

Why Regional Cooperation

Regional cooperation has a strategic impact as it deals with issues that partner countries have in common. It encourages their cooperation with the EU and among themselves, and serves as a forum for dialogue, exchange of views and knowledge. It contributes towards the aim of building an area of peace, security, economic growth and prosperity, for the citizens from partner countries.

Partnership and dialogue
Regional cooperation offers a unique opportunity for people to sit around the same table and be part of a dialogue. People learn to work together, experiences are shared, relationships built, networks created and common activities carried out. Civil society and other local stakeholders are part of this effort.

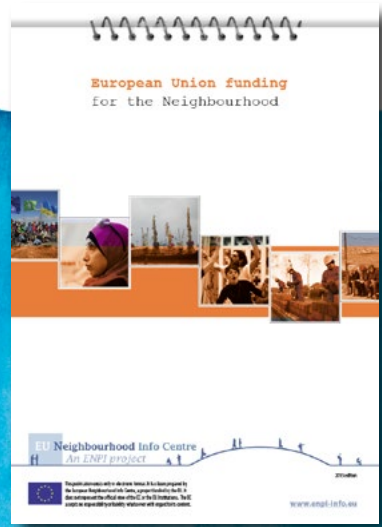
Investing in People
Much of the work done by projects focuses on building peoples' capabilities, through workshops, for example. There is also much activity on issues that improve society and living conditions. At the end of the day, though, it is all a matter of investing in the citizens, locally, through EU-funded cooperation activities. Regional cooperation is mainly funded through the financial arm of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), replaced by the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) in 2014.



"The philosophy of logistics is to provide larger volumes of cargo with less transport means"
Akif, Azerbaijan



"We restored a place that none of us thought could be restored..."
Alaa, Palestine



The EU Neighbourhood Info Centre has produced a handbook on "EU Funding for the Neighbourhood and Russia" available on its website: www.enpi-info.eu

Who benefits

Government officials and bodies, NGOs, municipalities, professionals and hundreds of others participate in activities funded through projects, creating networks and exchanging best practices. In the long-term, the citizens from the partner countries in the European Neighbourhood are the end beneficiaries. Cooperation fields are agreed between the EU and the countries involved. Funding mainly comes from the ENPI, managed by the European Commission, Directorate General Development and Cooperation, EuropeAid.

How to get involved
Funding is delivered through grants and contracts, as well as budget support to governments. It is channeled from the EU to projects implemented by civil society and other organisations, or to government coffers.
To learn more about the funding opportunities visit the EuropeAid website <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid> or the respective EU Delegation websites.

Milestones

- 2014** The European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) replaces the ENPI and allows for incentives for best performers.
- 2011** Launch of the revised ENP outlining a new, incentive based, approach ("more for more") to assist political, economic and social reforms in the European Neighbourhood.
- 2009** Eastern Partnership (EaP) launched with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.
- 2008** Euro-Med Partnership given new impetus through the Union for the Mediterranean.
- 2007** European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) replaces funding instruments MEDA (South) and TACIS (East).
- 2004** European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) developed with partner countries and territories from the South and the East.
- 1995** EU and Mediterranean Partners launch Euro-Med Partnership in Barcelona (Barcelona process).

As a result of a better cooperation in specific sector areas, the ENP is more and more influencing people's life in a positive and concrete way. Projects supported by the EU and related to transport, environment, education and energy, among many others, are improving daily living conditions in partner countries.



"Youth have been overlooked by politicians"
Qurie, Jordan

More-for-more

Through the More-for-More approach adopted by the European Union in the past years, increased emphasis is placed on those partners determinedly embarking on political reforms and respecting the shared universal values of human rights, democracy and rule of law.

A key issue in implementing More-for-More is how progress is assessed. The assessment needs to be based on open consultation with a large number of stakeholders including civil society and verified against international indicators. Then this assessment is captured in the ENP country progress reports, which include what the EU regards as key to democratic transformation in each neighbour partner country.

Put simply, the more a country goes down the path of reforms, the more benefits it has, including more economic integration, mobility of people and EU financial support.

"Artists in our conflict region need genuine dialogue"
Sigal, Israel



Thematic Instruments

The European Commission operates programmes with a specific thematic focus, also funded through the ENPI. The thematic instruments available to the Neighbourhood are: European Instrument for Democracy & Human Rights (EIDHR), Nuclear Safety Co-operation Instrument (NSCI), Environment and sustainable management of natural resources including energy, Non-state actors and local authorities in development, Food security, Migration and asylum, Investing in people and the Instrument for stability.

How to get involved
Most thematic instruments operate through calls for tenders published over regular periods. Keep following their information portals to find opportunities. Also look at the publication "EU Funding for the Neighbourhood and Russia" on the EU Neighbourhood Info Centre website, or the section "How we finance" on the EuropeAid website.



Eastern Partnership and South Neighbourhood Glossaries are available in English, French, Arabic and Russian on www.enpi-info.eu



Aims

- Regional Cooperation contributes to Reinforcing** regional integration
- Sharing of **experiences** and transferring of **expertise**
- Setting and promoting **best practice**
- Defining common **thematic strategies** and action plans
- Carrying out together **concrete projects**
- Creating networks** of people and organisations
- Reinforcing capacities of national and **local authorities**
- Strengthening **civil society**



"I will bring the European Union home and read it to my siblings"
Georgi, Georgia

Find out more
DG Development and Cooperation, EuropeAid
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/index_en.htm
EU Neighbourhood Info Centre www.enpi-info.eu

Major donor

The EU: a major donor for the Neighbourhood

EU support to the region is mainly channeled through the European Commission's Directorate General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid. <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid>

The **European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)** funding approved for the period 2014-2020 is € 15.4 billion. The ENI replaces the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), for which the funding was € 11.2 billion for the period 2007-2013. The new instrument provides faster and more flexible funding, allowing for incentives for best performers, to 16 partner countries to the East and South of the EU's borders.



East: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine.

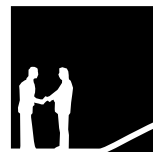
South: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria*, Tunisia. * EU Cooperation with Syria is currently suspended due to the political situation

The EU Neighbourhood Info Centre

is an EU-funded Regional Communication project highlighting the partnership between the EU and Neighbouring countries.

www.enpi-info.eu

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Neighbours Connect



Realised by the EU-funded EU Neighbourhood Info Centre under the Regional Communication Programme www.enpi-info.eu
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LOOKING TO THE EAST

EU Regional Programmes and Projects **2012-2014**

Political dialogue

Preparing staff for EU-ENP related jobs

Migration and border management

Integrated border management (IBM) – Flagship Initiative Training Project • EaP Integrated Border Management – Armenia/Georgia Bagratashen-Sadakhlo crossing point • Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management – Information exchange Belarus/Ukraine • Enhancement of border management capabilities at the Ninotsminda-Bavra Border Crossing Point between Georgia and Armenia • EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) • Strengthening surveillance capacity on the 'green' and 'blue' border between Belarus and Ukraine

Justice and rule of law

Council of Europe Eastern Partnership Facility • Eastern Partnership Police Cooperation Programme

Culture and Media

Eastern Partnership Culture Programme • Regional Communication Programme

Youth

Eastern Partnership Youth Programme • Eastern Partnership Youth Window

Civil society and local authorities

CIUDAD – Sustainable urban development • Support to the European Endowment for Democracy • Neighbourhood Civil Society Facility

Education

Erasmus Mundus II – Action 2 Partnerships • TEMPUS IV for higher education • eTwinning Plus

Economy

East Invest – Support to SME sector • Small Business Support Programmes in the Eastern Partnership • Eastern Partnership SME Finance Facility • Technical assistance for electronic communications regulators of the Eastern Partnership countries

Environment and climate change

Air quality governance in the ENPI East countries • Clima East: Supporting Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Russia and ENP East countries • Environmental protection of international river basins (EPIRB) • ENPI Shared Environment Information System (SEIS) • Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG II) • Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood • National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management (Support to the EU Water Initiative) • Improving water quality in the Kura river basin – phase III • Waste Governance in the ENPI East

Civil protection

Civil Protection (PPRD East)

Energy

Energy saving in the building sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (INOGATE) • INOGATE Technical Secretariat and Integrated Programme • Supporting participation of Eastern Partnership and Central Asian Cities in the Covenant of Mayors

Transport

TRACECA Civil Aviation • Logistics Processes and Motorways of the Sea (TRACECA) • SASEPOL – Maritime safety and security II (TRACECA) • Transport dialogue and networks interoperability II (TRACECA)

Supporting the implementation of regional initiatives

Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation Support Programme • Promoting participation of ENP partners in the work of EU agencies • Support for regional programmes (Eastern Partnership, Black Sea Synergy and Northern Dimension)

Discover more: "A Panorama of Regional Projects" in the Neighbourhood East (EU Neighbourhood Info Centre website).

www.enpi-info.eu
EuroEast Projects



"Fish don't know borders: rivers require joint efforts"
Matti, Russia



"Erasmus Mundus gives young people a chance to be more attached to European values"

Nigar, Azerbaijan



"We developed a project and proposed it for EU funding"

Gabriel, Moldova



"We transfer experience to other cities"

Sergiy, Ukraine



"A lake's water is life"

Michael, Armenia

"Through the business advisory services, construction firms took a big step forward"

Tsulukidze, Georgia



Regional cooperation in the EU Neighbourhood Eastern Partnership

Regional cooperation in the Eastern Neighbourhood complements national assistance programmes, addresses regional challenges, promotes cooperation amongst partners and builds bridges. Regional cooperation brings together the 6 partner countries participating in the Eastern Partnership area to engage in discussion and exchange views and experiences. The EU supports closer cooperation and dialogue with its Eastern Neighbours and is fully engaged in their modernization efforts.



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