs Table 17

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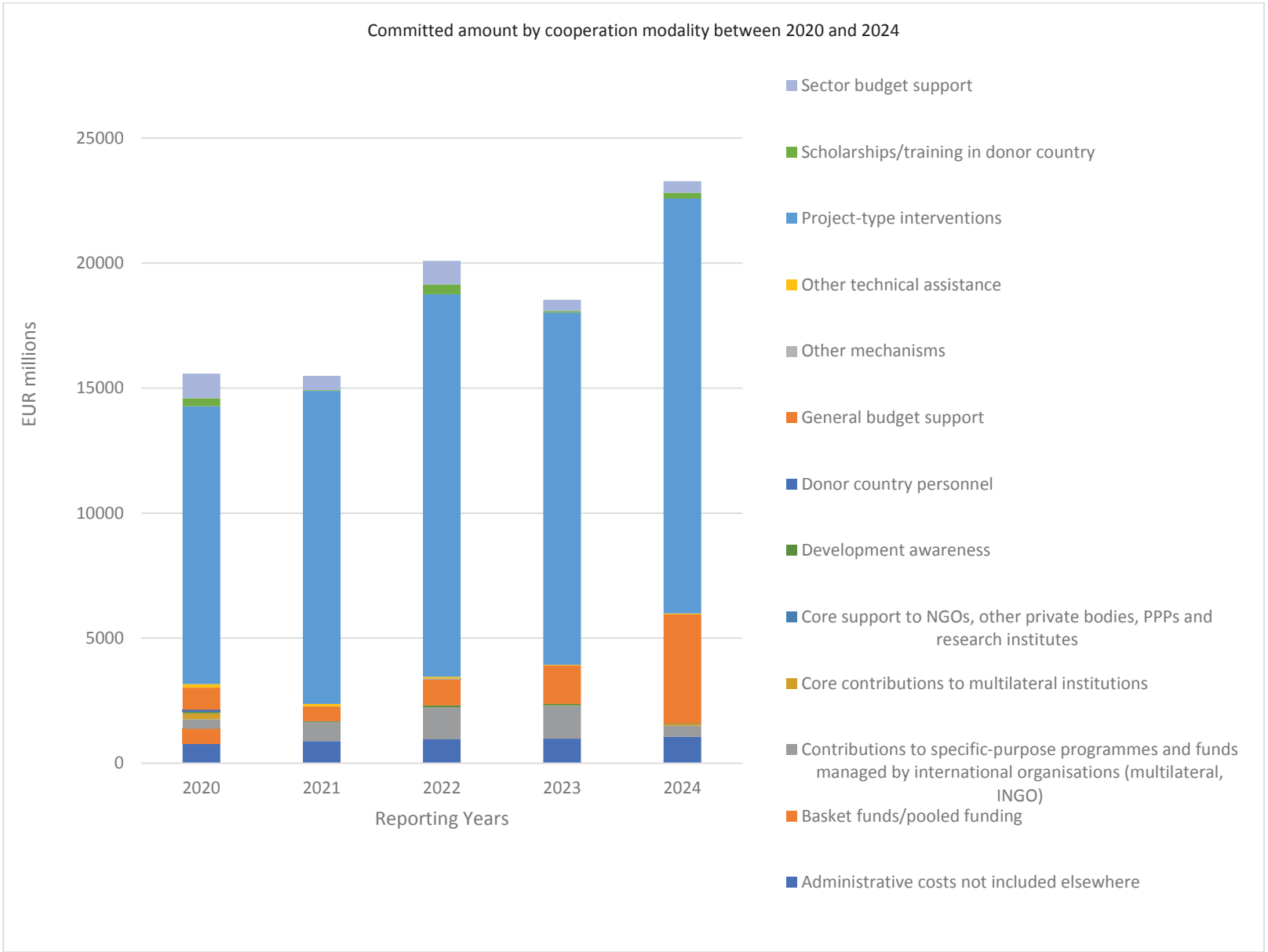

Commitments Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	No
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	No
EDF	Yes	No

Table 18: ODA by instrument for 2021 - 2027

Commitments (in EUR millions)

Instrument	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
01. NDICI Geo	7.298	11.360	9.386	9.038	37.082
02. NDICI Thema	2.363	1.129	2.343	1.025	6.861
03. NDICI Other	1.093	1.269	833	1.524	4.718
04. HUMA	2.196	2.496	2.433	2.511	9.637
05. IPA III	1.588	2.294	2.485	2.128	8.495
06.Ukraine Facility				4.887	4.887
07. Western Balkan Facility				400	400
08. CFSP	284	267	334	316	1.200
09. INSC	38	31	45	43	157
10. OCT	0	0	0	18	18
11. Admin	507	544	578	643	2.271
12. Other	106	103	99	749	1.056
EDF	19	602	0	-2	619
Total	**15.492**	**20.095**	**18.535**	**23.279**	**77.401**

Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Instrument	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
01. NDICI Geo	206	3.874	4.356	5.611	14.048
02. NDICI Thema	725	1.091	1.256	1.015	4.087
03. NDICI Other	353	792	782	899	2.826
04. HUMA	2.448	2.445	2.495	2.438	9.827
05. IPA III	46	435	1.124	1.363	2.967
06.Ukraine Facility				3.637	3.637
07. Western Balkan Facility				0	0
08. CFSP	271	278	332	316	1.198
09. INSC	1	4	20	26	51

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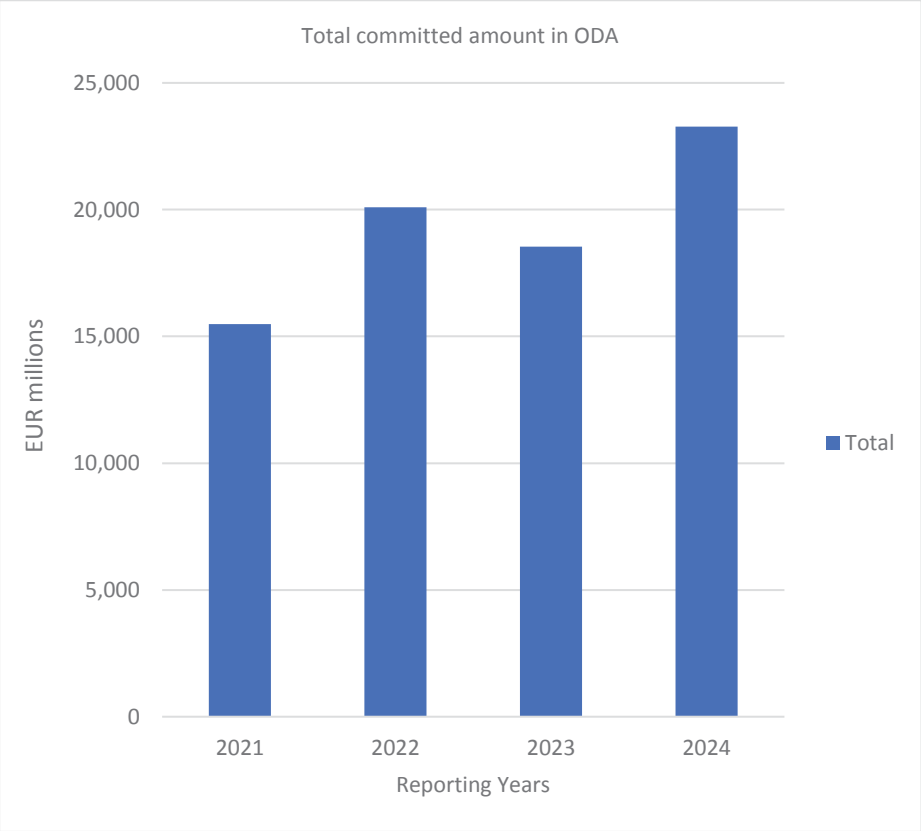
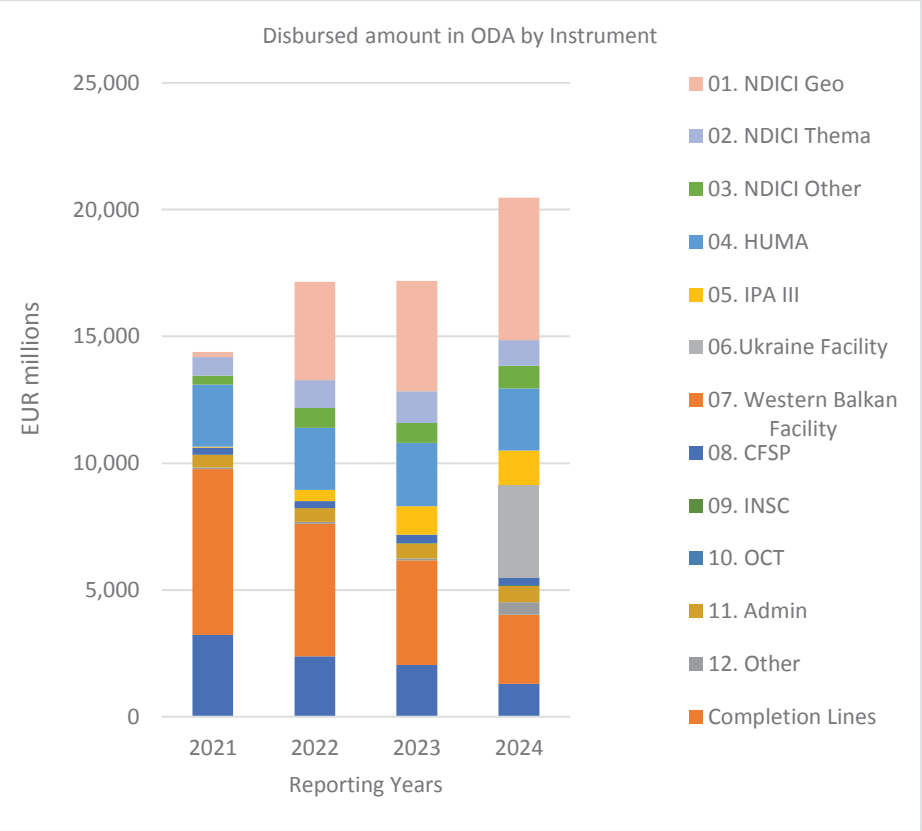
Instrument	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
10. OCT	0	0	0	0	0
11. Admin	502	543	578	643	2.265
12. Other	74	82	85	499	740
Completion Lines	6.531	5.224	4.119	2.726	18.600
EDF	3.231	2.379	2.045	1.294	8.950
Total	**14.389**	**17.147**	**17.193**	**20.467**	**69.196**

Graphs Table 18





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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 19: Breakdown by Management Type - Disbursements in 2024 (in EUR millions)

I. Budget Support

Other Management Categories	16.862
Budget Support	4.220
Ukraine	3.150
Morocco	228
Tunisia	155
Bangladesh	105
Tanzania	41
Armenia	35
Moldova	35
Jordan	29
Greenland	29
Rwanda	29
Others	383
Total	**21.081**

II. Third Countries

Direct or Shared Management	12.724
Indirect Management - Other categories	7.776
Indirect Management - Third Countries	582
Türkiye	113
Serbia	81
Democratic Republic of the Congo	53
Zambia	43
Mozambique	32
North Macedonia	27
Montenegro	22
Chad	21
Mali	14
Tanzania	12
Others	165
Total	**21.081**

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III. International Organisations

Direct or Shared Management	12.724
Indirect Management - International Organisations	5.238
WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME*PROGRAMME ALIMENTAIRE MONDIAL	481
EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT*BANQUE EUROPEENNE POUR LA RECONSTRUCTION ET LE DEVELOPPEMENT	477
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND*LE FFONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE	476
EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK*BANQUE EUROPEENNE D INVESTISSEMENT	444
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION	427
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME*PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POURLE DEVELOPPEMENT	326
UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES*HAUT COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LES REFUGIES	297
UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION*ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES	269
INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT	261
THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS*ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE	186
Others	1.594
Indirect Management - Other categories	3.120
Total	**21.081**

United Nations	3.138
International Financial Institutions	1.361
Other International Organisations	740
Total of Indirect Management - International Organisations	**5.238**

IV. Agencies

Direct or Shared Management	12.724
Indirect Management - Other categories	6.195
Indirect Management - MS/Non-MS Agencies	2.163
DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FUR INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT (GIZ) GMBH	518
KREDITANSTALT FUR WIEDERAUFBAU*	360
AGENCE FRANCAISE DE DEVELOPPEMENT	305
EXPERTISE FRANCE	249
ENABEL, BELGISCH ONTWIKKELINGSAGENTSCHAP*ENABEL, AGENCE BELGE DE DEVELOPPEMENT	103
NEDERLANDSE FINANCIERINGS-MAATSCHAPPIJ VOOR ONTWIKKELINGSLANDEN NV	57
FUNDACION INTERNACIONAL Y PARA IBEROAMERICA DE ADMINISTRACION Y POLITICAS PUBLICAS*ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC POLICIES	52
CIVIPOL	49
DEUTSCHER AKADEMISCHER AUSTAUSCHDIENST EV*DAAD GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SERVICE	33
SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTCOOPERATION AGENCY SIDA*	32
Others	405
Total	**21.081**

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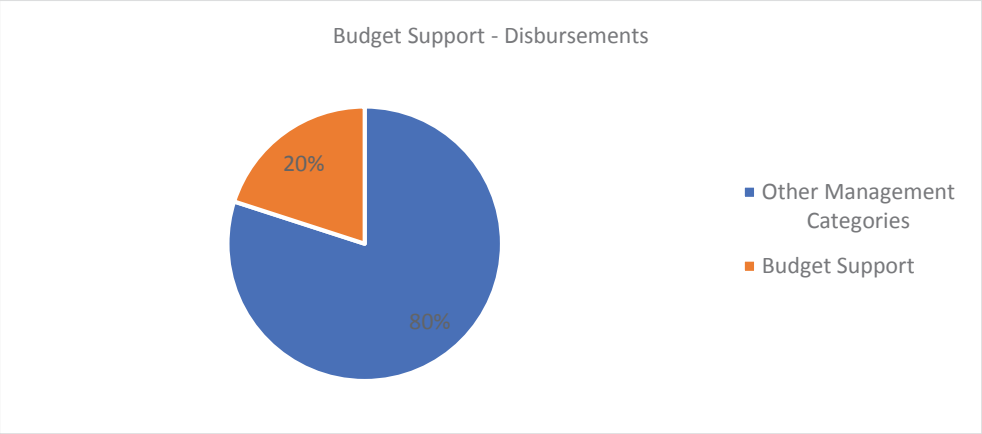
Graphs Table 19



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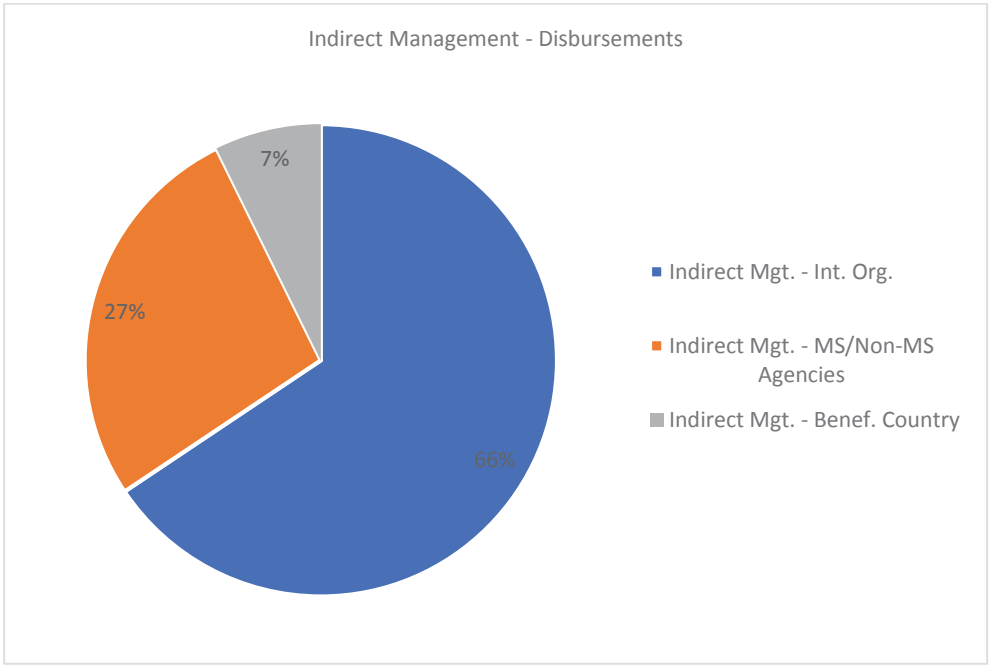

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 20: Disbursements - Breakdown by forms of Union Funding as defined in Articles 41 and 27 NDICI (in EUR millions)

		NDICI			Other Instruments			Total		
		NDICI Direct or Shared Management	NDICI Indirect Management	NDICI Total	Other Instruments Direct or Shared Management	Other Instruments Indirect Management	Other Instruments Total	Direct or Shared Management MFF H6	Indirect Management MFF H6	Total MFF H6
Grants		1.941	2	1.943	2.358	61	2.419	4.299	63	4.362
Budget Support		949	0	949	3.271	0	3.271	4.220	0	4.220
Others		670	0	670	1.071	0	1.071	1.741	0	1.741
Administrative Expenditures		627	627	0	627	795	0	795	1.422	0
Procurement Contracts		266	3	269	521	247	767	786	250	1.036
	Services	265	0	266	443	77	520	709	77	786
	Of which: Blending	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Works	0	3	3	16	160	176	16	163	179
	Supplies	0	0	0	61	10	71	61	10	72
Financial Instruments		18	109	127	0	82	82	18	191	209
	Of which: Blending	0	109	109	0	82	82	0	191	191
Remunerated External Experts (Individual Experts)		2	2	0	2	1	0	1	4	0
Contribution & Delegation Agreements		0	0	3.175	3.175	0	4.652	4.652	0	7.827
	Of which: Blending	0	131	131	0	484	484	0	615	615
Program Estimates		0	1	1	0	25	25	0	26	26
Contribution to EU Trust Funds		0	0	0	0	234	0	234	234	0
Total		**4.473**	**3.290**	**7.763**	**8.251**	**5.068**	**13.319**	**12.724**	**8.358**	**21.081**

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	No	No

Table 21: Disbursements related to the previous MFF

Disbursements Completion Lines (in EUR millions)

Instruments	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
DCI	2.245	1.783	1.482	1.016	6.526
EIDHR	129	70	53	21	274
ENI	1.767	1.561	1.236	702	5.266
Greenland	6		0	1	7
IcSP	234	129	127	51	541
INSC	16	15	21	15	67
IPA II	2.146	1.655	1.242	915	5.959
PI-ICI+	114	83	79	51	327
Total	**6.658**	**5.297**	**4.241**	**2.771**	**18.967**

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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 22A: Number of contributing programmes per SDG for 2024 – Commitments (in EUR millions)

SDG Contribution		Main SDG	Significant SDG
SDG 1	No poverty	4.203	2.440
SDG 2	Zero hunger	545	3.619
SDG 3	Good health and well-being	782	3.460
SDG 4	Quality education	1.096	1.747
SDG 5	Gender equality	150	13.571
SDG 6	Clean water and sanitation	273	3.903
SDG 7	Affordable and clean energy	360	6.453
SDG 8	Decent work and economic growth	5.479	5.443
SDG 9	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	1.685	7.552
SDG 10	Reduced inequalities	1.684	4.566
SDG 11	Sustainable cities and communities	258	3.639
SDG 12	Responsible consumption and production	64	2.086
SDG 13	Climate action	571	8.951
SDG 14	Life below water	121	429
SDG 15	Life on land	383	1.686
SDG 16	Peace, justice and strong institutions	2.827	6.017
SDG 17	Partnerships for the goals	3.137	4.507
	TOTAL	**23.618**	**80.067**

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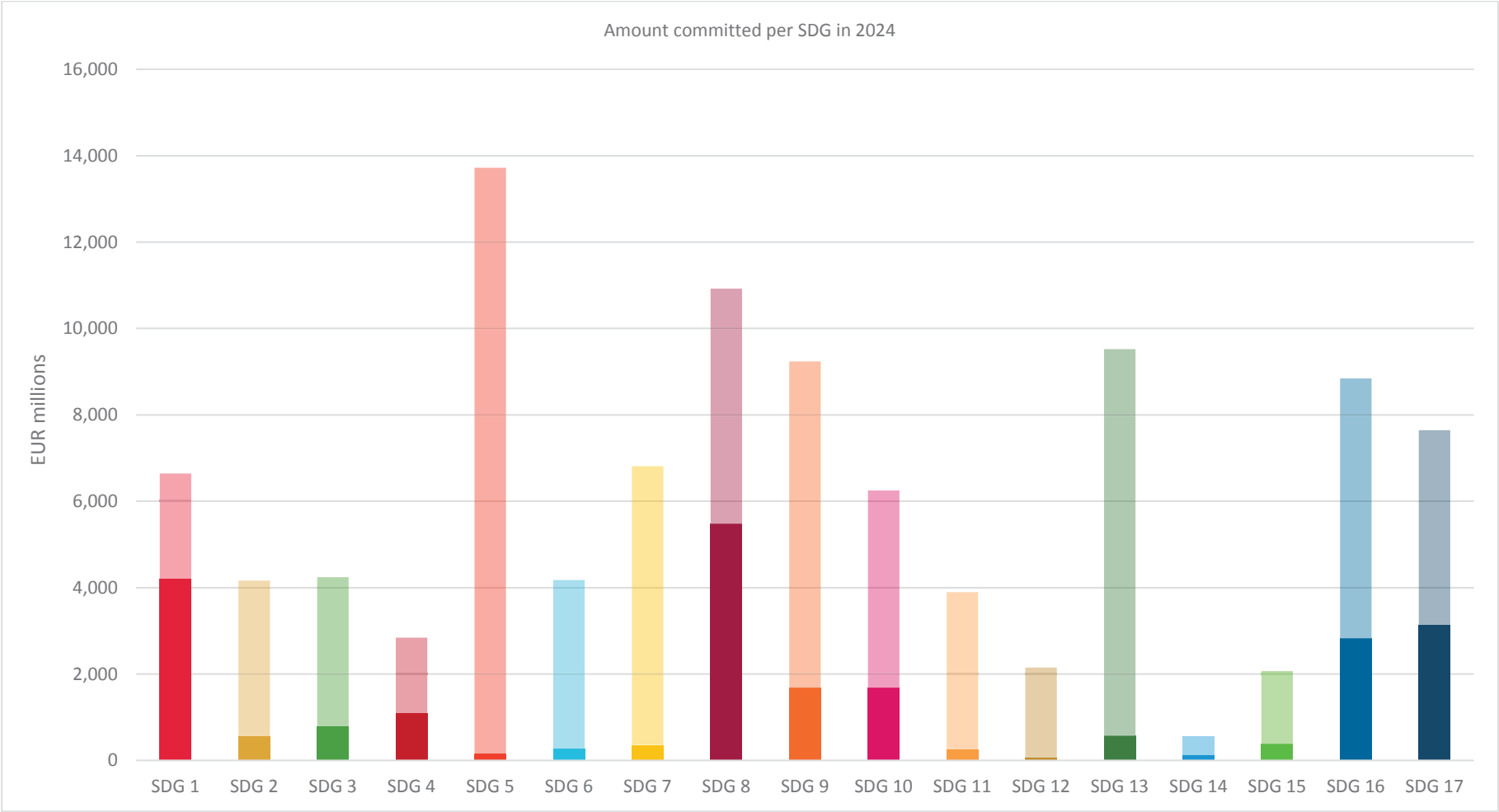
Graphs Table 22A



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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 22B: Number of contributing programmes per SDG for 2024 – Disbursements (in EUR millions)

SDG Contribution		Main SDG	Significant SDG
SDG 1	No poverty	2.197	3.501
SDG 2	Zero hunger	1.124	2.254
SDG 3	Good health and well-being	1.321	2.510
SDG 4	Quality education	1.509	1.686
SDG 5	Gender equality	132	11.097
SDG 6	Clean water and sanitation	581	2.741
SDG 7	Affordable and clean energy	632	4.533
SDG 8	Decent work and economic growth	4.624	2.741
SDG 9	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	1.226	4.896
SDG 10	Reduced inequalities	1.108	2.938
SDG 11	Sustainable cities and communities	264	1.696
SDG 12	Responsible consumption and production	55	891
SDG 13	Climate action	598	6.257
SDG 14	Life below water	64	238
SDG 15	Life on land	259	758
SDG 16	Peace, justice and strong institutions	2.484	4.511
SDG 17	Partnerships for the goals	2.903	1.890
	TOTAL	**21.081**	**55.139**

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Graphs Table 22B

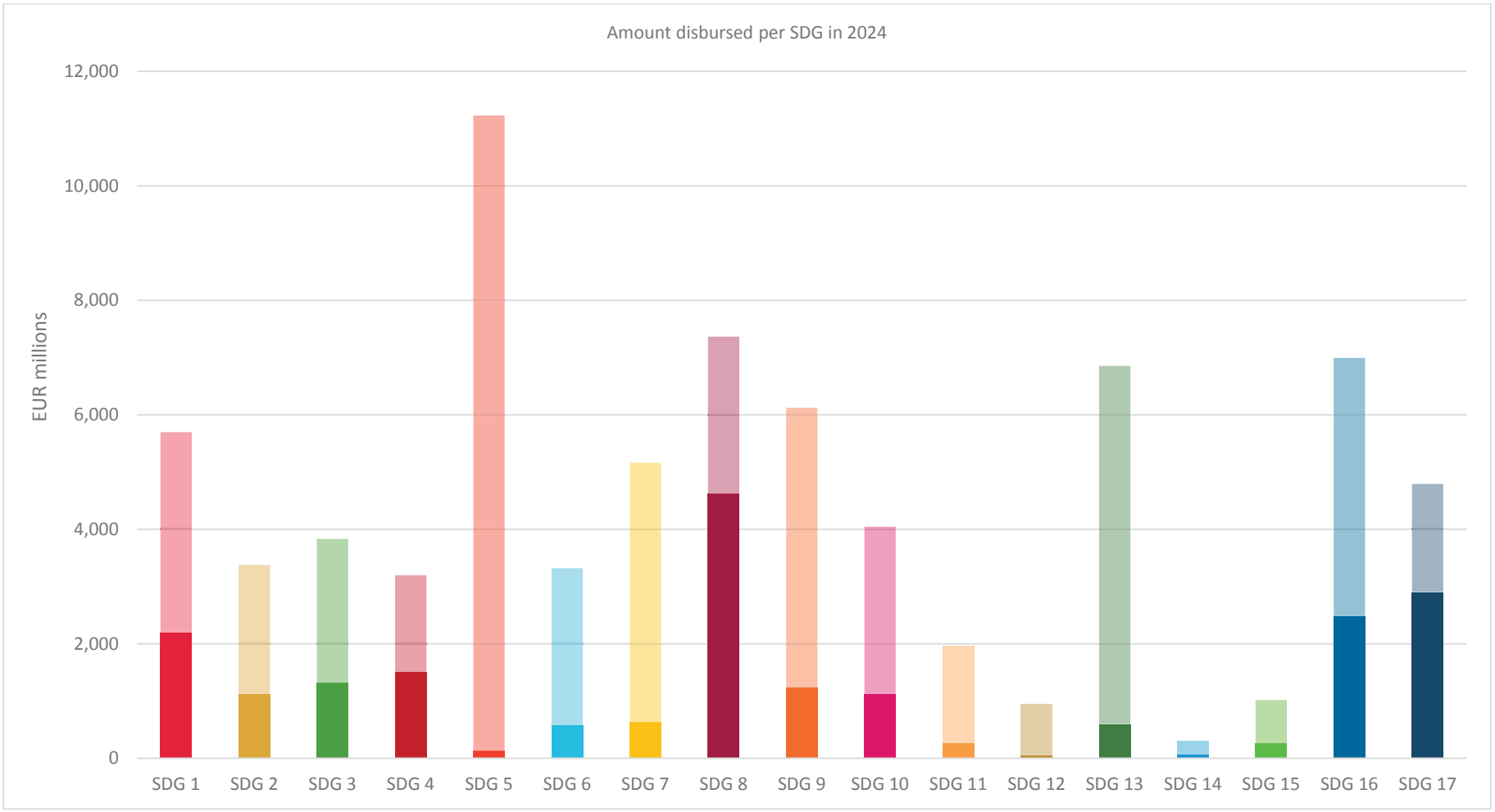

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Table TF1: Overview of incoming contributions (disbursements from contributors in EUR millions)

	Cumulative previous Years	Current Year (2024)	Total
Trust Fund Africa	**4.753**	**157**	**4.910**
Contribution received from Commission Annual Budget	978	67	1.044
Contribution received from EDF	3.152	90	3.242
Contribution received from Member States	592		592
Contribution received from Non-Member States	31		31
Trust Fund Bêkou	**310**		**310**
Contribution received from Commission Annual Budget	72		72
Contribution received from EDF	148		148
Contribution received from Member States	89		89
Contribution received from Non-Member States	1		1
Trust Fund Colombia	**121**	**5**	**126**
Contribution received from Commission Annual Budget	84	5	89
Contribution received from EDF			
Contribution received from Member States	37		37
Contribution received from Non-Member States	0		0
Trust Fund Madad	**2.292**	**73**	**2.365**
Contribution received from Commission Annual Budget	2.030	73	2.102
Contribution received from EDF			
Contribution received from Member States	238		238
Contribution received from Non-Member States	25		25
Total Trust Funds	**7.476**	**234**	**7.710**
Contribution received from Commission (Annual Budget + EDF)	6.464	234	6.698
Contribution received from Member States	956		956
Contributions received from Non-Member States	57		57

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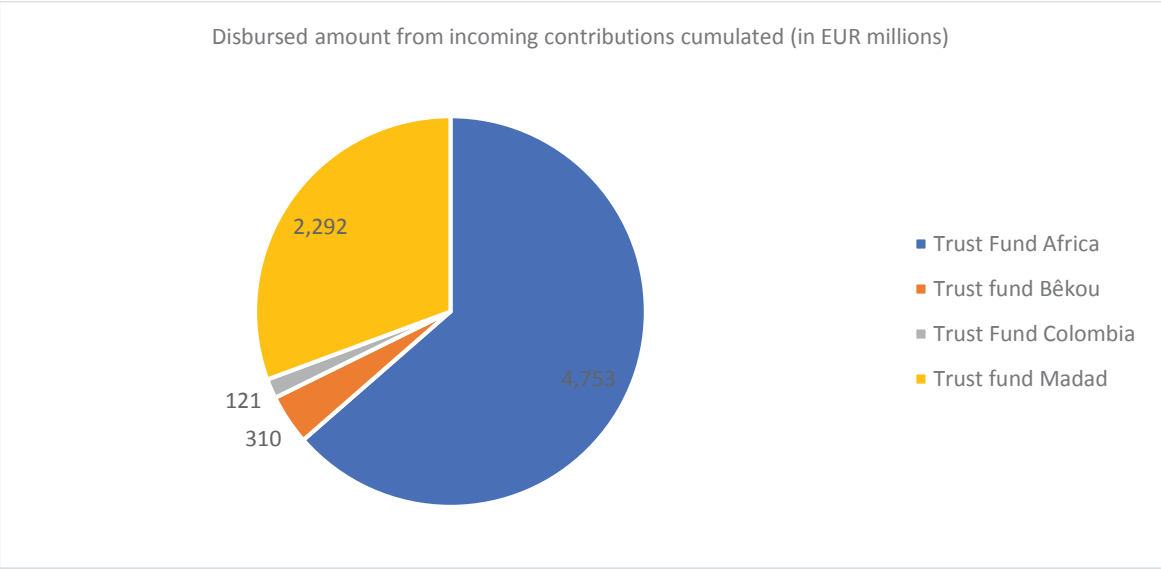
Graphs Table TF1



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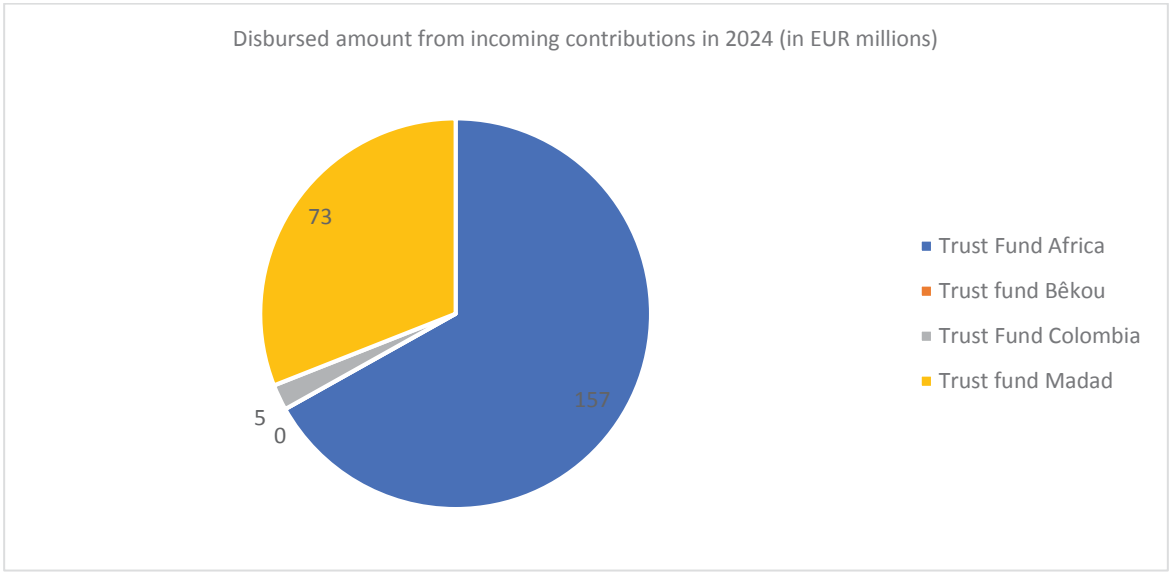

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Table TF2A: Overview of committed and disbursed amounts

Commitments (in EUR millions)

	Cumulative Previous Years	Current Year (2024)	Total
Trust Fund Africa	5.440	24	5.464
Trust Fund Bêkou	333	3	336
Trust Fund Colombia	139	1	140
Trust Fund Madad	2.434		2.434
	8.346	**27**	**8.373**

Disbursements (in EUR millions)

	Cumulative Previous Years	Current Year (2024)	Total
Trust Fund Africa	4.612	178	4.790
Trust Fund Bêkou	283	7	290
Trust Fund Colombia	119	4	122
Trust Fund Madad	2.265	82	2.347
	7.280	**271**	**7.550**

Decommitments (for information; in EUR millions)

	Cumulative Previous Years	Current Year (2024)	Total
Trust Fund Africa	-387	-17	-404
Trust Fund Bêkou	-27	-1	-28
Trust Fund Colombia	-6	-1	-6
Trust Fund Madad	-52	-3	-55
	-471	**-21**	**-492**

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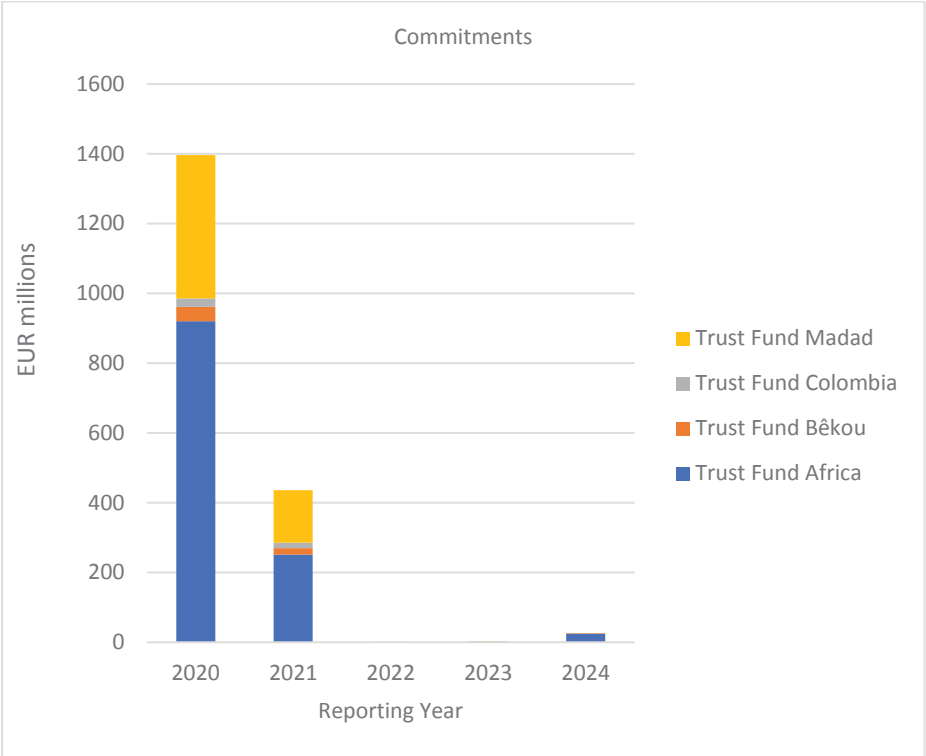
Graphs Table TF2A



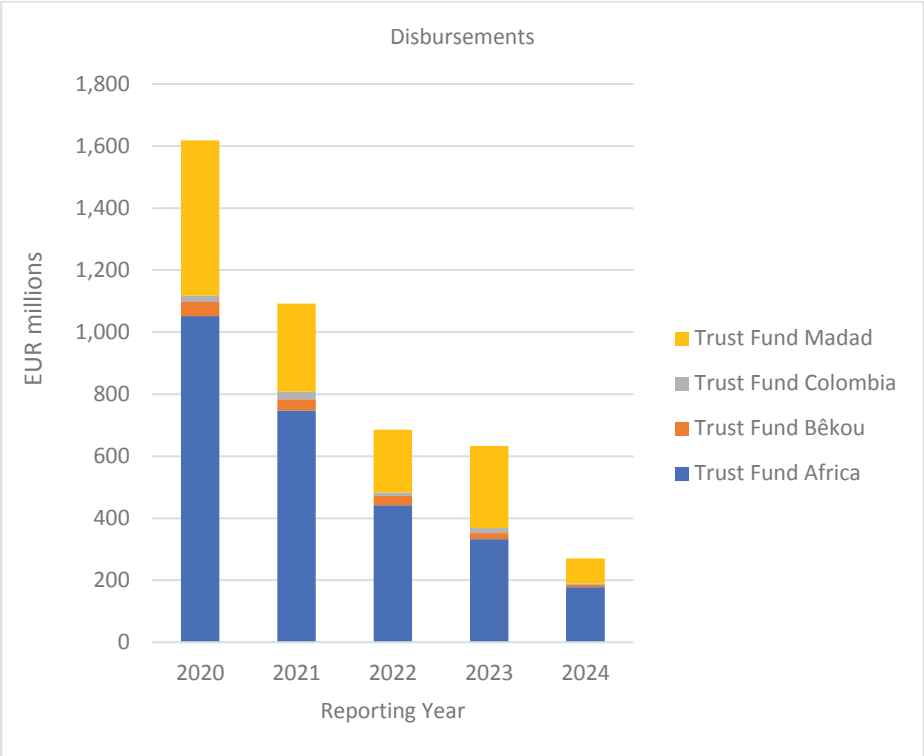


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Table TF2B: Proportion of Trust Funds assistance used for Official Development Aid (ODA) in 2024

Commitments (in EUR millions)

Trust Funds assistance	ODA	Non-ODA **
Trust Fund Africa	24	
Trust Fund Bêkou	3	
Trust Fund Colombia	1	
Trust Fund Madad		
Total	**27**	

Disbursements (in EUR millions)

Trust Funds assistance	ODA	Non-ODA **
Trust Fund Africa	178	0
Trust Fund Bêkou	7	
Trust Fund Colombia	4	
Trust Fund Madad	82	
Total	**270**	**0**

** The non-ODA part of the Trust Fund Africa is entirely funded by the Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) under Heading IV of the EU Budget. Therefore, the part of the Trust Fund Africa funded by other financial sources (including EU Budget Heading VI, the EDF and EU Member States contributions) is 100% ODA eligible.

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Table TF3A: Sectoral breakdown of Trust Fund Africa

Sector	Sahel region and Lake Chad area		Horn of Africa		North of Africa		Regional and Other		Total Africa	
	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements
100 - Social infrastructure and services	**0**	**59**		**46**	**0**	**21**		**0**	**1**	**127**
110 - Education		**3**		**5**						**8**
11110 - Education policy and administrative management				0						0
11120 - Education facilities and training				5						5
11220 - Primary education				0						0
11330 - Vocational training		3		0						3
120 - Health				**19**						**19**
12220 - Basic health care				13						13
12240 - Basic nutrition				6						6
130 - Population policies/programmes and reproductive health		**2**		**1**						**3**
13010 - Population policy and administrative management		2		1						3
140 - Water and sanitation		**1**		**2**						**3**
14010 - Water sector policy and administrative management		1		0						1
14020 - Water supply and sanitation - large systems		0		2						2
14021 - Water supply - large systems				0						0
150 - Government and civil society	**0**	**44**		**11**	**0**	**21**		**0**	**1**	**76**
15110 - Public sector policy and administrative management		2		2		11		0		16
15112 - Decentralisation and support to subnational government				0						0
15130 - Legal and judicial development		23		0						23
15150 - Democratic participation and civil society				1						1
15160 - Human rights		2				0				2
15170 - Women's rights organisations and movements, and government institutions				4						4
15190 - Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility	0	5		0	0	10			1	15
15210 - Security system management and reform		3		1						4

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Sector	Sahel region and Lake Chad area		Horn of Africa		North of Africa		Regional and Other		Total Africa	
	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements
15220 - Civilian peace-building, conflict prevention and resolution		9		2						11
160 - Other social infrastructure and services		**9**		**8**		**0**				**17**
16010 - Social protection		1		4						5
16020 - Employment creation		1		1						2
16050 - Multisector aid for basic social services		8		2		0				10
200 - Economic infrastructure and services		**0**		**6**		**5**		**0**		**11**
210 - Transport and storage				**5**						**5**
21020 - Road transport				5						5
220 - Communications		**0**						**0**		**0**
22010 - Communications policy and administrative management								0		0
22040 - Information and communication technology (ICT)		0								0
250 - Business and other services				**1**		**5**				**5**
25010 - Business Policy and Administration				1		3				4
25030 - Business development services						1				1
300 - Production sectors		**4**		**2**						**6**
310 - Agriculture, forestry and fishing		**4**		**1**						**4**
31120 - Agricultural development		2		1						2
31320 - Fishery development		2								2
320 - Industry, mineral resources and mining, construction		**1**		**1**						**2**
32130 - Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) development		1		1						2
400 - Multisector/Cross-cutting		**1**		**8**		**7**				**16**
410 - General environmental protection				**1**						**1**
41010 - Environmental policy and administrative management				1						1
430 - Other multisector		**1**		**7**		**7**				**15**
43010 - Multisector aid		1		1		1				2
43030 - Urban development and management				5		7				11
43040 - Rural development				1						1
43072 - Household food security programmes		0								0
500 - Commodity aid and general programme assistance		**0**		**1**						**1**
520 - Developmental food assistance		**0**		**1**						**1**
52010 - Food assistance		0		1						1
700 - Humanitarian aid		**0**		**2**						**2**

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Sector	Sahel region and Lake Chad area		Horn of Africa		North of Africa		Regional and Other		Total Africa	
	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements	Commitments	Disbursements
730 - Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation		**0**		**2**						**2**
73010 - Immediate post-emergency reconstruction and rehabilitation		0		2						2
900 - Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**0**	**0**			**1**	**1**	**22**	**15**	**23**	**16**
910 - Administrative costs of donors	**0**	**0**			**1**	**1**	**22**	**15**	**23**	**16**
91010 - Administrative costs (non-sector allocable)	0	0			1	1	22	15	23	16
998 - Unallocated / Unspecified						**0**				**0**
99810 - Sectors not specified						0				0
	0	**65**	**0**	**63**	**1**	**34**	**22**	**15**	**23**	**178**

Graphs Table TF3A

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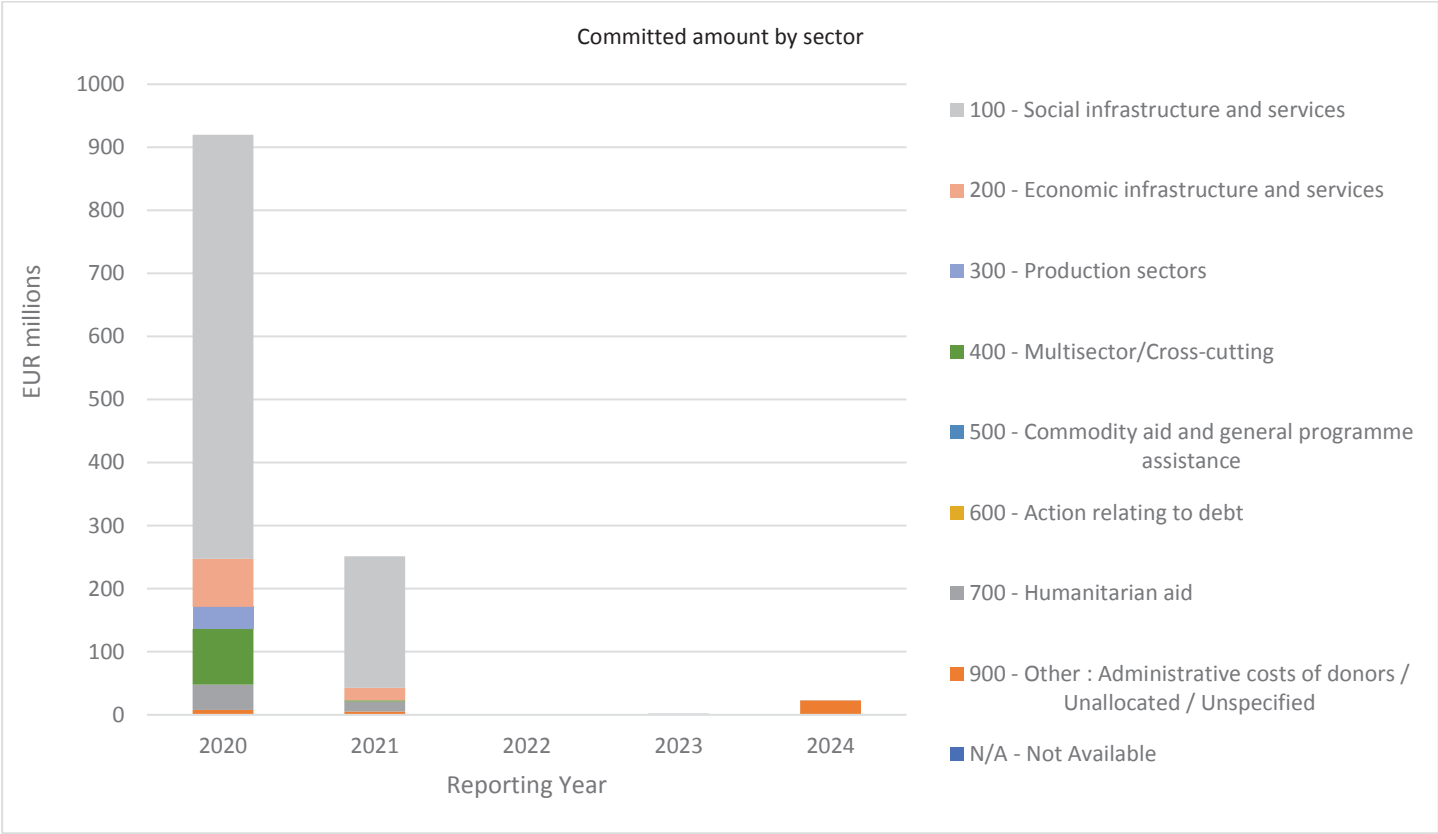

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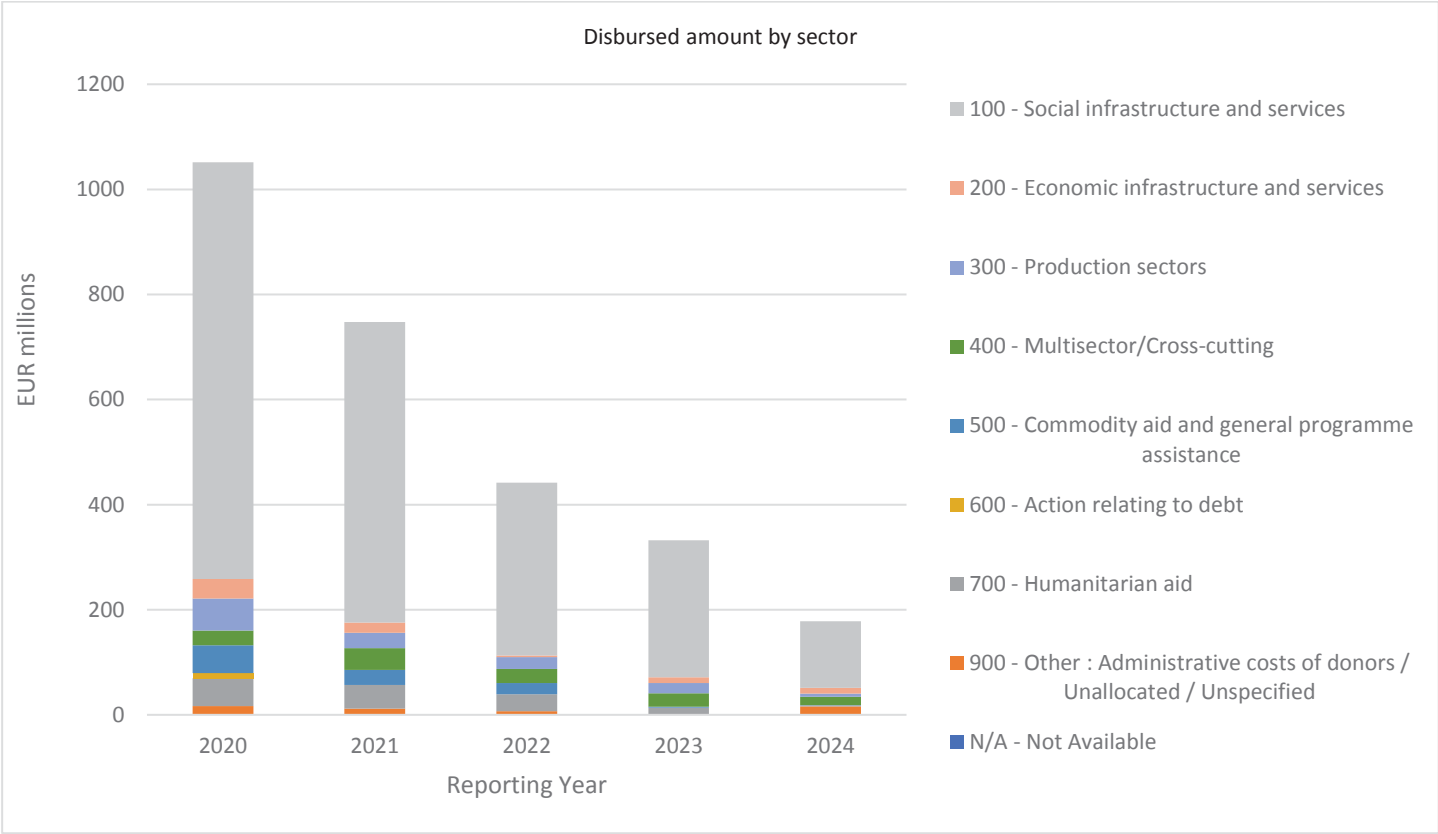

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Table TF3B: Regional breakdown of Trust Fund Africa (in EUR millions)

Countries	Commitments	Disbursements
Africa	**23**	**178**
Africa	**1**	**9**
Africa, regional	1	9
Africa (North of Sahara)	**0**	**33**
Egypt		7
Libya		14
Morocco		6
North of Sahara, regional	0	5
Tunisia		1
Africa (South of Sahara)	**22**	**135**
Burkina Faso		3
Burundi		1
Cameroon		0
Chad		3
Democratic Republic of the Congo		0
Djibouti		0
Ethiopia		5
Gambia		0
Ghana		2
Guinea		0
Guinea-Bissau		0
Kenya		2
Mali		27
Mauritania		5
Niger		5
Nigeria		0
Rwanda		0
Senegal		3
Somalia		12
South of Sahara, regional	22	25
South Sudan		7
Sudan		28
Uganda		5
Developing countries	**0**	**0**
Developing countries, unspecified	**0**	**0**
Developing countries, unspecified	0	0
Not available	**0**	**0**
Not available	0	0

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-	0	0
	24	**178**

Graphs Table TF3B

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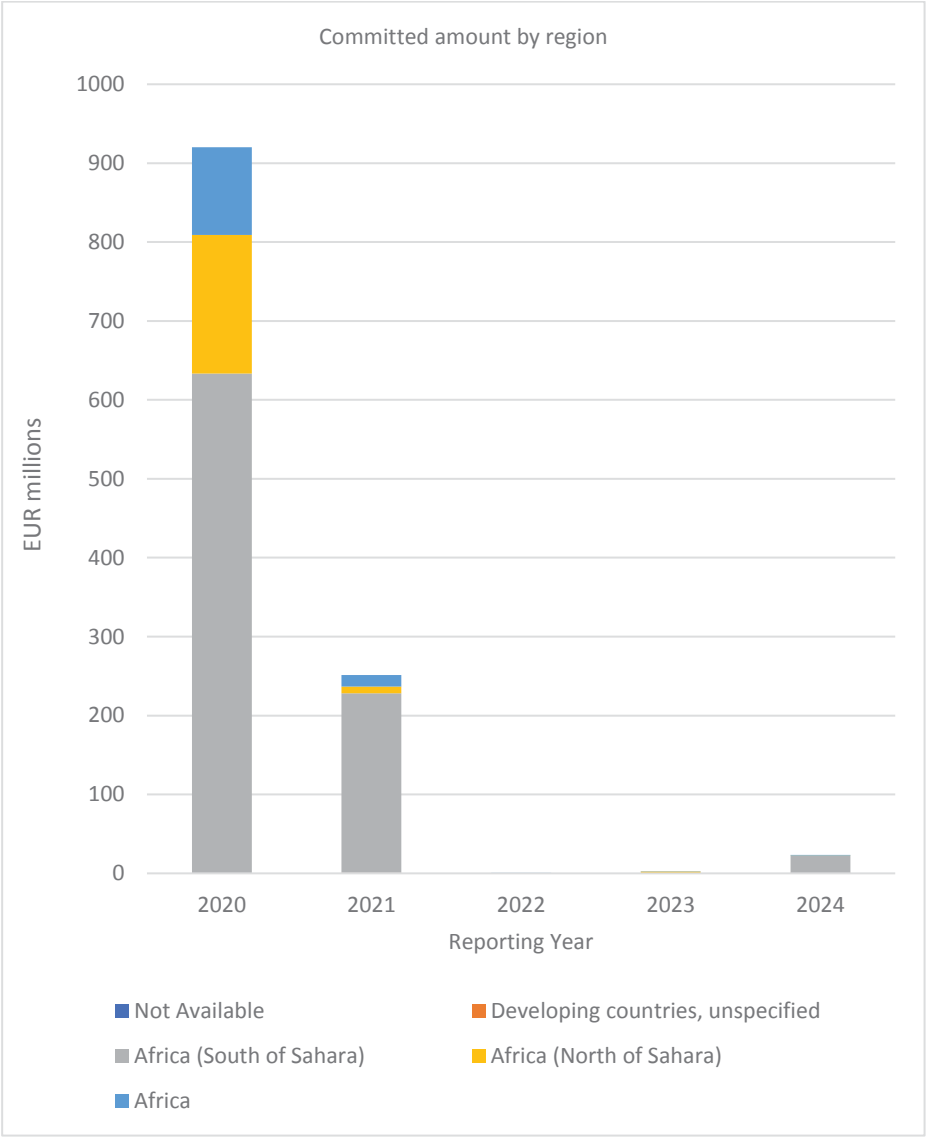

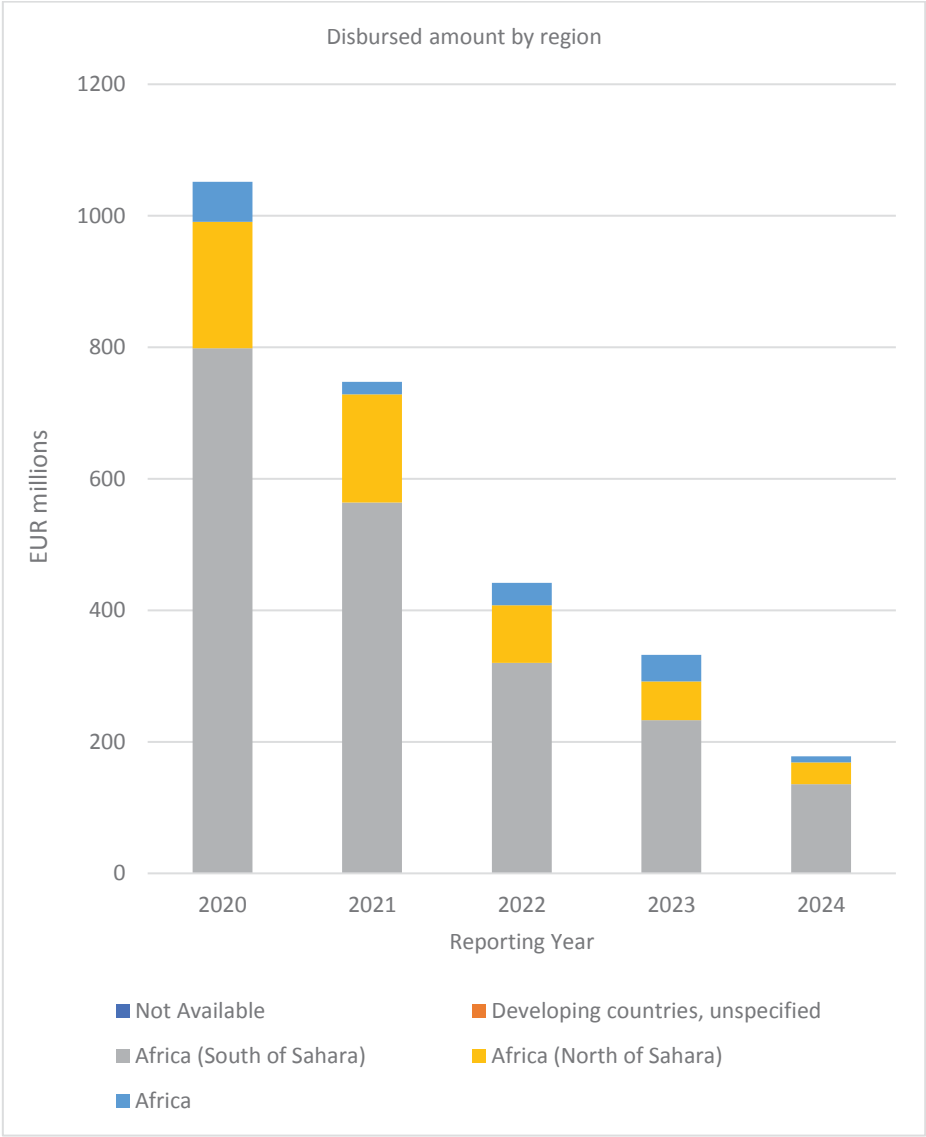

Table TF4: Sectoral breakdown of Trust Fund Bêkou (in EUR millions)

Sector	Commitments	Disbursements
100 - Social infrastructure and services		**4**
110 - Education		**3**
11330 - Vocational training		3
120 - Health		**0**
12220 - Basic health care		0
140 - Water and sanitation		**0**
14031 - Basic drinking water supply		0
150 - Government and civil society		**1**
15110 - Public sector policy and administrative management		0
15153 - Media and free flow of information		0
15170 - Women's rights organisations and movements, and government institutions		0
15180 - Ending violence against women and girls		0
200 - Economic infrastructure and services		**2**
250 - Business and other services		**2**
25030 - Business development services		2
300 - Production sectors		**0**
310 - Agriculture, forestry and fishing		**0**
31120 - Agricultural development		0
31150 - Agricultural inputs		0
900 - Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**3**	**1**
910 - Administrative costs of donors	**3**	**1**
91010 - Administrative costs (non-sector allocable)	3	1
998 - Unallocated / Unspecified		**0**
99820 - Promotion of development awareness (non-sector allocable)		0
Total	**3**	**7**

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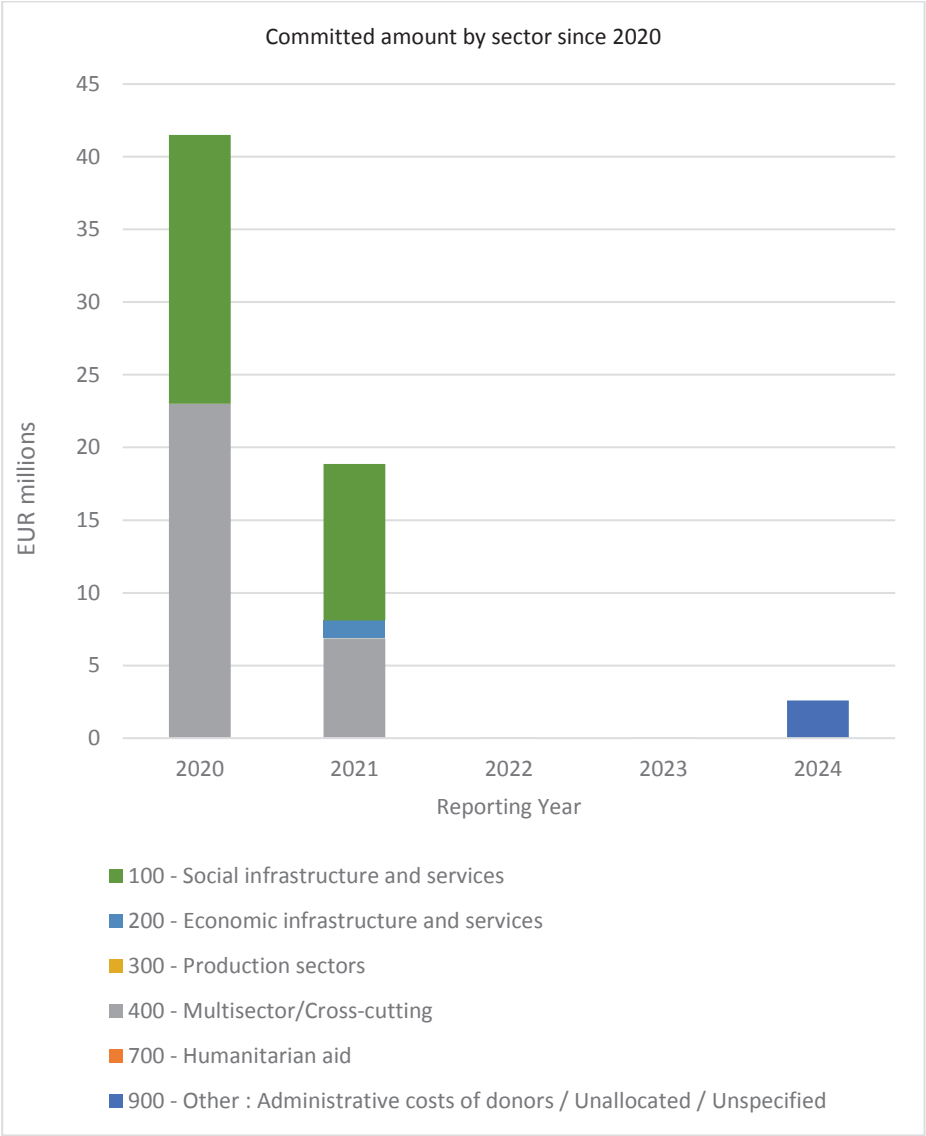
Graphs Table TF4



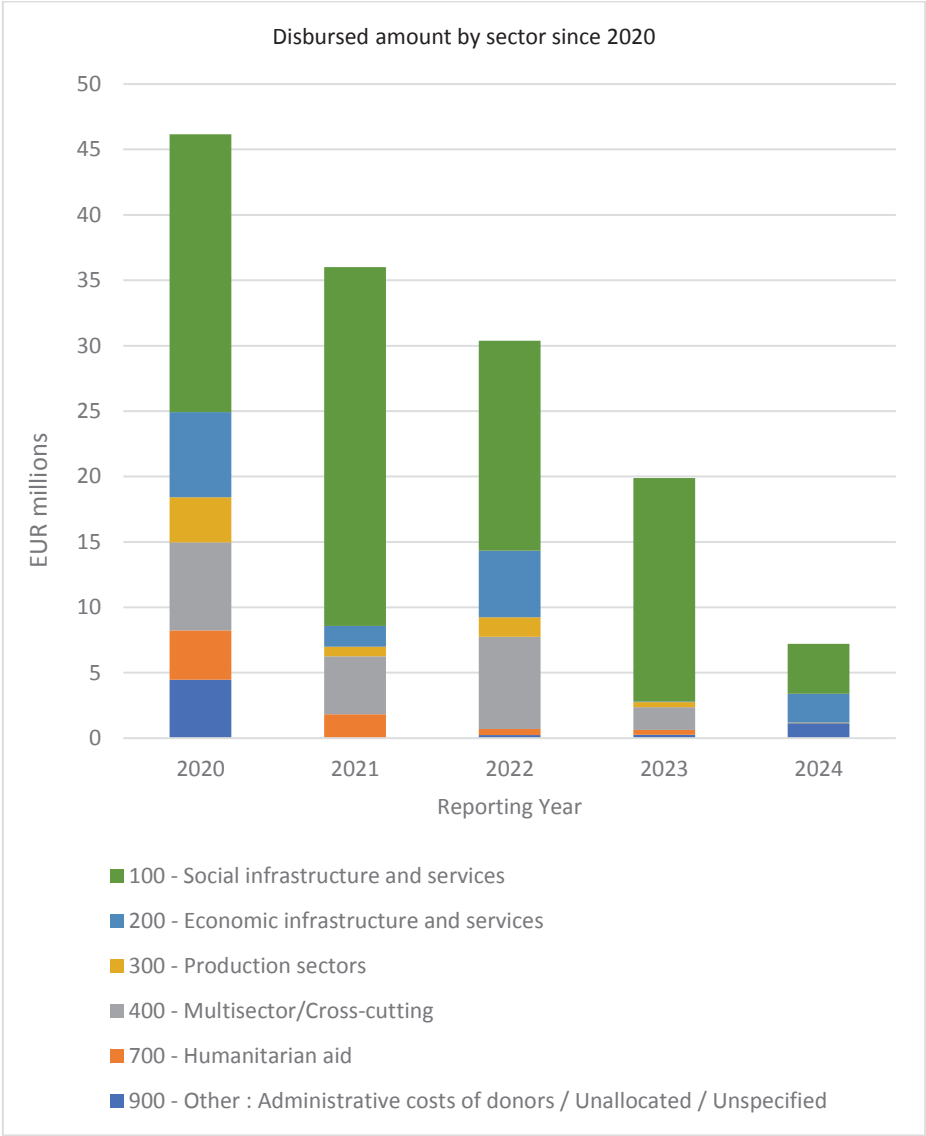


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Table TF5: Sectoral breakdown of Trust Fund Colombia (in EUR millions)

Sector	Commitments	Disbursements
100 - Social infrastructure and services	**0**	**2**
150 - Government and civil society	**0**	**2**
15220 - Civilian peace-building, conflict prevention and resolution	0	2
400 - Multisector/Cross-cutting		**1**
430 - Other multisector		**1**
43040 - Rural development		1
900 - Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified	**1**	**1**
910 - Administrative costs of donors	**1**	**1**
91010 - Administrative costs (non-sector allocable)	1	1
Total	**1**	**4**

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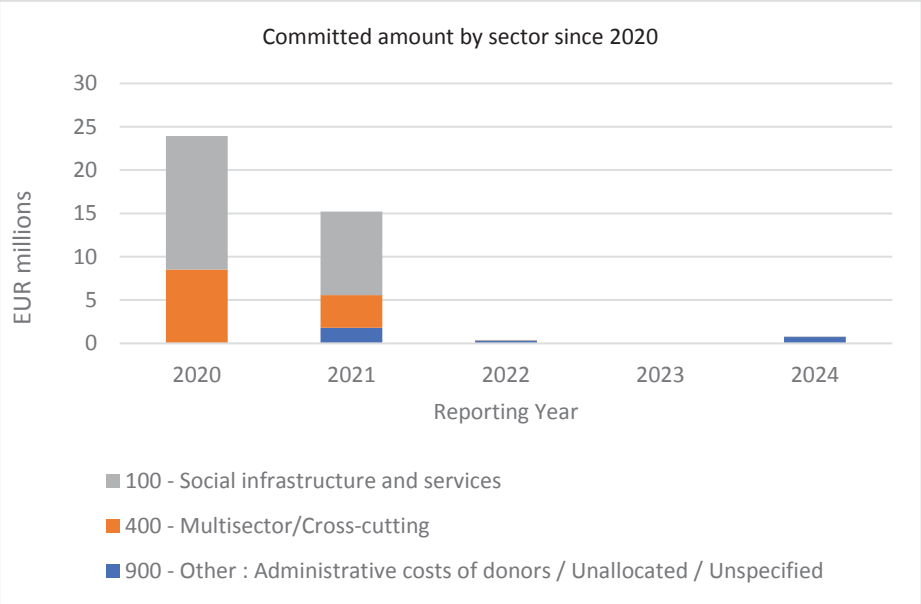
Graphs Table TF5



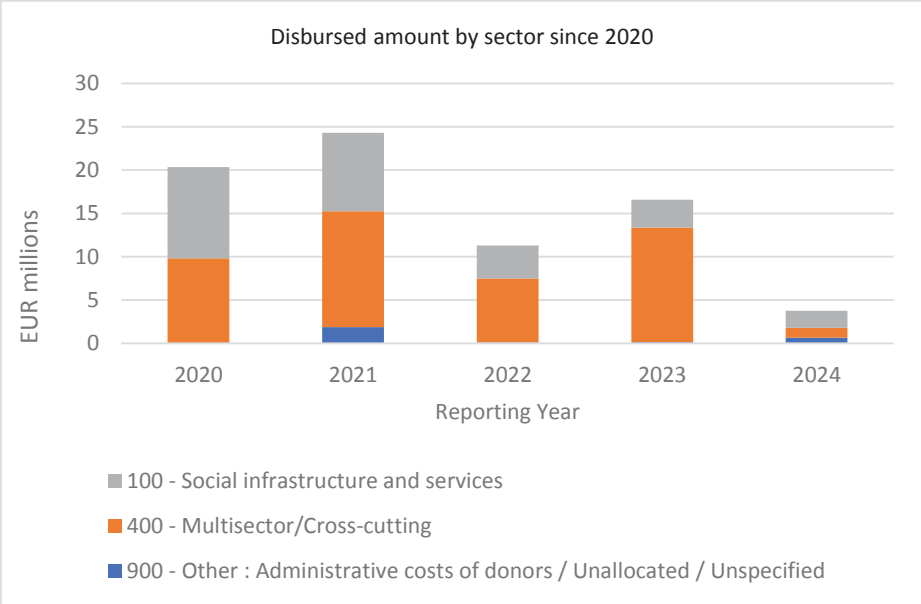


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Table TF6: Sectoral breakdown of Trust Fund Madad (in EUR millions)

Sector	Commitments	Disbursements
100 - Social infrastructure and services		**74**
110 - Education		**22**
11110 - Education policy and administrative management		15
11120 - Education facilities and training		6
11420 - Higher education		1
120 - Health		**7**
12220 - Basic health care		7
140 - Water and sanitation		**18**
14010 - Water sector policy and administrative management		4
14020 - Water supply and sanitation - large systems		8
14050 - Waste management /disposal		6
150 - Government and civil society		**2**
15180 - Ending violence against women and girls		2
160 - Other social infrastructure and services		**25**
16010 - Social protection		21
16020 - Employment creation		4
300 - Production sectors		**7**
310 - Agriculture, forestry and fishing		**7**
31120 - Agricultural development		7
400 - Multisector/Cross-cutting		**1**
430 - Other multisector		**1**
43010 - Multisector aid		1
900 - Other : Administrative costs of donors / Unallocated / Unspecified		**0**
910 - Administrative costs of donors		**0**
91010 - Administrative costs (non-sector allocable)		0
998 - Unallocated / Unspecified		**0**
99810 - Sectors not specified		0
Total		**82**

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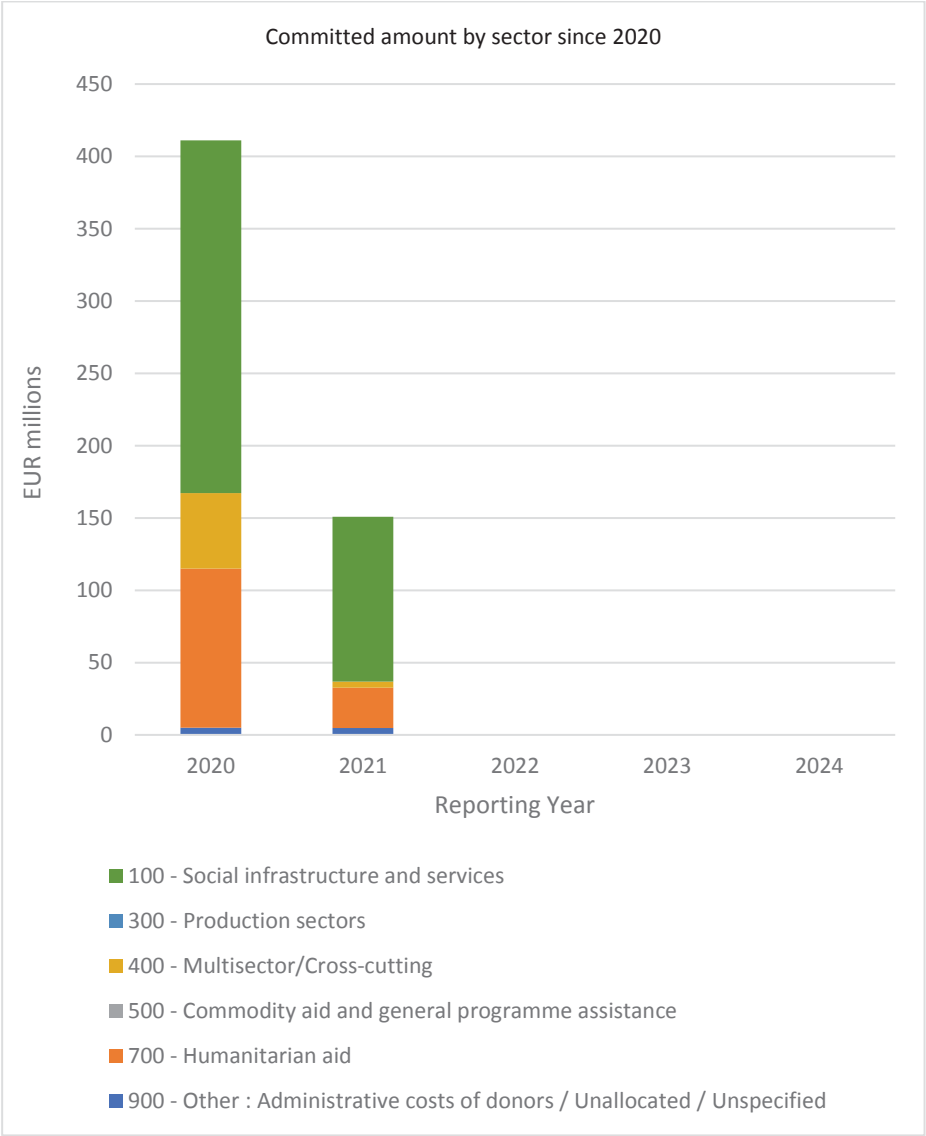
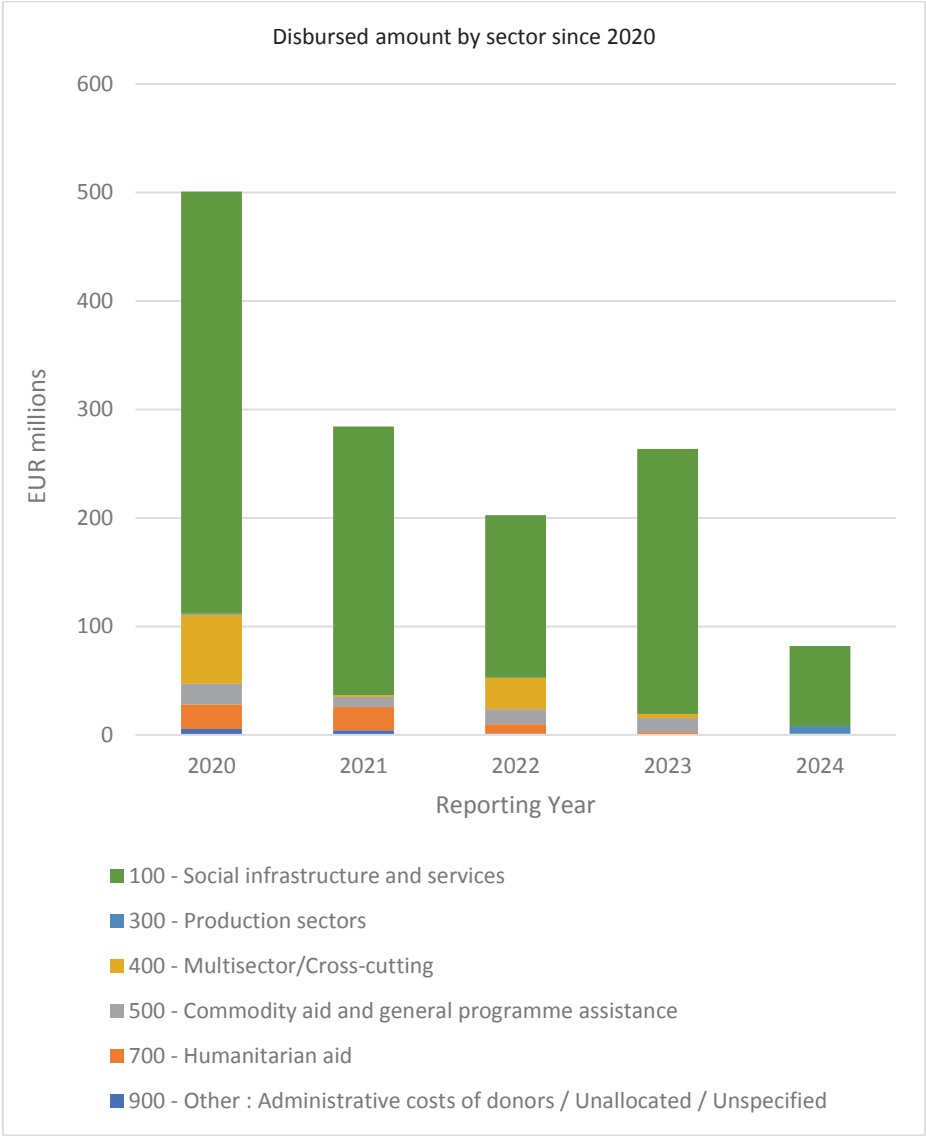
Graphs Table TF6





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Commitments	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 3A BIS: General EU budget for External Action in 2024 by DG - Commitments[153]

Commitments - Regular Contribution

Type of Aid	DGs	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
ODA	INTPA	5.730	766	149			4	0		39	17		23	-2	6.727
ODA	NEAR	2.357	59	804		1.752	4.730	398					11		10.110
ODA	ECHO				2.487								2		2.489
ODA	FPI ECFIN	2	171	251					314				0		739
ODA	AGRI					158							58		216
ODA	CLIMA		17										1		18
ODA	ECFIN	149				6							57		212
ODA	ENV		11										4		15
ODA	REGIO	110				71							11		193
ODA	Other DGs	371	0			77	4	1		3			11		467
ODA	Commission's administration			319	10	57			1	1	0	620			1.009
ODA Total		**8.720**	**1.025**	**1.523**	**2.498**	**2.120**	**4.737**	**400**	**315**	**43**	**18**	**620**	**179**	**-2**	**22.196**
Non-ODA	All	94	8	29		0			73		53		72		329
Non-ODA	Commission's administration			4		0			0		1				5
Non-ODA Total		**94**	**8**	**32**		**0**			**73**		**54**		**72**		**334**
Total Regular Contribution		**8.814**	**1.033**	**1.556**	**2.498**	**2.121**	**4.737**	**400**	**389**	**43**	**72**	**620**	**251**	**-2**	**22.530**

[153] Table 3A BIS to 4 BIS below duplicate tables 3A to 4 above in a way that has been specifically adapted to be machine-readable. Work is in progress for some other tables that may not be fully machine-readable yet.

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Commitments – Cofinancing

Type of Aid	DGs	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
ODA	INTPA	302													302
ODA	NEAR	6					150						1		157
ODA	ECHO				13										13
ODA	Other DGs	11				4							569		584
ODA	Commission's administration			0	0	4			0			23			28
ODA Total		**318**		**0**	**14**	**8**	**150**		**0**			**23**	**570**		**1.083**
Non-ODA	All	3		2											5
Non-ODA	Commission's administration			0		0			0						0
Non-ODA Total		**3**		**2**		**0**			**0**						**5**
Total Cofinancing		**322**		**2**	**14**	**8**	**150**		**0**			**23**	**570**		**1.088**

Commitments

Total by Instrument	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	EDF	Total
Total Commitments	**9.135**	**1.033**	**1.558**	**2.511**	**2.129**	**4.887**	**400**	**389**	**43**	**72**	**643**	**821**	**-2**	**23.618**

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	Yes	Yes
Budget Non INTPA	Yes	Yes
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 3B BIS: General EU budget for External Action in 2024 by DG – Disbursements

Disbursements - Regular Contribution

Type of Aid	DGs	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Completion Lines	EDF	Total
ODA	INTPA	2.763	818	17		3	1			23	0		28	993	1.287	5.934
ODA	NEAR	2.140	48	333		1.170	3.630						5	1.476		8.802
ODA	ECHO	0			2.413	0							1	1		2.416
ODA	FPI		127	219					315				0	76		737
ODA	AGRI					59								36		95
ODA	CLIMA		7										1	3		11
ODA	ECFIN	279				6							28			313
ODA	ENV		15										4	0		18
ODA	REGIO	79				5								82		165
ODA	Other DGs	231	0			55	3			3			16	33		341
ODA	Commission's administration			329	10	56			1	1	0	621				1.019
ODA Total		**5.492**	**1.015**	**898**	**2.424**	**1.354**	**3.634**		**316**	**26**	**0**	**621**	**83**	**2.701**	**1.287**	**19.851**
Non-ODA	All	150	27	51	3	23		1	76	0	52		61	45	111	602
Non-ODA	Commission's administration			10	0	1			0	0	1					12
Non-ODA Total		**150**	**27**	**61**	**3**	**23**		**1**	**76**	**0**	**54**		**61**	**45**	**111**	**614**
Total Regular Contribution		**5.643**	**1.042**	**959**	**2.427**	**1.377**	**3.634**	**1**	**392**	**26**	**54**	**621**	**144**	**2.746**	**1.399**	**20.464**

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Disbursements - Cofinancing

Type of Aid	DGs	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Completion Lines	EDF	Total
ODA	INTPA	110												15	7	132
ODA	NEAR						3							9		12
ODA	ECHO				14											14
ODA	Other DGs	9				4							416	1		429
ODA	Commission's administration			1	0	5			0			23				29
ODA Total		**119**		**1**	**15**	**9**	**3**		**0**			**23**	**416**	**25**	**7**	**617**
	All													0		0
Non-ODA	Commission's administration			0	0	0			0							0
Non-ODA Total				**0**	**0**	**0**			**0**					**0**		**0**
Total Cofinancing		**119**		**1**	**15**	**9**	**3**		**0**			**23**	**416**	**25**	**7**	**617**

Disbursements

External Action	1. NDICI Geo	2. NDICI Thema	3. NDICI Other	4. HUMA	5. IPA III	6. Ukraine Facility	7. Western Balkan	8. CFSP	9. INSC	10. OCT	11. Admin	12. Other	Completion Lines	EDF	Total
Total Disbursements	**5.761**	**1.042**	**960**	**2.442**	**1.386**	**3.637**	**1**	**393**	**26**	**54**	**643**	**560**	**2.771**	**1.405**	**21.081**

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Disbursements	ODA	Non-ODA
Budget INTPA	No	No
Budget Non INTPA	No	No
EDF	Yes	Yes

Table 4 BIS: European Development Fund (EDF) in 2024

Cotonou

Aid	Instrument	ODA	Non-ODA	Total
Cofinancing	A Envelope	5		5
Cofinancing	Intra-ACP allocations	1		1
Cofinancing Total	Total of all instruments	**7**		**7**
Regular Contribution	A Envelope	725	5	731
Regular Contribution	Regional allocations	289	15	304
Regular Contribution	Intra-ACP allocations	248	88	336
Regular Contribution	B Envelope	15	0	16
Regular Contribution	Implementation costs	10	3	13
Regular Contribution Total	Total of all instruments	**1.287**	**111**	**1.399**
Cotonou Total		**1.294**	**111**	**1.405**
EDF Total		**1.294**	**111**	**1.405**

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9. Financing and investment operations covered by the EFSD+ external action guarantee

Chapter 5.2.3. of this report gives an overview of the EU's use of financial instruments supported by the External Action Guarantee (EAG) under the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+).

Background:

The EAG was established by Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe Regulation (NDICI-Global Europe), adopted on 9 June 2021. NDICI-Global Europe unifies grants, blending and guarantees, which allows the EU to strategically promote public and private investment worldwide in support to sustainable development through the EFSD+. Investments are backed by an up to EUR 53.4 billion EAG.

The EU's focus is to invest in projects that will contribute to its global ambitions: the Global Gateway strategy, the Green Deal, and jobs and sustainable and inclusive growth. The EFSD+ will also be key to rebuild and reconstruct Ukraine, in line with building back better principles.

Per NDICI-Global Europe, around half of the EAG (an indicative amount of EUR 26.7 billion) should be implemented by the European Investment Bank (EIB), mostly for sovereign and non-commercial sub-sovereign operations. By end-2024, two **EIB dedicated investment windows** are signed and operational: investment window 1 (operations with sovereign and non-commercial sub-sovereign counterparts available to all eligible regions[154]) and investment window 4 (EFSD+ guarantees enabling the EIB to provide blending support for the private sector in the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific).

The rest of the EFSD+ budgetary guarantees will be implemented through the **'Open Architecture' windows** for commercial sub-sovereign and private sector operations across all DG INTPA and DG NEAR regions, which are open to other Pillar-Assessed financial institutions. In 2022, a call for proposals was launched under the Open Architecture, the first under the current Multiannual Financial Framework.

The tables in this annex show the deployment of the EFSD+ budgetary guarantees by end 2024.

Tables 1 and 2 below show the list of covered operations signed under the EIB dedicated investment windows. Further information including contribution to NDICI-Global Europe objectives, additionality, and leverage effect achieved is available on the individual operation pages on the EIB website[155].

Table 3 shows the list of signed guarantee programmes under the Open Architecture. Detailed information on each programme is published in June each year as part of the draft budget, in Working Document XI[156]. The report provides information on operational, financial and risk aspects of budgetary guarantees, including leverage, multiplier, amounts transferred to final recipients, number of final recipients, investments made by final recipients, private sector resources mobilised. The contribution of

[154] https://www.eib.org/en/products/mandates-partnerships/ndici/index

[155] https://www.eib.org/en/projects/all/index.htm?q=&sortColumn=statusDate&sortDir=desc&pageNumber=0&itemPerPage=25&pageable=true&la=EN&deLa=EN&yearFrom=&orYearFrom=true&yearTo=&orYearTo=true&orStatus=true&orRegions=true&countries=CV&orCountries=true&orSectors=true https://www.eib.org/en/projects/all

[156] https://commission.europa.eu/publications_en?f%5B0%5D=oe_publication_title%3ADraft%20document%20XI

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the guarantees as a whole to the policy objectives of the EFSD and EFSD+ and NDICI-Global Europe regulations is also covered.

Table 1: EIB investment window 1 covered operations

Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	EGYPT FOOD RESILIENCE (12)	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	31/12/2024	90.0
NEAR	EPS GREEN FINANCING	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	27/12/2024	100.0
INTPA	ATIDI MEMBERSHIP INCREASE COTE D IVOIRE	Côte d'Ivoire	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	27/12/2024	50.0
NEAR	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL UPGRADE II	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	23/12/2024	25.0
INTPA	CLEAN OCEANS INITIATIVE GRAND NOKOUE BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	23/12/2024	35.5
INTPA	ASPIRE-AT	Cambodia	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	20/12/2024	60.0
INTPA	BISSAU-ZIGUINCHOR TAH-7 RESILIENT ROAD CORRIDOR	Guinea-Bissau	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	17/12/2024	105.0
INTPA	GLOBAL GATEWAY NATURE GUARANTEE	Barbados	Caribbean	Americas and the Caribbean	25/11/2024	142.9
NEAR	ARMENIA SISIAN-KAJARAN ROAD PROJECT	Armenia	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	12/11/2024	236.0
INTPA	PROGRAMME DE RESTAURATION DURABLE DES FORETS	Côte d'Ivoire	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	11/11/2024	150.0
NEAR	MOROCCO POST-EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION	Morocco	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	01/10/2024	500.0
NEAR	MOLDOVA FOREST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	Moldova	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	17/09/2024	200.0
INTPA	Cape Verde Blue Economy Sustainable Ports Framework Loan	Cabo Verde	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	02/09/2024	114.0
NEAR	JORDAN WATER SECURITY AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION	Jordan	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	18/07/2024	400.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	SMART METERING	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	28/06/2024	80.0
NEAR	CORRIDOR SFAX KASSERINE	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	13/06/2024	210.0
NEAR	UKRAINE RECOVERY III FRAMEWORK LOAN (11)	Ukraine	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	11/06/2024	100.0
NEAR	MONTENEGRO RAILWAYS REHABILITATION	Montenegro	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	27/05/2024	40.0
INTPA	BHUTAN HYDRO AND SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY	Bhutan	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	17/04/2024	150.0
NEAR	VORE HANI I HOTIT RAILWAY LINE	Albania	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	20/03/2024	100.0
NEAR	KEK SOLAR PV – GLOBAL GATEWAY	Kosovo	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	18/03/2024	33.0
NEAR	TUNISIE RELANCE ÉCONOMIQUE	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	16/01/2024	170.0
NEAR	NORTH EAST RAMALLAH WASTEWATER	Palestine**	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	10/01/2024	19.9
NEAR	GREEN SUSTAINABILITY INSDUSTRY PROJECT, GSI	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	31/12/2023	135.0
NEAR	STEG - TUNISIA ITALY POWER INTERCONNECTION	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	30/12/2023	45.0
INTPA	NIGERIA ACCESS TO AGRI MARKETS FRAMEWORK LOAN	Nigeria	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2023	150.0
INTPA	ALIMENTATION EN EAU POTABLE NORD DU BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2023	62.0
INTPA	ASSAINISSEMENT PLUVIAL DE VILLES DU BENIN II	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2023	70.0
INTPA	CAPE VERDE GREEN ENERGY FL	Cabo Verde	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2023	120.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
INTPA	MONGOLIA DEVELOPMENT OF SECONDARY URBAN CENTRES	Mongolia	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	29/12/2023	44.9
NEAR	INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE FORESTS	Morocco	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	29/12/2023	100.0
INTPA	ECUADOR-PERU POWER INTERCONNECTION	Ecuador	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	28/12/2023	112.5
NEAR	CORRIDOR VIII RAIL - MEASTERN SECTION MK	North Macedonia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	18/12/2023	175.0
NEAR	MOLDOVA SOLIDARITY LANES	Moldova	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	15/12/2023	41.2
NEAR	AQABA-AMMAN WATER DESALINATION & CONVEYANCE	Jordan	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	03/12/2023	100.0
					12/12/2022	200.0
NEAR	YEREVAN ENERGY EFFICIENCY PHASE II	Armenia	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	29/11/2023	25.0
NEAR	EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION FRAMEWORK LOAN	Turkiye	Türkiye	Türkiye	15/11/2023	400.0
INTPA	BANGLADESH RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY	Bangladesh	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	25/10/2023	350.0
INTPA	PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES PROGRAMME FL	Argentina	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	22/10/2023	150.0
NEAR	WINDFARM VLASIC (3)	BiH	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	19/10/2023	36.0
NEAR	ROAD REHABILITATION AND SAFETY (10)	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	06/10/2023	85.0
NEAR	DBNM LOAN FOR SMES MID-CAPS AND GREEN TRANSITION	North Macedonia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	24/07/2023	100.0
NEAR	MODERNISATION ETABLISSEMENTS SCOLAIRES II	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	10/07/2023	40.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
INTPA	DJIBOUTI WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT	Djibouti	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	07/07/2023	79.2
NEAR	SARAJEVO URBAN TRANSPORT PROJECT (2)	BiH	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	15/06/2023	35.0
NEAR	BANJA LUKA MEDICAL COMPLEX	BiH	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	14/06/2023	75.0
INTPA	ARGENTINA - INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT FL	Argentina	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	23/05/2023	40.0
NEAR	SERBIAN EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FL	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	19/01/2023	40.0
INTPA	93197 SAO TOME WATER SUPPLY	São Tomé and Príncipe	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	31/12/2022	8.4
INTPA	TRANSMISSION NETWORK INVESTMENTS FL	Argentina	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	30/12/2022	100.0
INTPA	BICE ARGENTINA - GREEN MBIL	Argentina	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	30/12/2022	60.0
INTPA	CONGO DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION	Democratic Republic of Congo	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	30/12/2022	26.0
NEAR	CONNECTED SCHOOLS IN SERBIA (7)	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	29/12/2022	5.0
NEAR	FAYOUM WASTEWATER EXPANSION PROJECT (8)	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	29/12/2022	46.0
NEAR	STEG PROGRAMME TRANSPORT ET DISTRIBUTION (4)	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	28/12/2022	65.8
NEAR	ARMENIA ECONOMIC RESILIENCE FACILITY	Armenia	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	27/12/2022	70.0
INTPA	DAKAR PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORK RESTRUCTURING	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	27/12/2022	166.9

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	ZEMO SAMGORI IRRIGATION PROJECT	Georgia	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	22/12/2022	20.0
NEAR	ROUTE 10 RAIL REHABILITATION (1)	Kosovo	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	21/12/2022	38.0
NEAR	STRENGTHENING TUNISIA FOOD RESILIANCE	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	16/12/2022	150.0
NEAR	CORRIDOR X RAILWAYS FL - GLOBAL GATEWAY and CORRIDOR X SECTION STALAC-DJUNIS	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	16/12/2022	550.0
NEAR	MOLDOVA ROADS III (9)	Moldova	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	15/12/2022	100.0
NEAR	SERBIAN INLAND WATERWAY INFRASTRUCTURE (5)	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	13/12/2022	31.0
INTPA	OMVG - INTERCONNECTION C	Guinea	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	05/12/2022	17.0
NEAR	HELWAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT (signature volume represents the first of two envisaged traches)	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	30/11/2022	78.0
NEAR	MUNICIPAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	North Macedonia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	23/11/2022	50.0
INTPA	MODERNISATION DU RESEAU ROUTIER AU TCHAD	Chad	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	22/09/2022	141.2
INTPA	92727 SAINT LUCIA COVID-19 HEALTH RESILIENCE	Saint Lucia	Caribbean	Americas and the Caribbean	20/09/2022	13.5
NEAR	IDF IV LOAN FOR SMES CLIMATE & PRIORITY PROJECTS (6)	Montenegro	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	29/07/2022	50.0
NEAR	TANTA EL MANSOURA DAMIETTA RAILWAY UPGRADING PROJECT	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	11/07/2022	221.0
INTPA	MALDIVES COVID-19 HEALTH FACILITY	Maldives	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	22/06/2022	18.4

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	MOLDOVA ROADS IV	Moldova	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	31/03/2022	150.0
INTPA	ANGOLA COVID-19 HEALTH RESILIENCE	Angola	Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	Sub-Saharan Africa	24/02/2022	50.0
INTPA	BELABO-NGAOUNDERE RAILWAY RENEWAL CAMEROON	Cameroon	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	31/12/2021	106.0
INTPA	BANGLADESH COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMME	Bangladesh	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	29/12/2021	250.0
INTPA	BENIN RESILIENCE ECONOMIQUE COVID 19	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	17/12/2021	45.0
INTPA	EAU ET ASSAINISSEMENT COTONOU PHASE 3 (loan amount increase)	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	17/12/2021	27.0
INTPA	COVID-19 HEALTH RESPONSE GHANA	Ghana	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	10/12/2021	75.0
INTPA	ASSAINISSEMENT PLUVIAL DE VILLES DU BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	06/12/2021	124.9
INTPA	INTERCONNEXION ANTANANARIVO TOAMASINA PRIRTEM-1	Madagascar	Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/11/2021	81.3
INTPA	RWANDA COVID 19 HEALTH RESILIENCE	Rwanda	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/09/2021	22.0
INTPA	BARBADOS COVID-19 HEALTH RESILIENCE	Barbados	Caribbean	Americas and the Caribbean	14/06/2021	50.0
INTPA	INTERCONNEXION ELECTRIQUE 225 KV GUINEE-MALI	Guinea	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	04/03/2021	170.0
INTPA	SENEGAL DECHETS SOLIDES (PROMOGED)	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	09/02/2021	50.0
INTPA	SENEGAL EAU POTABLE & COVID-19	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	09/02/2021	64.5
INTPA	NIGERIA CLIMATE ADAPTATION - EROSION & WATERSHED	Nigeria	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2020	175.0
INTPA	DEVELOPMENT BANK GHANA	Ghana	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	28/12/2020	170.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
INTPA	RIPOSTE SANITAIRE COVID-19 NIGER	Niger	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	28/12/2020	15.0
INTPA	ELECTRICITY ACCESS RWANDA (Part I and Part II)	Rwanda	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	23/12/2020	100.0
INTPA	EDM - BOUCLE 225 KV NORD BAMAKO	Mali	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	22/12/2020	45.0
INTPA	MAURITANIA COVID-19 RESILIENCE SUBMARINE CABLE	Mauritania	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	22/12/2020	25.0
INTPA	RIPOSTE SANITAIRE COVID-19 BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	27/11/2020	30.0
INTPA	ASSAINISSEMENT ET DRAINAGE DE OUAGADOUGOU	Burkina Faso	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	27/11/2020	15.0
INTPA	MOZAMBIQUE CLIMATE RESILIENT FL	Mozambique	Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	Sub-Saharan Africa	23/11/2020	100.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION CHAD	Chad	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	04/11/2020	15.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION SENEGAL	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	03/11/2020	15.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION BURKINA FASO	Burkina Faso	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	16/10/2020	15.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	13/10/2020	15.0
INTPA	SENEGAL COVID-19 HEALTH PROGRAMME	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	23/07/2020	75.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION CAMEROON	Cameroon	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	09/03/2020	11.4
INTPA	SAO TOME SUSTAINABLE ROADS	São Tomé and Príncipe	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	19/12/2019	12.5
INTPA	AEP NIAMEY II	Niger	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	18/12/2019	105.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION TOGO	Togo	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	16/12/2019	11.4
INTPA	JIRAMA WATER III - PRIORITAIRE	Madagascar	Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	Sub-Saharan Africa	09/12/2019	35.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION NIGER	Niger	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	05/12/2019	11.4
INTPA	CAPE VERDE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAMME	Cabo Verde	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	10/04/2019	22.0

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Table 2: EIB investment window 4 covered operations

These operations are financed by the ACP Investment Facility reflows as opposed to EIB investment window 1 and open architecture, both part of the EAG mechanism, but they are provided here since they also provide external action guarantees, be it from a different financing source.

Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	EGYPT FOOD RESILIENCE (12)	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	31/12/2024	90.0
NEAR	EPS GREEN FINANCING	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	27/12/2024	100.0
INTPA	ATIDI MEMBERSHIP INCREASE COTE D IVOIRE	Côte d'Ivoire	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	27/12/2024	50.0
NEAR	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL UPGRADE II	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	23/12/2024	25.0
INTPA	CLEAN OCEANS INITIATIVE GRAND NOKOUE BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	23/12/2024	35.5
INTPA	ASPIRE-AT	Cambodia	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	20/12/2024	60.0
INTPA	BISSAU-ZIGUINCHOR TAH-7 RESILIENT ROAD CORRIDOR	Guinea-Bissau	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	17/12/2024	105.0
INTPA	GLOBAL GATEWAY NATURE GUARANTEE	Barbados	Caribbean	Americas and the Caribbean	25/11/2024	142.9
NEAR	ARMENIA SISIAN-KAJARAN ROAD PROJECT	Armenia	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	12/11/2024	236.0
INTPA	PROGRAMME DE RESTAURATION DURABLE DES FORETS	Côte d'Ivoire	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	11/11/2024	150.0
NEAR	MOROCCO POST-EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION	Morocco	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	01/10/2024	500.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	MOLDOVA FOREST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	Moldova	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	17/09/2024	200.0
INTPA	Cape Verde Blue Economy Sustainable Ports Framework Loan	Cabo Verde	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	02/09/2024	114.0
NEAR	JORDAN WATER SECURITY AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION	Jordan	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	18/07/2024	400.0
NEAR	SMART METERING	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	28/06/2024	80.0
NEAR	CORRIDOR SFAX KASSERINE	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	13/06/2024	210.0
NEAR	UKRAINE RECOVERY III FRAMEWORK LOAN (11)	Ukraine	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	11/06/2024	100.0
NEAR	MONTENEGRO RAILWAYS REHABILITATION	Montenegro	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	27/05/2024	40.0
INTPA	BHUTAN HYDRO AND SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY	Bhutan	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	17/04/2024	150.0
NEAR	VORE HANI I HOTIT RAILWAY LINE	Albania	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	20/03/2024	100.0
NEAR	KEK SOLAR PV – GLOBAL GATEWAY	Kosovo	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	18/03/2024	33.0
NEAR	TUNISIE RELANCE ÉCONOMIQUE	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	16/01/2024	170.0
NEAR	NORTH EAST RAMALLAH WASTEWATER	Palestine**	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	10/01/2024	19.9
NEAR	GREEN SUSTAINABILITY INSDUSTRY PROJECT, GSI	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	31/12/2023	135.0
NEAR	STEG - TUNISIA ITALY POWER INTERCONNECTION	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	30/12/2023	45.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
INTPA	NIGERIA ACCESS TO AGRI MARKETS FRAMEWORK LOAN	Nigeria	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2023	150.0
INTPA	ALIMENTATION EN EAU POTABLE NORD DU BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2023	62.0
INTPA	ASSAINISSEMENT PLUVIAL DE VILLES DU BENIN II	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2023	70.0
INTPA	CAPE VERDE GREEN ENERGY FL	Cabo Verde	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2023	120.0
INTPA	MONGOLIA DEVELOPMENT OF SECONDARY URBAN CENTRES	Mongolia	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	29/12/2023	44.9
NEAR	INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE FORESTS	Morocco	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	29/12/2023	100.0
INTPA	ECUADOR-PERU POWER INTERCONNECTION	Ecuador	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	28/12/2023	112.5
NEAR	CORRIDOR VIII RAIL - MEASTERN SECTION MK	North Macedonia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	18/12/2023	175.0
NEAR	MOLDOVA SOLIDARITY LANES	Moldova	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	15/12/2023	41.2
NEAR	AQABA-AMMAN WATER DESALINATION & CONVEYANCE	Jordan	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	03/12/2023	100.0
					12/12/2022	200.0
NEAR	YEREVAN ENERGY EFFICIENCY PHASE II	Armenia	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	29/11/2023	25.0
NEAR	EARTHQUAKE RECONSTRUCTION FRAMEWORK LOAN	Turkiye	Türkiye	Türkiye	15/11/2023	400.0
INTPA	BANGLADESH RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY	Bangladesh	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	25/10/2023	350.0
INTPA	PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES PROGRAMME FL	Argentina	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	22/10/2023	150.0
NEAR	WINDFARM VLASIC (3)	BiH	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	19/10/2023	36.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	ROAD REHABILITATION AND SAFETY (10)	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	06/10/2023	85.0
NEAR	DBNM LOAN FOR SMES MID-CAPS AND GREEN TRANSITION	North Macedonia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	24/07/2023	100.0
NEAR	MODERNISATION ETABLISSEMENTS SCOLAIRES II	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	10/07/2023	40.0
INTPA	DJIBOUTI WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT	Djibouti	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	07/07/2023	79.2
NEAR	SARAJEVO URBAN TRANSPORT PROJECT (2)	BiH	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	15/06/2023	35.0
NEAR	BANJA LUKA MEDICAL COMPLEX	BiH	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	14/06/2023	75.0
INTPA	ARGENTINA - INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT FL	Argentina	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	23/05/2023	40.0
NEAR	SERBIAN EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE FL	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	19/01/2023	40.0
INTPA	93197 SAO TOME WATER SUPPLY	São Tomé and Príncipe	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	31/12/2022	8.4
INTPA	TRANSMISSION NETWORK INVESTMENTS FL	Argentina	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	30/12/2022	100.0
INTPA	BICE ARGENTINA - GREEN MBIL	Argentina	Americas	Americas and the Caribbean	30/12/2022	60.0
INTPA	CONGO DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION	Democratic Republic of Congo	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	30/12/2022	26.0
NEAR	CONNECTED SCHOOLS IN SERBIA (7)	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	29/12/2022	5.0
NEAR	FAYOUM WASTEWATER EXPANSION PROJECT (8)	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	29/12/2022	46.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	STEG PROGRAMME TRANSPORT ET DISTRIBUTION (4)	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	28/12/2022	65.8
NEAR	ARMENIA ECONOMIC RESILIENCE FACILITY	Armenia	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	27/12/2022	70.0
INTPA	DAKAR PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORK RESTRUCTURING	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	27/12/2022	166.9
NEAR	ZEMO SAMGORI IRRIGATION PROJECT	Georgia	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	22/12/2022	20.0
NEAR	ROUTE 10 RAIL REHABILITATION (1)	Kosovo	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	21/12/2022	38.0
NEAR	STRENGTHENING TUNISIA FOOD RESILIANCE	Tunisia	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	16/12/2022	150.0
NEAR	CORRIDOR X RAILWAYS FL - GLOBAL GATEWAY and CORRIDOR X SECTION STALAC-DJUNIS	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	16/12/2022	550.0
NEAR	MOLDOVA ROADS III (9)	Moldova	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	15/12/2022	100.0
NEAR	SERBIAN INLAND WATERWAY INFRASTRUCTURE (5)	Serbia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	13/12/2022	31.0
INTPA	OMVG - INTERCONNECTION C	Guinea	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	05/12/2022	17.0
NEAR	HELWAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROJECT (signature volume represents the first of two envisaged traches)	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	30/11/2022	78.0
NEAR	MUNICIPAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE	North Macedonia	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	23/11/2022	50.0
INTPA	MODERNISATION DU RESEAU ROUTIER AU TCHAD	Chad	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	22/09/2022	141.2
INTPA	92727 SAINT LUCIA COVID-19 HEALTH RESILIENCE	Saint Lucia	Caribbean	Americas and the Caribbean	20/09/2022	13.5

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
NEAR	IDF IV LOAN FOR SMES CLIMATE & PRIORITY PROJECTS (6)	Montenegro	Western Balkans	Western Balkans	29/07/2022	50.0
NEAR	TANTA EL MANSOURA DAMIETTA RAILWAY UPGRADING PROJECT	Egypt	Neighbourhood South	Neighbourhood South	11/07/2022	221.0
INTPA	MALDIVES COVID-19 HEALTH FACILITY	Maldives	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	22/06/2022	18.4
NEAR	MOLDOVA ROADS IV	Moldova	Neighbourhood East	Neighbourhood East	31/03/2022	150.0
INTPA	ANGOLA COVID-19 HEALTH RESILIENCE	Angola	Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	Sub-Saharan Africa	24/02/2022	50.0
INTPA	BELABO-NGAOUNDERE RAILWAY RENEWAL CAMEROON	Cameroon	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	31/12/2021	106.0
INTPA	BANGLADESH COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMME	Bangladesh	South and East Asia	Asia and Pacific	29/12/2021	250.0
INTPA	BENIN RESILIENCE ECONOMIQUE COVID 19	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	17/12/2021	45.0
INTPA	EAU ET ASSAINISSEMENT COTONOU PHASE 3 (loan amount increase)	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	17/12/2021	27.0
INTPA	COVID-19 HEALTH RESPONSE GHANA	Ghana	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	10/12/2021	75.0
INTPA	ASSAINISSEMENT PLUVIAL DE VILLES DU BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	06/12/2021	124.9
INTPA	INTERCONNEXION ANTANANARIVO TOAMASINA PRIRTEM-1	Madagascar	Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/11/2021	81.3
INTPA	RWANDA COVID 19 HEALTH RESILIENCE	Rwanda	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/09/2021	22.0
INTPA	BARBADOS COVID-19 HEALTH RESILIENCE	Barbados	Caribbean	Americas and the Caribbean	14/06/2021	50.0

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
INTPA	INTERCONNEXION ELECTRIQUE 225 KV GUINEE-MALI	Guinea	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	04/03/2021	170.0
INTPA	SENEGAL DECHETS SOLIDES (PROMOGED)	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	09/02/2021	50.0
INTPA	SENEGAL EAU POTABLE & COVID-19	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	09/02/2021	64.5
INTPA	NIGERIA CLIMATE ADAPTATION - EROSION & WATERSHED	Nigeria	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	29/12/2020	175.0
INTPA	DEVELOPMENT BANK GHANA	Ghana	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	28/12/2020	170.0
INTPA	RIPOSTE SANITAIRE COVID-19 NIGER	Niger	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	28/12/2020	15.0
INTPA	ELECTRICITY ACCESS RWANDA (Part I and Part II)	Rwanda	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	23/12/2020	100.0
INTPA	EDM - BOUCLE 225 KV NORD BAMAKO	Mali	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	22/12/2020	45.0
INTPA	MAURITANIA COVID-19 RESILIENCE SUBMARINE CABLE	Mauritania	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	22/12/2020	25.0
INTPA	RIPOSTE SANITAIRE COVID-19 BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	27/11/2020	30.0
INTPA	ASSAINISSEMENT ET DRAINAGE DE OUAGADOUGOU	Burkina Faso	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	27/11/2020	15.0
INTPA	MOZAMBIQUE CLIMATE RESILIENT FL	Mozambique	Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	Sub-Saharan Africa	23/11/2020	100.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION CHAD	Chad	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	04/11/2020	15.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION SENEGAL	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	03/11/2020	15.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION BURKINA FASO	Burkina Faso	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	16/10/2020	15.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION BENIN	Benin	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	13/10/2020	15.0
INTPA	SENEGAL COVID-19 HEALTH PROGRAMME	Senegal	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	23/07/2020	75.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION CAMEROON	Cameroon	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	09/03/2020	11.4
INTPA	SAO TOME SUSTAINABLE ROADS	São Tomé and Príncipe	East and Central Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	19/12/2019	12.5

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Lead Directorate-General	Operation name	Country	Sub-region	Region	EIB signature date	EIB amount signed (EUR million)
INTPA	AEP NIAMEY II	Niger	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	18/12/2019	105.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION TOGO	Togo	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	16/12/2019	11.4
INTPA	JIRAMA WATER III - PRIORITAIRE	Madagascar	Southern Africa and Indian Ocean	Sub-Saharan Africa	09/12/2019	35.0
INTPA	ATI MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION NIGER	Niger	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	05/12/2019	11.4
INTPA	CAPE VERDE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAMME	Cabo Verde	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	10/04/2019	22.0
TOTAL						1223.4

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Table 3: Open Architecture signed guarantee programmes

Lead Directorate-General	Lead Implementing Partner	Guarantee Programme Name	Implementation Batch	Signature date	Cover limit amount (EUR million)
INTPA	KFW	KfW - EU Market Creation Facility - Capacity Component+ (EUMCF-CC+)	EFSD+ 1st call	29/11/2024	245.8
INTPA	DEG	Global Impact Equity Fund (GIEF)	EFSD+ 1st call	27/11/2024	99.7
INTPA	IFU	Danish Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fund II (SDG Fund II)	EFSD+ 1st call	28/10/2024	71.7
NEAR	AFD	Financing and Accelerating the Sustainable Transition of Cities (FAST-Cities)	EFSD+ 1st call	21/10/2024	176.0
INTPA	EDFI-MC	EDFI Carbon Sinks	EFSD+ 1st call	10/10/2024	366.0
INTPA	FMO	DFCD Aya Scalable Climate Solutions	EFSD+ 1st call	01/10/2024	105.0
NEAR	EBRD	Growth4All Programme in the Western Balkans and Türkiye	EFSD Carryover	19/08/2024	52.5

Lead Directorate-General	Lead Implementing Partner	Guarantee Programme Name	Implementation Batch	Signature date	Cover limit amount (EUR million)
NEAR	KFW	Supporting Market-Oriented Green Transformation in the Eastern Neighbourhood and WB6	EFSD+ 1st call	27/06/2024	260.0
INTPA	EDFI-MC	EDFI MSME Platform +	EFSD+ 1st call	25/06/2024	255.0
NEAR	EIB	MSME Access to Green, Growth and Inclusive Finance - PPG Component	EFSD+ 1st call	18/06/2024	70.0
NEAR	EBRD	HI-BAR	EFSD+ 1st call	12/03/2024	168.0
NEAR	EBRD	Resilience Plus	EFSD Carryover	02/01/2024	60.0
NEAR	IFC	Better Futures Programme (BFP) - Eastern Partnership Window for Real Sector	EFSD+ 1st call	22/12/2023	90.0
INTPA	FINNFUND	Africa Connected	EFSD+ 1st call	26/10/2023	100.0
INTPA	KFW	African Local Currency Bond Fund (ALCB Fund)	EFSD Carryover	25/10/2023	100.0
INTPA	EIB & BMGF	Accelerating Human Development (HDX)	EFSD+ 1st call	11/10/2023	750.0
NEAR	EBRD	Financial Inclusion in the Neighborhood (East and South)	EFSD Carryover	15/11/2022	115.0
NEAR	EBRD	Digital Transformation Platform	EFSD Carryover	15/11/2022	35.0
INTPA	EDFI-MC	EDFI MSME Platform	EFSD Carryover	29/07/2022	80.0
INTPA	AFD	European Guarantee to increase Local Governments access to finance (CITIRIZ)	EFSD Carryover	27/05/2022	30.0
INTPA	AFD	Invest and support for Businesses in Africa (FISEA+)	EFSD Carryover	06/05/2022	35.0
INTPA	EIB	COVAX II	EFSD Carryover	22/11/2021	200.0

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Table of abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
AAP(s)	Annual Action Plan(s)
ACP	Africa, Caribbean, Pacific
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AECID	*Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo* (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation)
AEDIB	the Africa Europe Digital Innovation Bridge
AEGEI	the Africa-EU Green Energy initiative
AfCFTA	the African Continental Free Trade Area
AFD	*Agence Française de Développement* (French development agency)
AfDB	African Development Bank
AfT	Aid for trade
DG AGRI	The Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development
AI	Artificial intelligence
AIP	Africa Investment Platform
ALERT	Acute Large Emergency Response Tool
AMC countries	Advance Market Commitment countries
AMCOW	The African Ministers' Council on Water
ANBO	African Network of Basin Organisations
APIF	Asia Pacific Investment Facility
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
BBNJ	Agreement on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
BS	Budget Support
BSOs	Business Support Organisations
CAR	Central African Republic
CARICOM	the Caribbean Community
CBC	Cross-Border Cooperation
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CEECS	Central and Eastern European Countries
CEPA	Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement
CFATF	Caribbean Financial Action Task Force
CFSP	Common Foreign and Security Policy Instrument
DG CLIMA	The Commission's Directorate-General for Climate Action
CLIP(s)	Country Level Implementation Plan(s)
COFIDES	*Compañía Española de Financiación del Desarrollo* (Spanish development bank)
CoM	Covenant of Mayors
COP15	15th meeting of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal
COP16	16th meeting of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
COP26	26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Glasgow
COP27	27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Sharm el-Sheikh
COP28	28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Dubai
COP29	29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Baku
COVAX	COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease of 2019
CPVA	Central Project Management Agency of Lithuania
CRIS	Common RELEX Information System

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Abbreviation	Meaning
CSDP	Common Security and Defence Policy
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DARYA	Dialogue and Action for Resourceful Youth in Central Asia programme
DCFTA	Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area
DCI	Development Cooperation Instrument
DEAR	Development Education and Awareness Raising programme
DFI(s)	development finance institution(s)
DGs	Directorate-Generals
DOAG	Decision on the Overseas Association, including Greenland
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
DREF	Disaster Response Emergency Fund
EABF	EU-Africa Business Forum
EaP	the Eastern Partnership
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	the European Commission
DG ECFIN	The Commission's Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs
DG ECHO	The Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
EDF	European Development Fund
EEAS	the European External Action Service
EFAD	the European Financial Architecture for Development
EFSD (+)	European Fund for Sustainable Development (Plus)
EIB	The European Investment Bank
EIDHR	European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights
EIP	Economic Investment Plan
EMPACT	European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats
DG EMPL	The Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
DG ENEST	The Commission's Directorate-General for Enlargement and the Eastern Neighbourhood
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
DG ENV	The Commission's Directorate-General for the Environment
EP	European Parliament
EPA(s)	Economic Partnership Agreement(s)
EPCA(s)	Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement(s)
EPF	European Peace Facility
ERCC	the Emergency Response Coordination Centre
ESA	Eastern and Southern Africa
EU	European Union
EUAA	EU Agency for Asylum
EUAM	EU Advisory Mission
EUBAM	EU Border Management Assistance Mission
EUCAP	EU Capacity Building Mission
EUGH	EU Global Health Strategy
EULEX	EU Rule of Law Mission
EUMAM	EU Military Assistance Mission
EUMM	EU Monitoring Mission
EUMPM	EU Military Partnership Mission
EUPI	EU Peacebuilding Initiative
EUPOL	EU Police Mission
EUR	Euro
EUROPOL	EU Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation
EUSR	EU Special Representative
FAC	The Foreign Affairs Council
FAO	The Food and Agriculture Organisation
FFPA	Financial Framework Partnership Agreements
FIIAPP	International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies
FINTECC	EBRD's Finance and Technology Transfer Centre for Climate Change programme
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade

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Abbreviation	Meaning
FMO	*Nederlandse Financierings-Maatschappij voor Ontwikkelingslanden N.V.* (Dutch entrepreneurial development bank)
FPAs	Framework Partnership Agreements
FPI	Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments
FRF	Food and Resilience Facility
Frontex	the European Border and Coast Guard Agency

GACERE	Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency
GAP III	Gender Action Plan III
GAVI	Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation
GBF	Global Biodiversity Framework
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GDC	UN Global Digital Compact
GDP	gross domestic product
GERF	the Global Europe Results Framework
GGW	the Great Green Wall
GIFP	EU's Global Illicit Flows Programme
GIZ	The German Society for International Cooperation
GNI	Gross national income
GPE	Global Partnership for Education
GPEDC	Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation
GPEI	Global Polio Eradication Initiative
GSK	GlaxoSmithKline pharmaceutical and biotechnology company
G7	Group of Seven - intergovernmental political forum
G20	Group of Twenty - intergovernmental forum for international economic cooperation
G77	Group of seventy seven - intergovernmental organization of developing countries in the United Nations

HDP	Humanitarian-Development-Peace
Heading IV	MFF Heading – Global Europe
Heading VI	MFF Heading – Neighbourhood and the World
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus

Abbreviation	Meaning
HLEG	High-Level Expert Group
HRBA	Human Rights-Based Approach
HRDN	Human Rights and Democracy Network
HRVP	EU High Representative/Vice-President
HUMA	Humanitarian Aid

IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IcSP	Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDPs	Internally displaced persons
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IFIs	International Financial Institutions
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INSC	Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organisation
DG INTPA	The Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnerships
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IPA	Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
IPARD	IPA Rural Development programme
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
ITC	International Trade Centre

JETP	Just Energy Transition Partnerships
JRC	the Joint Research Centre

KfW	*Kreditanstalt Für Wiederaufbau* (German Development Bank)

LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean

Abbreviation	Meaning
LACIF	Latin America and Caribbean Investment Facility
LDC(S)	Least Developed Country(ies)
LGBTI+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and other
LMIC(S)	Lower Middle-Income Country(ies)
MADCT(S)	More Advanced Developing Countries and Territories
MAV+	Team Europe Initiative on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies in Africa
DG MENA	The Commission's Directorate-General for the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf
MFA	Macro Financial Assistance
MFA+	Macro-Financial Assistance Plus instrument providing support to Ukraine for 2023
MFF	Multiannual Financial Framework
MGA	Model Grant Agreement
MIP	Multiannual Indicative Programme
MS	Member States
MSME(s)	Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise(s)
NATO	the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NDC(s)	Nationally Determined Contribution(s)
NDICI-Global Europe	The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument-Global Europe
DG NEAR	The Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations *(Note: in 2025, this NEAR was divided into DG ENEST and DG MENA).*
NEET	Not in Education, Employment, or Training
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIP	Neighbourhood Investment Platform
NIS	Newly Independent States
OACPS	Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States
OAS	Organisation of American States
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OCTs	Overseas countries and territories
Non-ODA	Development aid not classified as Official Development Assistance (ODA)
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
OHCHR	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OLIC/OTHER LIC(S)	Other Low-Income Country(ies)
OPSYS	Operational System (used by the EC for External Actions)
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PAR	Public Administration Reform
PCA	Partnership and Cooperation Agreement
PCD	Policy coherence for development
PFD	Policy Forum on Development
PFM	Public Financial Management
PICs	Pacific Island Countries
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PRAG	Practical guide
PROPARCO	*Promotion et Participation pour la Coopération Économique* (French development finance institution)
DG REGIO	The Commission's Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy
REDD+	The 'Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries' Framework
RELEX	*Relations Extérieures* (External Relations - Family includes DG INTPA, DG NEAR and FPI)
rescEU	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
R&I	Research and Innovation
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community

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Abbreviation	Meaning
SAFE	Security, Accountability and Fight Against Crime programme
SAFS	Sustainable Agri-Food Systems
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
DG SANTE	The Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDI	Security and defence initiative
SECAP(s)	Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan(s)
SEESAC	Southeastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons
SIS	Safeguards Information System
SME	Small to medium-sized enterprise
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
SSR	Security Sector Reform
SSR/G	Security Sector Reform and Governance
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
STI	Science, Technology and Innovation
TA	Technical assistance
TAAF	*Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises* - French Southern and Antarctic Territories
TAFs	Technical Assistance Facilities
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange
DG TAXUD	The Commission's Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union
TC	Technical cooperation
TED	Team Europe Initiative on Democracy
TEI	Team Europe Initiative
DG TRADE	The Commission's Directorate-General for Trade
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UCPM	EU Civil Protection Mechanism
UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UHC-P	Universal Health Coverage Partnership
UMIC(S)	Upper Middle-Income Country(ies)
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations' lead agency on international development
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNITAD	United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by *Da'esh*/ISIL
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
UNSE	United Nation Special Envoy
UNVIM	United Nations Verification and Inspection Mechanism
USD	US Dollar
VET	Vocational education and training
VPA(s)	Voluntary Partnership Agreement(s)
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WBG	the World Bank Group
WBIF	Western Balkans Investment Framework
WES	Water and Environment Support
WHO	the World Health Organisation
WTO	the World Trade Organisation
YAP	Youth Action Plan