Joint Communication on the renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood

A new Agenda for the Mediterranean

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Why now?
The Southern Neighbourhood in 2021

- 20% faster climate warming compared to other regions
- Over 16 mio fulltime working hours lost in Q2 2020 vs Q2 2019
- 50% reduction in FDI due to COVID-19
- Up to 50% losses in GDP since 2019
- ~ 50% of population under 24 years old
Looking beyond the challenges – grasping opportunities
Our objective

- Set a **positive Agenda** for our future partnership.
- Put **people at the centre**, especially youth.
- Take advantage of trends, including the **green and digital transition**, and EU priorities, including **an economy that works for people**, to foster an inclusive and sustainable recovery that creates jobs.
- Emphasise the **need for co-ownership** based on common values.
- Use the **full EU toolbox** and engage more strategically with **EU Member States**, both at the political and policy level, as well as through Joint Programming and Team Europe Initiatives.
Who did we consult?

- Southern partners: Ministerial Meeting in Barcelona November 2020 and bilateral exchanges by Commissioner Varelhyi
- EU Member States (MaMa, Foreign Affairs Council discussion March 2021, EU Council December 2020 and February 2021)
- EU Delegations engagement on the ground
Our key themes
Five themes

- Human development, good governance & the rule of law
- Peace and Security
- Green transition: climate resilience, energy, and environment
- Strengthen resilience, build prosperity & seize the digital transition
- Migration & mobility
Human development, good governance & the rule of law

- Strengthen preparedness and response capacities of healthcare systems
- Support a renewed commitment to human rights, the rule of law, democracy and good governance to strengthen governance systems, boost transparency and accountability, and build trust in institutions
- Empower young people and civil society, and foster gender equality
- Encourage research, innovation, culture and education through closer participation in EU programmes
Peace and security

- Reaffirm EU’s role as an actor for peace, conflict resolution and prevention as part of a revitalised rules-based multilateral system with the UN at its core

- Step-up security and judicial cooperation to better counter terrorism, cyber and hybrid threats as well as organised crime
Migration and mobility

- Enhance cooperation on migration on the basis of comprehensive, balanced, tailor made and mutually beneficial partnerships, in line with the new Pact on Migration and Asylum

- Address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement through conflict resolution and a targeted response to socio-economic challenges providing economic opportunities, especially for the youth

- Take advantage of opportunities from legal migration and mobility, in line with MS competences
Strengthen resilience, build prosperity & seize the digital transition

- Build **inclusive, resilient, sustainable and connected economies** by restoring trust in the business climate, encouraging economic diversification and improving interconnectivity.

- Support the leap to the **digital transition**, both for the public and the private sector.

- Support access to finance for **Small and Medium Enterprises** and financial inclusion.
Green transition: climate resilience, energy, and environment

- Support countries in meeting their climate commitments and strengthen their ambition
- Drive energy transition and ensure energy security
- Encourage resource efficiency, including water and waste, protect terrestrial and marine biodiversity, and fight pollution
- Achieve transition to sustainable food systems
The Economic & Investment Plan for the Southern Neighbours

- 12 indicative flagship initiatives in priority sectors

- Based on concrete suggestions from partners and Delegations

- Aimed at strengthening resilience, building prosperity and increasing trade and investment to support competitiveness and sustainable and inclusive socio-economic growth

- No prejudging the programming process – a conversation starter
How much do we propose to mobilise under NDICI/Global Europe?

**GRANTS**

- **Traditional grants**
  - EUR 4.7bn

- **Blending**
  - EUR 0.7bn

**TOTAL: EUR 7bn**

- **EFSD+ guarantees provisioning**
  - EUR 1.6bn

**Total leverage from invested sources (blending + guarantees)**

Total amount = EUR 7bn x 4.3 (average leverage effect)

~ EUR 30 bn
Next steps

1. Development of political priorities and multi-annual programming at the bilateral and regional levels for 2021-207.

2. How do we engage with stakeholders on the ground, including local authorities?

3. How can the CoR contribute to the new Agenda’s operationalisation?

4. Strategic Communications – how do we ensure that our engagement receives adequate visibility?
Thank you!

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