The long-term EU budget 2021-2027 (MFF) and its impact for local and regional authorities in Euro-Mediterranean cooperation

ARLEM meeting
11 October, Brussels
Neighbourhood & the world

Ambitious proposals, to deal with global challenges

➢ Higher budget for external policy
  2014-2020: EUR 94.5 billion
  2021-2027: EUR 123 billion

➢ Coherent and consistent external policy

➢ Flexible instruments
MFF 2014-2020

• Separate **European Neighbourhood Instrument (EUR 15.4 billion)**

• Support through the ENI is programmed and given in three different ways:
  - Bilateral programmes covering support to one partner country;
  - Multi-country programmes with two or more partner countries;
  - Cross-Border Cooperation programmes

• **Instrument for Pre-Accession II (EUR 14.5 billion)**
What is proposed for MFF 2021-2027?
Proposed instruments MFF 2021-2027

- Neighbourhood, Development & International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) (EUR 89.5 billion)
- IPA III (EUR 14.5 billion)
- Humanitarian aid instrument (EUR 11 billion)
- EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy (EUR 3 billion)
- Instrument for nuclear safety (EUR 0.3 billion)
- Overseas Countries and Territories instrument (EUR 0.5 billion)
NDICI: general information

- Geographic pillar (EUR 68 billion) – regional envelopes (incl. Neighbourhood – EUR 22 billion)
- Thematic pillar (EUR 7 billion)
- Rapid-response pillar (EUR 4 billion)

LRA mentioned under geographic pillar and under ‘global challenges’ (part of thematic pillar)
Investment Fund

• NDICI will include an **investment framework**
• Aimed at being a multiplier for **private investments** (up to half a trillion Euros)
• Particular attention on addressing investment needs in EU Neighbourhood (among other)
Neighbourhood in NDICI
Neighbourhood in NDICI

• Higher budget (EUR 22 billion – 43% increase)

• Priorities
  • Promoting enhanced political cooperation
  • Supporting the implementation of current agreements
  • Enhanced partnership towards social and economic prosperity
  • People-to-people contacts
  • Enhancing regional cooperation
  • Mobility and migration management
  • Security and stability
IPA III

• Prolonging of IPA II – similar set-up
• Introduction of a performance framework

• 1 of specific objectives: to reinforce the effectiveness of public administration and support structural reforms and good governance at all levels, and to support territorial and cross-border cooperation

• But overall very little attention for LRAs & no modalities/programmes for twinning among LGAs
Some general concerns

• Little attention for the crucial role of local and regional governments in both proposals – earlier EC documents were more explicit

• No earmarked budget for local or regional authorities’ actions (while MFF 2014-2020 had a Local Authorities budget line under DCI)

• No details on financing modalities

• No clear link with the Sustainable Development Goals
Specific NDICI concerns

• 7 instruments in one – for more strategic and consistent external action – is this the most effective?
• Local and regional authorities are mentioned under two of the three pillars but no earmarked budget for local/regional authorities
• Will the large budget be accessible for smaller local and regional governments?
Questions

• What are your concerns or expectations from the new NDICI and IPA III?

• What are your priorities for the Neighbourhood programmes in the next MFF period? What should the priorities for IPA III be?

• Should dedicated budget for action of local and regional authorities be assured? What would be a convincing reason to do so?