



## **20 DELIVERABLES FOR 2020**

### **Monitoring – State of Play 2018**

*Following the endorsement by the Eastern Partnership Brussels Summit of the "20 Deliverables for 2020" and its new institutional setup, engagement is now focusing on implementation of this ambitious work plan and strategic communication about its tangible results for citizens. The new institutional setup has been successfully launched ensuring common ownership of EU institutions, Member States and Partner Countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova-herein after Moldova, Ukraine) at all levels in this process. In particular, the Ministerial meetings will provide the general steer for the implementation.*

*In order to support Member States and Partner Countries in guiding the process, EEAS and Commission services monitor the implementation of the Deliverables, highlighting both achievements as well as areas where additional effort may be needed.*

*The document attached provides an overview of the implementation of the "20 Deliverables for 2020" as well as of concrete results achieved by September 2018. It does not contain new commitments. Its findings are based on an internal monitoring process that involved EEAS and Commission services and take into consideration results from meetings of the new institutional setup. This document selectively highlights most representative findings from the in-depth internal monitoring.*

## CROSS CUTTING DELIVERABLES

### 1 More engagement with civil society organisations

- ✓ **Capacity building actions** ongoing in **all** Partner Countries targeting **grassroots organisations, active citizenships** and **mobilisation of local resources**.
- ✓ **40 young civil society leaders' fellowships** awarded.
- ✓ Boosted **engagement with the Civil Society Forum** for enhanced policy dialogue in the context of the revised Eastern Partnership institutional set up.

### 2 Increase gender equality and non-discrimination

- ✓ **Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova** and **Ukraine** have specific Gender Action Plans.
- ✓ **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova** and **Ukraine** have specific laws on gender equality.
- ✓ **All six Partner Countries** have adopted specific legislation against domestic violence.

### 3 Strengthen strategic communications and supporting plurality and independence of media

- ✓ Regional campaigns under the new Eastern Partnership visual identity and the slogan "**stronger together**" have been launched at the Eastern Partnership Summit.
- ✓ **Communication campaigns** encompassing all EU actions are ongoing in **all Partner Countries**. Particularly comprehensive communication campaigns have been launched in **Georgia** ("EUforGeorgia") and **Ukraine** ("Moving forward together").
- ✓ According to the EU Neighbours East survey 2018, more than **60% of citizens from Partner Countries** have a **positive perception** of their relations with the EU, generally consistent compared to last year. The EU is strongly associated with **positive values**.
- ✓ **Journalists and media professionals** have been **trained** in several areas of journalism literacy and skills, contributing to media independence.

**Special attention** needs to be paid to **Deliverable 1** (civil society support), where an enabling environment for civil society needs to be strengthened more actively. In **Deliverable 2** (Gender equality and non-discrimination), implementation of Gender Action Plans needs to be further improved, anti-discrimination laws better aligned with international standards and the Istanbul Convention signed and ratified by remaining Partner Countries. In **Deliverable 3** (strategic communication), further focus on the media environment, with special attention on media plurality and professionalism is required.

## STRONGER ECONOMY

### Economic development and market opportunities:

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#### Improve the Investment and business environment and unlock Small and Medium-sized Enterprises' (SMEs) growth potential

- ✓ Since 2016, almost **5.000 SMEs** (70% in **DCFTA countries**) have benefited from EU financial assistance (~50% of the 2020 target). **30.000 jobs** have been created or sustained, and over **218 business support organisations** were assisted through the EU4Business initiative.

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#### Address gaps in access to finance and financial infrastructure

- ✓ Out of EUR 137 million in new access to finance programmes committed since the end of 2016, around **50%** (EUR 67 million) will mobilise **local currency lending**. Policy work is also ongoing to increase SME's access to finance through **non-banking financial alternatives**.

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#### Create new job opportunities at the local and regional level

- ✓ Since 2016, over **250 Local Authorities** have committed to submit a plan for local economic development (and **100 are actively working on it**), while **16 urban demonstration projects** have been kick-started.

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#### Harmonise digital markets

- ✓ EaP partners agreed on a perspective for an **intra-EaP regional roaming agreement** by 2020, as well as the promotion of **broadband development** at the Informal Partnership Dialogue in Minsk.

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#### Support trade among partner countries and between them and the EU

- ✓ Volumes of trade between all 6 countries and the EU have increased since 2016: by **15%** with **Armenia**, **17%** with **Azerbaijan**, **19%** with **Belarus**, **6%** with **Georgia**, **20%** with **Moldova** and **24%** with **Ukraine**.
- ✓ The number of **companies from DCFTA** countries exporting to the EU **has increased** since 2015: **Georgia** by **30%**, **Moldova** by **9%** and **Ukraine** by **4%**.

**Special attention** needs to be paid to **Deliverable 7** (digital markets) to ensure the commitments made are effectively implemented. In **Deliverable 8** (trade), it is necessary to address the mixed performance of intra-regional trade (e.g. an EU financed dedicated Trade Helpdesk would be instrumental to this effect) and to assure the full implementation of trade agreements to maximise benefits in the medium and long term. Moreover, efforts need to be enhanced to fulfil the conditions for starting the negotiations of Agreements on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA).

## STRONGER GOVERNANCE

### Strengthening institutions and good governance:

#### 9 Strengthen the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms

- ✓ **E-asset declaration systems** have been set up in **Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine**; **Azerbaijan** has expressed its interest in such systems.

#### 10 Support the implementation of key judicial reforms

- ✓ Improvements in the access to justice can be observed, for instance through the **Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)** legislation adopted in **Georgia**.

#### 11 Support the implementation of public administration reform

- ✓ **Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine** adopted their **Public Administration Reform strategies** in line with the Principles of Public Administration (revisions planned).
- ✓ Improvements in civil service laws have paved the way towards a **more depoliticised civil service** in **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**.

#### 12 Stronger security cooperation

- ✓ **Georgia and Moldova** regularly contribute to **EU CSDP operations**, while **Ukraine** plans to continue its contribution to **EU Battle Groups** in 2018 and 2019. The European Security and Defence College has successfully trained more than **3000** relevant **staff** from Partner Countries.
- ✓ The recent signature of an **Administrative Agreement on Disaster Risk Management Cooperation with Georgia** as well as a successful **full-scale field exercise** in the area of **civil protection** in **Moldova** "EU MOLDEX 2017" have reinforced cooperation between Partner Countries and the **EU Civil Protection Mechanism**.
- ✓ A national cybersecurity strategy has been adopted in **Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**.

**Special attention** needs to be paid to **Deliverable 9** (rule of law), in particular as regards establishing high-level anti-corruption bodies, setting up of a track record of investigations and convictions of high-level and complex corruption cases, enhancing cooperation on tools for financial investigations and establishing public registries of beneficial ownership. Regarding **Deliverable 10** (key judicial reforms), progress is needed as regards merit-based recruitment, reduction of backlog of cases and enforcement of judgements in civil and administrative cases. In **Deliverable 12** (security), there is a need to strengthen the capacity of cybercrime units created within law enforcement authorities in order to make them operational.

## STRONGER CONNECTIVITY

### Connectivity, energy, efficiency, environment and climate change:

#### 13 Extend the TEN-T core networks, transport

- ✓ **High-level Understandings** with all Partner Countries on defining the extended **core TEN-T network** have been signed. The Commission and the High Representative proposed a strategy for EU-Asia connectivity including extension of TEN-T corridors towards Asia. The **Transport Infrastructure Investment Action Plan** has been finalised following discussions with all partners.
- ✓ All countries have endorsed a **Declaration on Road Safety** and **Road Safety Investment Programmes** are in place in **Armenia** and **Ukraine**.

#### 14 Increase energy supply security

- ✓ Progress on the **Southern Gas Corridor** is on track - inauguration of the Azerbaijan-Georgia section and the Trans-Anatolian Gas Pipeline (TANAP).
- ✓ A **roadmap** for the identification of **energy interconnectivity projects** of interest to the Eastern Partnership was adopted.

#### 15 Enhance energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy; reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions

- ✓ Within the framework of **Covenant of Mayors**, **134 Local Authorities** have committed to cut **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 20% by 2020**.
- ✓ The **high level EU-IFIs energy efficiency initiative** has increased political ownership in Partner Countries and led to improved legislation and investments, e.g. in **Ukraine** an Energy Efficiency Fund for residential buildings was established.
- ✓ With its recent extension to Belarus, the **Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environmental Partnership (E5P)** is active in **five Partner Countries**. **Azerbaijan** is preparing to join it.

#### 16 Support the environment and adaptation to climate change

- ✓ Some **400 enterprises** learned about green economy solutions and defined tailored measures that can result in **annual savings of EUR 9.4 million**.
- ✓ **Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine** adopted new laws on **environmental assessment of strategies, plans, and investment projects**.
- ✓ To protect and connect natural areas, the six Eastern partners identified additional **Emerald Network sites** with an area 4 times the size of Belgium.

**Special attention** needs to be paid to **Deliverable 14** (energy security), where challenges relating to interconnection projects other than the Southern Gas Corridor still need to be overcome. Additional efforts also need to be made on the unbundling of the gas transmission system operators in those partners who are Energy Community Contracting Parties. In **Deliverable 15** (energy efficiency), further efforts need to be made on regulatory aspects of energy efficiency and on the monitoring and implementation of the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In addition, other transboundary environmental problems need further attention within the framework of **Deliverable 16** (environment and climate change).

## STRONGER SOCIETY

### Mobility and people-to-people contacts:

#### 17 Progress on Visa Liberalisation Dialogues and Mobility Partnerships

- ✓ **Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine** continue to fulfil the **Visa Liberalisation Action Plans benchmarks**, as per the first Commission report under the Visa Regulation's new suspension mechanism.
- ✓ Modernisation of Border Crossing Points' network is on track – e.g. the **first jointly operated EU-EaP border crossing point** (Poland and Ukraine). The European Border and Coast Guard Agency provides continued support to capacity building.

#### 18 Strengthen investment in young people's skills, entrepreneurship and employability

- ✓ The **EU4Youth** programme is operational, encompassing **49 Civil Society Fellowships, 37 Partnerships for Entrepreneurship** and six large projects addressing challenges for youth entrepreneurship and disadvantaged youth, benefitting around **23.000 young people**.
- ✓ **Erasmus+** provides strong support to mobility and quality of formal and non-formal education, with over **1.000** bilateral projects among EU and EaP **higher education institutions, 17.000** individuals participating in **academic exchanges, 30.000 young people** involved in youth exchanges, mobility and **volunteering, and 1.200 teachers** involved in **eTwinning Plus**.
- ✓ Participation of **cultural and audio-visual actors** from the EaP countries in the **Creative Europe** programme has increased.

#### 19 Establish an Eastern Partnership European school




- ✓ As of September 2018, the new **Eastern Partnership European School** in Tbilisi will be operational with the first **30 students** from all EaP Countries.

#### 20 Integrate Eastern Partnership and EU research and innovation systems and programmes

- ✓ All Partner Countries have full access to **all Horizon 2020 funding schemes** for individual researchers.
- ✓ Partner Countries' national research and education networks are integrated in the pan-European **GÉANT network**.

**Special attention** needs to be paid to **Deliverable 17**, by continuing to monitor progress concerning mobility partnerships, as well as to **Deliverable 18**, by strengthening existing efforts to address quality education and challenges for youth employment and young people not engaged in education, employment or training.





## CROSS CUTTING DELIVERABLES

1. More engagement with civil society organisations 
2. Increase gender equality and non-discrimination 
3. Strengthen strategic communications and supporting plurality and independence of media 





## STRONGER ECONOMY

4. Improve the Investment and business environment and unlock Small and Medium-sized Enterprises' (SMEs) growth potential 
5. Address gaps in access to finance and financial infrastructure 
6. Create new job opportunities at the local and regional level 
7. Harmonise digital markets 
8. Support intra-regional trade among partner countries and the EU 





## STRONGER GOVERNANCE

9. Strengthen the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms 
10. Support the implementation of key judicial reforms 
11. Support the implementation of public administration reform 
12. Stronger security cooperation 

## STRONGER CONNECTIVITY

13. Extend the TEN-T core networks, transport 
14. Increase energy supply security 
15. Enhance energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy; reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions 
16. Support the environment and adaptation to climate change 

## STRONGER SOCIETY

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20. Integrate Eastern Partnership and EU research and innovation systems and programmes 

 - completed;  - on track;  - moderate progress