

EU DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WITH SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
2013-2018
- POLICIES, FUNDING, RESULTS -



*Presentation and briefing for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Netherlands*

Study background

Objective

- IOB commissioned study to analyse the **evolution of EU development policies and spending vis-a-vis Sub-Saharan Africa and the results achieved** in 2013-2018
- feed into Netherlands **government's regular reporting to Parliament** on EU development cooperation results, and **further policy discussion and research inquiry**

Focus

- **Policy goals**
- **Funding patterns**
- **Results achieved**

Study used as reference in this year's letter to parliament by Minister Kaag



Structure of the presentation

1. Policies and funding: overall trends

- Key messages
- Questions and discussion (*use the chat function, or raise hand*)

2. EU development cooperation results: horizontal issues and takeaways

- Key findings and lessons learnt
- Questions and discussion (*use the chat function, or raise hand*)

Part 1:

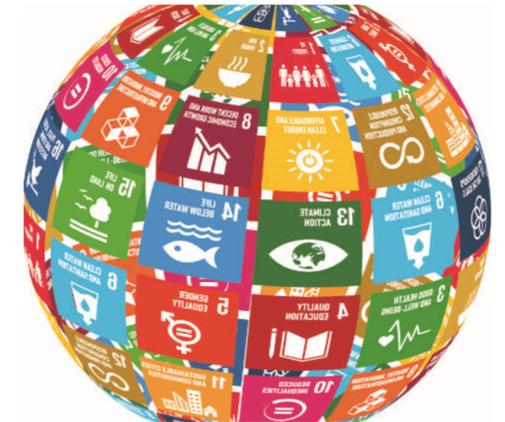
**Policies and
funding: overall
trends**

2013-2018: what happened?

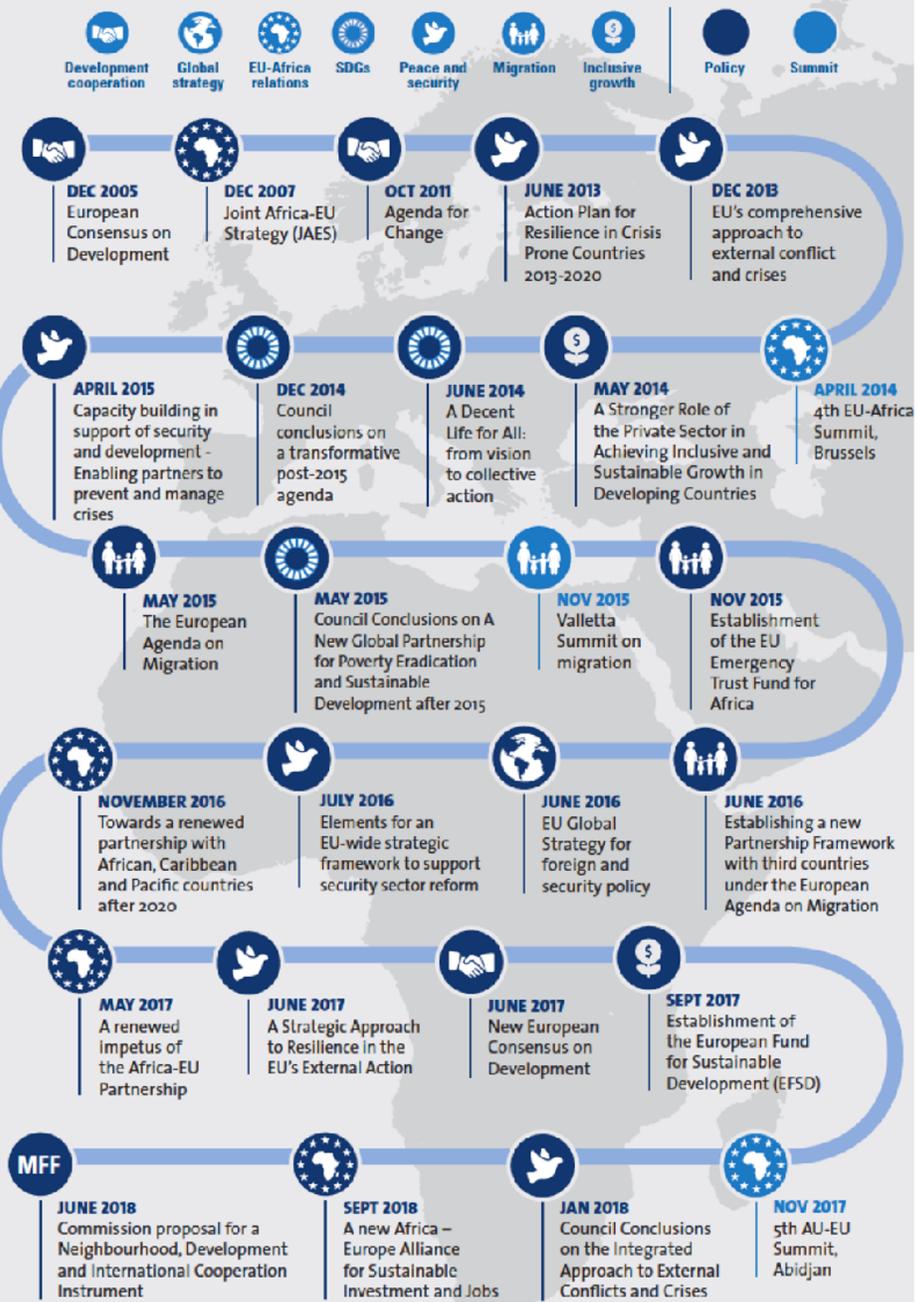
- Policy directions for 2013-2018 strongly influenced by choices made in preceding years, esp. the **2011 Agenda for Change**
 - > guided cooperation choices for 2014-2020: *Sector concentration + Differentiation and graduation*
- As of 2015, global and regional trends prompted a shift:
 - **2030 Agenda** on sustainable development,
 - **geopolitical power shifts**
 - **emerging crises** in Africa and the EU Neighbourhood
- Resulting *stronger focus on peace and security, migration, and private sector engagement*
- Launch of **new initiatives and instruments** in parallel to the 'regular programming':
 - *EU Trust Fund for Africa, European External Investment Plan*

INCREASING THE IMPACT
of EU DEVELOPMENT POLICY

AN AGENDA for
CHANGE



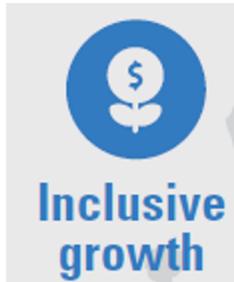
KEY MILESTONES IN THE EU'S DEVELOPMENT AND AFRICA-RELATED POLICY FRAMEWORK



Development policies: General trends

- More comprehensive: from narrow poverty focus towards **broader sustainable development approach**, 2030 Agenda / SDGs, Paris climate, development finance and means of implementation
 - > *New European Consensus on Development (2017)*
- More integrated : stronger link between various foreign policy fields, **more coherent and strategic** EU external action, increasing role of HR/VP + EEAS
 - > *EU Global Strategy (2016)*
- More interest-driven: growing emphasis on EU **domestic concerns and interests**, win-win cooperation
 - > *Prominent themes **trade/investment, migration, security***

Priorities reflected in EU-Africa cooperation



- **Engaging and working more closely with the private sector**
 - Stronger role of private sector, leveraging private investments
 - Promoting growth, investments and job creation in Africa
- > *blending facilities (e.g. AfIF), EIP/EFSD, EU-Africa Alliance for sustainable investments and jobs*



- **Addressing the root causes of irregular migration**
 - Comprehensive and cross-cutting approach to migration policy
 - Reinforced cooperation on migration with third countries - political, aid and security
- > *Valletta Summit, EUTF, Partnership Framework on Migration with 5 priority countries in SSA*



- **Furthering the peace/security – development nexus**
 - Comprehensive/ integrated approach to conflict and crises
 - Capacity-building and institutional development, EU support to APSA
- > *African Peace Facility, Bêkou Trust Fund*

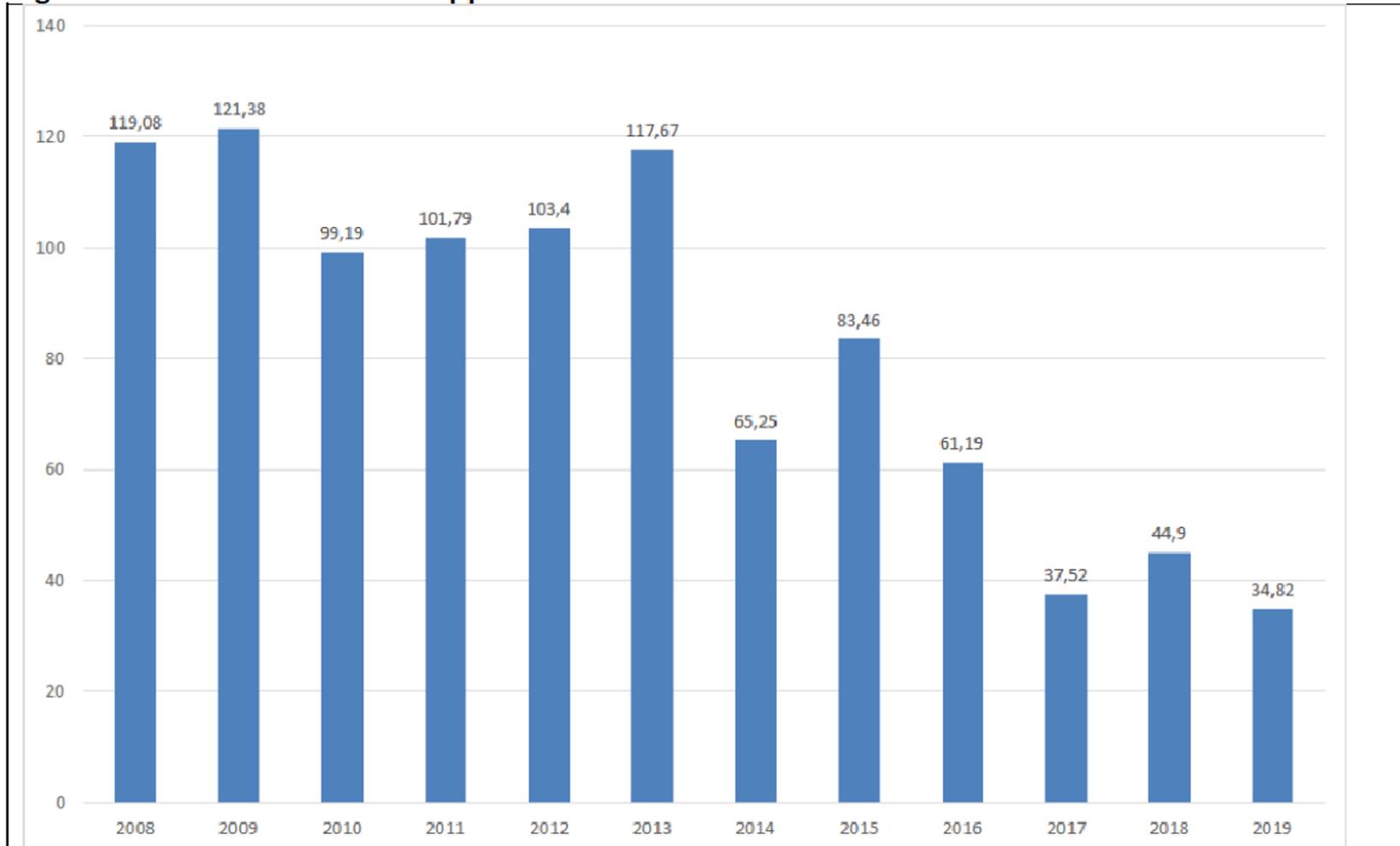
Funding



- The African continent as a whole (North- + Sub-Saharan) main recipient of EU development funding: **€ 32.77 billion** disbursed during the period 2013-2018.
 - Over 70% of this amount (€23.76 billion) to Sub-Saharan Africa, primarily through **bilateral cooperation**.
- EU development cooperation works with seven-year period, reviewed at mid-point with *little space for fundamental change*
- Mainly due to new initiatives and instruments after 2015, notably the **EUTF and the EIP**, that EU spending demonstrated a *stronger focus on investment, job creation, security/stability and migration-related expenditure*.
 - These initiatives have important effects beyond the thematic focus: they came with their own independent *governance structures*

Funding trends: differentiation

Figure 7. EU aid disbursed to upper middle-income countries in SSA



= considerable decrease in bilateral funds to African Upper Middle Income Countries (Angola, Botswana, Gabon, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa)

...decision to be reversed again in 2021-2027?

Source: own elaboration using data from EU aid explorer (gross disbursements, millions of Euros)

Funding trends: sectoral

- Considerable reduction in commodity aid and general programme assistance, due to shift from general to sector budget support
- Economic as well as social infrastructure and services saw the strongest increase in the last two years
- Another key trend is the increasing shift towards migration-related expenditure and blended finance

Funding trends: modalities

- Increasing use of the project modality and, correspondingly, increasing use of various intermediaries:
 - international organisations, EU member states' implementing agencies, development finance institutions and civil society organisations.
- Corresponding departure from 'government-to-government' cooperation, principally general budget support and other types of programme-based approaches.

Feedback (please raise your hand)

Questions?

Comments?

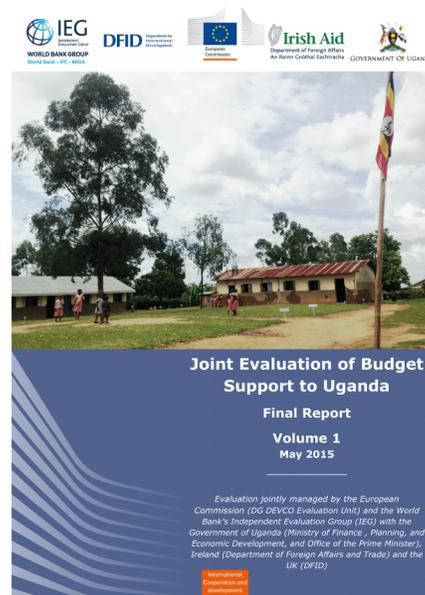
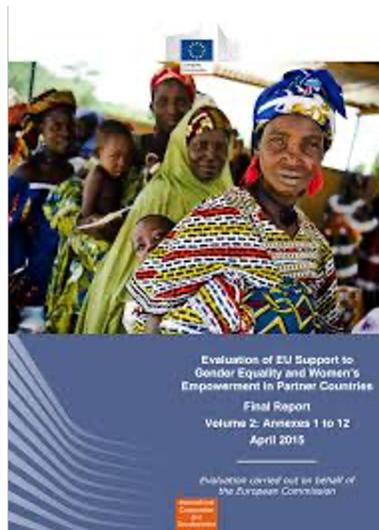
Part 2:

**EU development cooperation
results: Horizontal issues and
takeaways**

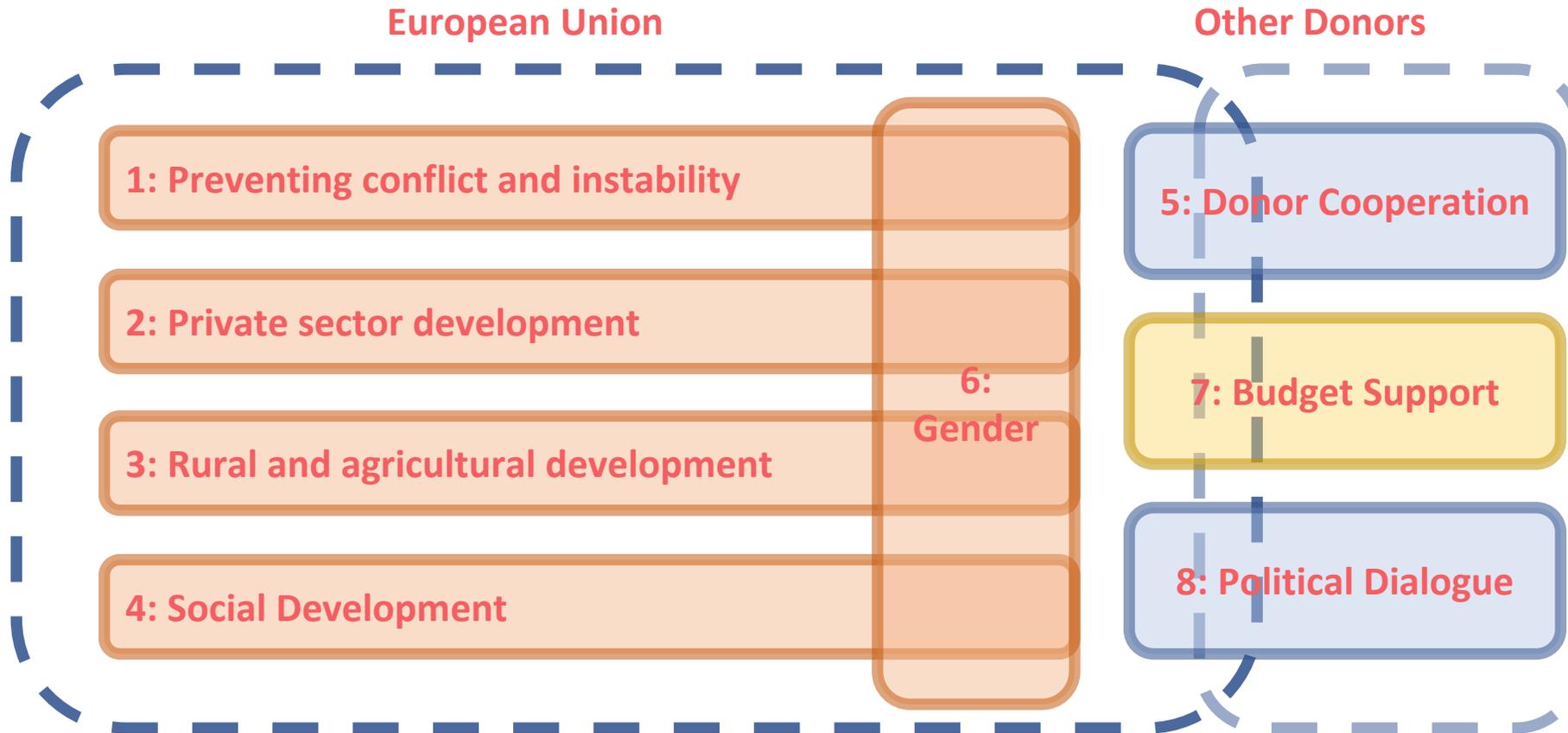
EU development cooperation results

Structured analysis of **55** reports:

- External strategic level evaluations commissioned by the European Commission
- Reports of the European Investment Bank
- Special reviews conducted by the European Court of Auditors



Thematic and horizontal priorities



EU development cooperation results

Evidence assessed according to **six criteria**

Efficiency

Effectiveness

Relevance

Policy coherence
for development

Complementarity

Impact & Sustainability

The devil is in the bigger picture, not in the detail...

- **Relevance** of the EU's choices and approaches in its development cooperation with SSA was confirmed (in line with needs, responsive to context)
- **Positive results** were achieved ...
- ... yet more nuance on the **sustainability** of these results and the extent to which they helped to advance key development outcomes

Key findings (1)

- **Peace and security:** capacity enhanced, more stability in African crisis regions – yet long-term outcomes and impact are less clear; root causes of conflicts not tackled
- Tangible results in **rural and social development** improving living conditions of populations but transformative change requires more time and up-scaling of support
- **Private sector development:** improved access to finance by SMEs, enhanced trade policy environments, international trade standard setting, capacity of public institutions, trade development but the sustainability of these results is mixed

Scope of EU funding, level of capacity-building, political commitment & local ownership decisive for success

Key findings (2)

Working methods

- **Donor cooperation:** joint programming contributed to **harmonisation, coordination and aid complementarity** among the EU and MS but did not reduce overall aid fragmentation + only limited ownership of the process by partners
- **Budget support:** increased availability of funding for **priority sectors**; improved **access to basic social services** but the quality of institutional change and of services (e.g. health, education), and sustainability of the achievements are low
- **Political dialogue:** different understandings of political dialogue

Key findings (3)

Horizontal considerations

- **Policy coherence:** lack of common understanding and of clarity on the operational aspect of this commitment; no detailed evidence
- **Coherence between instruments:** positive examples of coordination and complementarity for instance in the areas of rural and agricultural development and peace and security.
- **M&E:** EU does not ensure that monitoring is used in programmes' effective implementation

Gaps and issues to take away

- **Major gap on gender despite consecutive Gender Action Plans:**
 - Only 1 out of the 55 evaluation reports focused specifically on gender equality
 - Gender not sufficiently mainstreamed
 - Little information on results, impact and sustainability
- **Need to look more closely at donor cooperation**
 - Increasing role for MS implementing agencies calls for further analysis on how the EU and its MS complement each other

Do evaluations feed into the policy loop...?

Feedback (please raise your hand)

Questions?

Comments?

Thank you!

Study available on the Policy and Operations Evaluation Department (IOB) website:
<https://english.iob-evaluatie.nl/publications/reports/2020/05/25/eudc2020>

For further feedback, questions or comments, please get in touch

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