

Athens 6 November 2006

Political Landscape

- All Commission cooperation beyond EU borders must support EU external policy.
- European Neighbourhood Policy
 - Increasingly structured approach
 - ENP action plans, progress reports
 - Enhanced dialogue
 - Financial assistance will be policy driven
 - Emphasis on bilateral relations
 - Reinforces the Euro-Med Process (regional emphasis)

Financial Framework

- European Neighbourhood and Policy Instrument (ENPI) replaces
 MEDA and TACIS from 2007
 - €11.18 billion until 2013, 45% increase over current MEDA and TACIS
 - Majority of funds for bilateral assistance
 - Rest of the funds for regional and cross border programmes as well as governance facility
- Limited funding possible from Thematic Programme on Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy (ENRTP).
 - Focus on biodiversity, climate change and energy for ENP countries, but other areas may also be possible
 - Scope and content not yet decided (legislative process EP/Council expected to conclude early next year)
- No fixed figure for environment as bilateral assistance depends on nationally expressed priorities.

10th Anniversary of the EMP

Barcelona Summit November 2005

- Endorsed 5 year work programme to re-focus the process
- Provided high level political support in partner countries for the actions
- Actions included: 'endorse a feasible timetable to de-pollute the Mediterranean Sea by 2020' (became HORIZON 2020)
 - Focus attention on key challenge of reducing pollution
 - Priority sectors of urban waste water, municipal waste and industrial emissions
 - Enhance coordination between organisations and institutions to better target resources
 - Links depollution efforts to EU political framework and financial tools
 - Target requires political will and concentration of financial resources.

Commission Communication COM(2006) 475 - Sept 2006

- Focus on Mediterranean ENP countries
 - Current and potential EU MS have defined agreed pre-accession strategy
- Outlines Horizon 2020 initiative and proposes draft timetable
 - Step to fulfilling commitment of all Euro-Med partners taken in Barcelona 2005
- Outlines how broader cooperation can contribute to protecting the Med

Horizon 2020: Approach

- Coordinate with existing institutions
- Not just about what the EU will do all partners must contribute
- Open to all who are ready to cooperate
- Mutually reinforces implementation of MSSD
- Act where EU has added value
 - Raise wider political profile (beyond environment ministries)
 - Use structure for EU/Partner dialogue at relatively high levels of government
 - Refocus attention on long-standing issue
 - Use experience in EU and other regions (i.e. Danube-Black Sea DABLAS)

Horizon 2020

- Pollution reduction projects
 - Develop pipeline in priority sectors with IFIs, MAP etc.
- Capacity building
 - Goes beyond the priority sectors
- Research
 - create, share and communicating scientific knowledge
- Monitoring, steering and review
 - Scorecard and indicator process
 - Steering committee

Annex SEC (2006) 1082

- First part: More detailed description of Horizon 2020 components
- Second part: Draft proposal for the feasible timetable called for at Euro-Med 10th Anniversary Summit (Barcelona November 2005)
 - Builds on previous version incorporating comments that have been received
 - Basis for discussion in preparing Cairo
 - Covers period to 2013 (next financial perspectives)
- What, when and who
- Brings existing commitments into EU policy framework

What role for the Water Directors?

- Water is one of the priorities of H2020
 - Interface between environment and water spheres
- Contribution through EUWI country dialogues
 - Link to Barcelona Convention work National Action Plans under LBS protocol
- Push for priority within national systems
 - ENPI programming, IFI financial assistance etc.

Further information

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/enlarg/med/index.htm

From here links to Horizon 2020, the Communication and its Annex along with other sites linked to environmental actions in the Mediterranean