

EVALUATION OF THE EU'S SUPPORT TO CLIMATE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENT (2014-2020)



PURPOSE

Provide an **evidence-based, independent assessment** of the contribution of EU support in the policy area of Environment and Climate Change (Env. & CC).



SCOPE

EU support in the Enlargement and Neighbourhood regions during the **period 2014-2020**, covering policy dialogue and all funding and delivery mechanisms used under the **Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)** and **European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)**.

THE EVALUATION – KEY ELEMENTS OF THE METHODOLOGY

A diversity of methods/tools and sources of information



11

case studies



156

semi-structured
interviews



An extensive
documentary
review and portfolio
(financial) analysis



172

respondents
(e-Survey)

CONCLUSIONS

FRAMEWORK AND STRATEGIC ENTRY POINTS

- ▶ A **solid** foundation at EU policy and institutional level, but low priority in **bilateral programming**
- ▶ A mix of instruments that allowed providing support through **multiple 'entry points'**, but a **lack of clear medium/long-term vision** which limited integrated approaches

IMPLEMENTATION

- ▶ Important **time lag** in translating EU strategic objectives into action
- ▶ A key role played in policy dialogue and fostering **multi-stakeholder engagement**
- ▶ Limited effective mechanisms established to **learn** on Env. & CC

ACHIEVEMENTS

- ▶ Positive EU **contributions to progress** through spending and non-spending activities
- ▶ Some strengthening of **policy/legal framework** in partner countries, but legacy effects (e.g. dependence on fossil fuels) and low political will limiting **implementation**
- ▶ So far, outcomes do not aspire to the **transformational change** objectives called for by the EU



*EU funding serves the role of backbone and leveraging further international public funding.**

*staff from an International Organisation,
EU in the Neighbourhood East*

Neighbourhood
and Enlargement
Negotiations

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recognising the need for a fundamental change in EU strategic orientations and financial commitments



R1

Better reflect Env. & CC as overarching priority



R2

Increase funding and long-term capacity building



R3

Ensure an inclusive green transition



*The EU Green Deal and the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans have significantly influenced policy processes, esp. in the last half of 2020.**

representative from a Civil Society Organisation, Western Balkans

Operationalising the fundamental shift in priorities paying attention to four key dimensions



R4

Adopt stronger tailored approaches



R5

Support system change through bottom-up approaches



R6

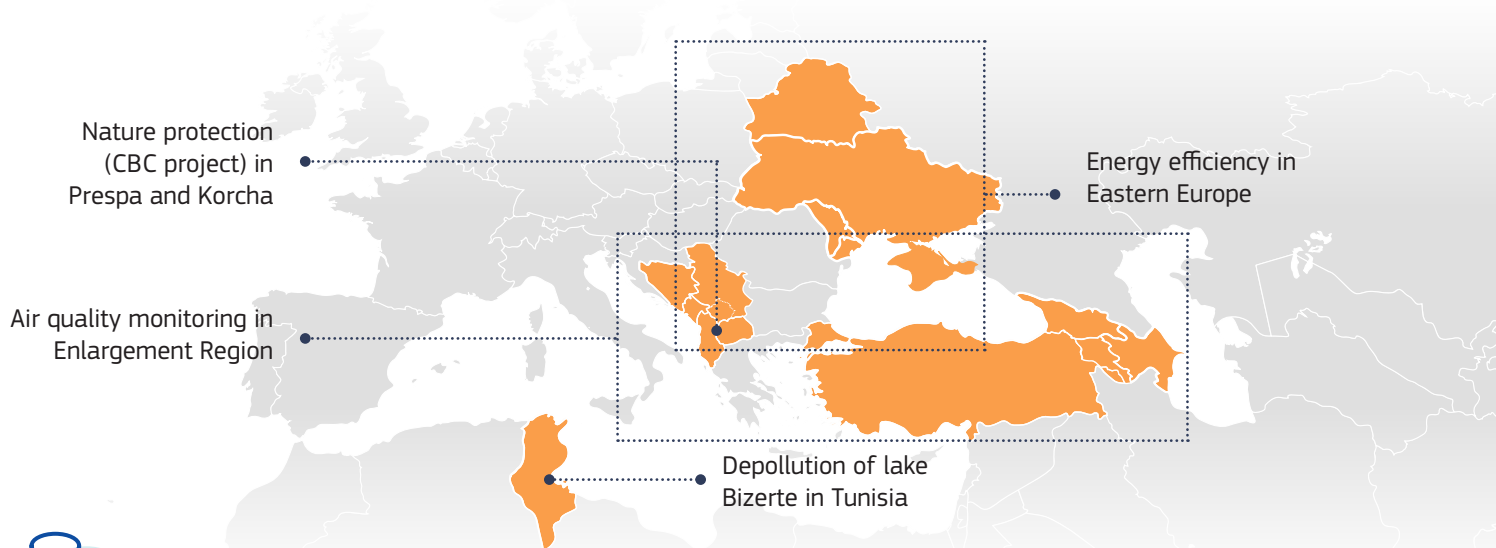
Step up collaborative efforts



R7

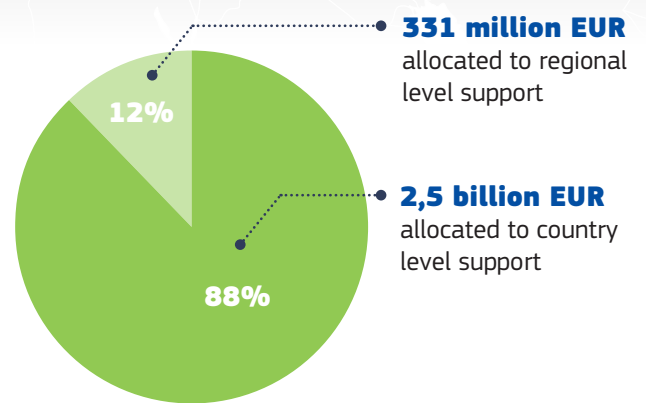
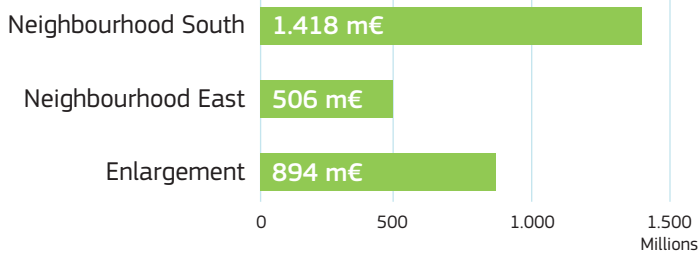
Increase learning

THE EU INVESTED IN A DIVERSITY OF FIELDS IN THE AREA OF ENV. & CC...



2,8 billion EUR

were contracted in the field of Env. & CC during the period 2014-2020, of which:



This factsheet is produced in the context of the Evaluation of the EU's support to climate action and environment in Enlargement and Neighbourhood regions (2014-2020) commissioned by DG NEAR and implemented by Particip GmbH. It is designed to provide key information on the evaluation scope, objectives, methodology as well as results and recommendations.

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**These quotes come from the eSurvey that was carried out by the evaluation team between August and November 2021.*