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JOINT STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

Eastern Partnership - 20 Deliverables for 2020
Focusing on key priorities and tangible results

This document is an updated version of the EEAS-NEAR Joint Staff Working Document SWD(2016)467 on **"20 Deliverables for 2020"** of 15 December 2016. Following the presentation of the first version of the document to Member States and Partner Countries within the fora of the Eastern Partnership[1] (EaP) and in the Council, the European External Action Service (EEAS) and Commission services have revised the "20 Deliverables for 2020", taking into account valuable written comments and concrete suggestions on the earlier document, as well as more general strategic non-papers by Member States and Partner Countries. The EEAS and Commission services have therefore updated the "20 Deliverables for 2020", with the aim of **improving the substance** of the document, **increasing ownership** and **ensuring commitment** of all stakeholders.

EU Member States and Partner Countries have been providing their views by way of individual responses, including by highlighting their **key roles** and important contributions towards achieving the "20 Deliverables for 2020". Collectively, they have developed proposals through non-papers on relevant topics, notably on a general vision ahead of the EaP Summit, on strategic communication and support to independent media, on public administration reform, on strengthening security cooperation and increasing resilience, on conditionality and on a more efficient and effective EaP multilateral structure. All six Partner Countries have actively contributed, both in writing and through discussions in the EaP multilateral fora. Their contributions are key for an even broader engagement within the EaP on the basis of a common commitment, which is at the heart of this review of the "20 Deliverables for 2020". The Civil Society Forum has set the stage for a broader public debate through its detailed policy brief giving assessments and recommendations on the "20 Deliverables for 2020" from the perspective of Civil Society thereby also adding to transparency and open policy communication.

The "20 Deliverables for 2020" document aims to identify **concrete tangible results for citizens** as delivered by the EaP in the four priority areas agreed in Riga, on the basis of **already existing commitments** on both EU's and Partner Countries' side. The "20 Deliverables for 2020" document focuses on selected **key activities** within the EaP and represent a practical tool for a more coherent, efficient and comprehensive implementation of the EaP policy by focussing on concrete benefits. A close link between the "20 Deliverables for 2020" document and the overall European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)[2] is ensured, as well as with relations between the EU and the Eastern Partners, in particular contractual relations and the Association Agendas and Partnership Priorities. The close linkage between EU assistance and national reform plans will also aim to enhance the efficiency of support and encourage partner countries to undertake reforms.

The structure of the document allows for the 20 key deliverables to act as a **work plan guiding the actions in the next phase of the EaP until 2020**, supporting delivering under existing commitments, and allowing for an easier monitoring of progress. The document remains a **flexible "living" tool** which will be regularly reviewed in close cooperation with all stakeholders, in the light of developments and in view of monitoring progress achieved on concrete results in a comprehensive and inclusive way.

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[1] The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is a joint initiative involving the EU, its Member States and 6 Eastern European Partners: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine
[2] JOIN (2015) 50 final of 18 November 2015.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The **Global Strategy**[3] and the revised **ENP** call for a focus on achieving the overall goal of increasing the **stabilisation** and **resilience** of our neighbours. The EaP is based on a shared commitment to international law and fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and gender equality, as well as to market economy, sustainable development and good governance. Building on these common goals and universal values and with a view to creating conditions for democratic, stable, prosperous and sustainable societies, the EaP Summit in Riga in 2015, followed up by the Ministerial in May 2016, confirmed the consensus to step up actions in the four key priority areas of:

- **economic development and market opportunities:** to support EaP Partner Countries[4] move towards diversified and vibrant economies, to create jobs in new sectors, attract investments and foster employability; to support macroeconomic stability; to drive economic transition process forward with a view to create an attractive environment, a level playing-field for investments and business, as well as to improve the capacity of Partner Countries to take advantage of the trade opportunities with the EU and with each other;
- **strengthening institutions and good governance:** to fight against corruption, to support justice reform and reinforce public administration; to strengthen **security cooperation,** notably to disrupt organised crime, support conflict resolution, crisis prevention, civil protection against new threats and cybersecurity; these are the preconditions for citizens' trust in the state, long-term stability and an investment-safe climate;
- **connectivity, energy efficiency, environment and climate change:** to facilitate transport interconnections between EU and the Eastern Partners and within the countries in the region, facilitating economic development, regional economic integration and people's mobility; energy, environment and climate action, to make Partner Countries less exposed to external risks and helping them develop sustainable and low-carbon economies attracting investment, as well as address environmental challenges and promote sustainable development;
- **mobility and people-to-people contacts**: bring EU and Partner Countries' societies closer together and enhance mobility in a secure and well managed environment; to invest in young people's skills, entrepreneurship and employability, with a particular focus on leadership, mobility and quality of formal and non-formal education; to promote the diversification of professional cross-regional networks; to foster the integration of EaP and EU research and innovation systems and programmes.

This more focused engagement ensures that all actions undertaken in the framework of the EaP pursue the outreach and inclusion of **civil society**[3] with a tailor-made approach, and foster **gender equality** and the empowerment of girls and women by following the provisions of the **EU Gender Action Plan (GAP II)**.

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[3] A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy was presented by the High Representative in June 2016.
[4] EaP Partner Countries will also be referred to as Eastern Partners throughout the document.
[3] Including business and youth organisations.

In this framework, the EaP supports delivery on key global policy goals set by the **UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals** and the **Paris Agreement on Climate Change**, which sets the path towards a modern and low-carbon economy and provides important opportunities for sustainable economic transformation, jobs and growth.

Furthermore, major developments are expected in the EU's relations with the Eastern Partners by the next Summit in November 2017:

- Further progress in the implementation of the **Association Agreements (AAs)/Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas** (DCFTAs) with Ukraine, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova (hereinafter referred to as Moldova);
- **New frameworks** for EU relations with Armenia, Azerbaijan:
  o Progress on the finalisation of the new bilateral cooperation agreement with Armenia;
  o Progress in negotiations for a new bilateral cooperation agreement with Azerbaijan;
- Continued critical engagement with Belarus steered by the newly created **EU-Belarus Co-ordination Group**;
- Progress on **Partnership Priorities/revised Association Agendas** and new Single Support Frameworks / Multi-Annual Indicative Programme in line with the ENP Review.

To maximise impact, a more focused approach is needed to deliver **tangible results for citizens** under each of the **four priorities agreed in Riga**. In order for this to be achieved, it is important to ensure the full alignment between policy and its implementation through both bilateral and multilateral frameworks, as well as funding instruments, notably the financing streams of the **European Neighbourhood Instrument**, and in close coordination with EU Member States, International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and other international organisations and donors. Strategic use will be made of **TAIEX** and **Twinning** as a catalyst for reforms as well as other vehicles to support the reforms and modernisation processes. Strengthened **strategic communication**, factored into EU programmes from the start and running in parallel to their implementation, will also support the successful implementation and delivery of results on the ground.

The streamlined EaP multilateral architecture

In the light of comments by both Member States and Partner Countries as well as the non-paper on a more efficient and effective EaP multilateral structure, the proposal for the general structure of a **streamlined EaP multilateral architecture** has been added to this document. The attached Annex 1 depicts the revised structure, which would harmonise the EaP architecture with the overall EaP priorities and the "20 Deliverables for 2020", and aims at making the cooperation more results-oriented and efficient. Increased engagement by Member States and Partner Countries is key to ensure a more inclusive, coherent and comprehensive approach. The EaP structure will become more systematic, more visible and more focussed, truly delivering and increasing synergies. Exchanges at all levels, including parliamentary through EURONEST[5], local and regional authorities through CORLEAP[6] and civil society through the Civil Society Forum remain a central and integral part of the Eastern Partnership multilateral architecture.

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[5] The Euronest Parliamentary Assembly is the inter-parliamentary forum in which members of the European Parliament and the national parliaments of Ukraine, Republic of Moldova, Belarus, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia
[6] The Conference of Regional and Local Authorities for the Eastern Partnership

Most importantly, the four Platforms are now re-structured as **cross-sectoral fora** in line with the four key areas of cooperation agreed in Riga. They will serve as an interface in between the Panels and the Senior Officials meeting. Platforms will be giving a **more political steer** to the Panels and at the same time reporting back to the Senior Officials on the overall activities of the Panels within a specific priority. The Panels will serve as fora for **more in-depth discussion** on specific topics. The re-structured EaP architecture will aim to make the rich range and content of discussions more results-oriented, while at the same time **improving synergies** between and coherence of the overall discussions. All formats will remain inclusive both in geographical and sectoral terms, but they will also provide – where appropriate –the possibility for more focussed discussions on topics of greater relevance to some than to others.

Following agreement on the general structure of the revised architecture, more detailed work is planned on the process elements, such as the mechanisms for steering the preparation of meetings and chairing them, as well as on working methods to facilitate cooperation among the different Platforms on cross-cutting issues. This work will take place in a consensual, inclusive way with the participation of all stakeholders.

II. THE PROPOSED DELIVERABLES AND OUTCOMES

> ➢ **Cross-cutting deliverables**

While the "20 Deliverables for 2020" are generally structured according to the priority areas of the cooperation identified at the Riga Summit, three issues are cross-cutting: the engagement with civil society, women's empowerment and gender balance, and strategic communication.

A vibrant **civil society** sector is crucial for private sector development, sustainable economic growth, ambitious environmental policies and social innovation. High-quality sector reform dialogue can only be achieved through increased technical expertise and stronger leadership of civil society organisations (CSOs).

Stronger support to **women's rights, empowerment and gender balance** in the region will allow Partner countries to take full advantage of the economic and social potential within their societies. Particular efforts will be made to address negative gender stereotypes, gender-based violence and pay gaps between men and women among others.

Finally, **strategic communication** is key in order to effectively communicate the positive impact of EU support across the EaP. A strong EU visibility with comprehensive messages will lead to more understanding of and increased credibility for the EU among citizens across the EaP, as well as better knowledge among EU citizens of the EaP. Additionally, a well-functioning **media environment**, based on the principle of plurality and independence, are one of the pre-requisites for democratic, stable, prosperous and resilient communities and nations.

Given these considerations, the following horizontal deliverables are envisaged:

1. A more ***structured engagement with a wider range of civil society organisations*** will be pursued, to enable partner governments to better implement the modernisation process by tapping into the innovation potential of CSOs.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
At least 6 large scale funding schemes in place (1 per EaP Country), to develop capacities of CSOs and support build-up of technical expertise in key sectors.	Civil Society Facility – East (Technical Assistance, bilateral support, through sub-granting) Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' CSOs European Commission EEAS EU Member States Relevant authorities at regional/local/ national level	**Strengthened management capacities and technical expertise of CSOs to constructively engage with governments at grassroots, local and national level.**
1st group of Civil Society Policy Fellows have improved skills to generate evidence-based policy input, and 1st group of young leaders identified together with hosting organisations that will provide technical support.	Regional Civil Society Facility EU4Youth Civil Society projects Erasmus+	Partner Countries' CSOs European Commission EU/Partner Countries' youth organisations	**80 Civil Society Policy Fellowships awarded and 300 youth leaders supported.**
Develop a Monitoring Tool for civic space in the Eastern Neighbourhood	Regional Civil Society Facility	European Centre for non-for-profit Law European Commission EEAS EU Member States Relevant authorities at regional/local/ national level	**Obtain meaningful information on evolutions in participation space for civil society organisations in the Eastern Partnership countries**
Improved multi-stakeholder policy dialogue through continued support to the EaP Civil Society Forum and its National Platforms. *[Institutionalisation of government – civil society – EU dialogue currently emerging, notably through the structures of the EaP Civil Society Forum]*	Support to the EaP Civil Society Forum (Regional Civil Society Facility)	Partner Countries' CSOs European Commission EaP Civil Society Forum Secretariat	**Well-functioning and regular multi-stakeholder policy dialogue through the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum and its National Platforms.**

2. *Gender equality and non-discrimination* will be at the heart of actions undertaken under the EaP to ensure the full outreach to societies within Partner Countries, in line with the EU Gender Action Plan 2016-2020, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and anti-discrimination principles.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Gender Analysis conducted in the framework of the Gender Action Plan in at least four Partner Countries.	Studies carried out by EU Delegations in Partner Countries and Headquarters Gender mainstreaming in bilateral and regional programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries EEAS European Commission	**Gender mainstreamed in public policies with gender disaggregated data available per policy and better gender specific statistics available.** **Gender Action Plan implemented.**
Progress in the implementation of existing anti-discrimination legislation and establishment of equality bodies or equivalent in at least three Partner Countries.	European Commission's Bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of Europe	**Anti-discrimination legislation adopted in remaining Partner Countries.** **Progress in harmonising relevant legislation.** **Track record of equality bodies established and effective monitoring of anti-discrimination law.** **Ratification of the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention y Partner Countries.** **Sexual and gender based violence/domestic violence legislation adopted in all Partner Countries and effective referral mechanisms are in place.** **Track record of equality bodies established and effective monitoring of anti-discrimination law.**

Young women targeted in EU4Youth calls (50% target). *[EU4Youth to be implemented starting 2017]*	EU4Youth	Partner Countries' relevant authorities, organisations, schools, educational institutions Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Labour, public bodies dealing with equal opportunities European Commission	**Young women targeted in EU4Youth calls (75% target).**
To help address the gender gap in access to finance, at least 50% of targeted local banks targeted with support from the Women in Business programme improve women-led SMEs lending through capacity building. At least 90% of targeted Women SMEs are trained through the entrepreneurial skills development courses and at least 40% of assisted companies achieve increases in employment and at least 50% achieve increases in turnover.	Women in Business programme	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) European Commission EU Member States	**EU contribution to the Women in Business programme, leverages at least USD 55 million in sub-loans from local banks to Women-led enterprises.**

3. Strengthened, clearer and tailor-made ***strategic communications*** will be provided, leading to a better understanding of and increased credibility for the EU among citizens across the EaP, as well as the EaP among EU citizens. Support to ***plurality and independence of media*** in Partner Countries will continue, to ensure people's access to information and increase public support for the EU. This support will be designed to strengthen core functions and capacity of media in the EaP region.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Strengthened and better coordinated positive communication of the concrete benefits of EU/Partners' cooperation. **More communications events and clearly branded thematic initiatives, to improve awareness of the EU and its culture, and of EU programmes.** **More diverse and professionally strengthened channels of communications deployed; more diverse and regional audiences reached, including Russian speaking.**	Guidance provided to all implementers on how to step up communications efforts and increase quality. Communications outcomes linked to wider monitoring of delivery of milestones. Opportunities, Participation, Engagement and Networking (OPEN) Neighbourhood programme (EU Neighbours East) Pooling of resources for project communications. Revised visibility guidelines for EU funding Relevant EU Member States' programmes EU4Business and EU4Energy web portals and activities	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries Partner Countries' CSOs Partner Countries' independent media European Commission EEAS East Strategic Communication (Stratcom) Task Force EU Delegations in Partner Countries EU Member States Journalists, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) International organisations	**More coherent branding, messaging, visibility and outreach.** **Increased number of people in Partner Countries associates EU with positive change and concrete social and economic benefits for states and individuals.** **Numbers of media professionals trained sustained/increased** **Enhanced capacity of beneficiaries from EU assistance and agencies implementing EU support to promote and actively support communication activities and public diplomacy in the region.** **Numbers of media organisations devoting space/air-time to EU related themes increased.**

Three level campaign strategy implemented: (i) over-arching "stronger together" campaign; (ii) horizontal, thematic campaigns on regional programmes; and (iii) national campaigns in each Partner Country, reflecting EaP priorities and linking in particular to the EaP Summit and top 20 deliverables. **Annual surveys and focus groups in each Partner Country.**	OPEN Neighbourhood (EU Neighbours East)	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries Partner Countries' CSOs Partner Countries' independent media European Commission EEAS East Strategic Communication (Stratcom) Task Force EU Delegations in Partner Countries EU Member States Journalists, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) International organisations	**Increased number of people considers the EU reliable/credible/ understandable partner.**

Increased support to independent media and professional journalism in the EaP region.	Regional programmes for professional training of journalists, including the OPEN Media Hub Support to and engagement with decision makers in the media sector, in particular professional journalists organisations Fora for professional exchange and learning among media professionals within the EaP and beyond Monitoring of the media landscape European Endowment for Democracy feasibility study on Russian language media initiatives Increased institutional and project-based financial support to independent media with a proven track record from relevant EU financial instruments such as the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) Comprehensive EU Russian language press and information service (focus on EU foreign policy) Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' independent media organisations European Commission EU Member States EEAS East Stratcom Task Force EU Delegations in Partner Countries European Endowment for Democracy Russian Language News Exchange	**A more independent and professionally strengthened media, to enhance its resistance to bias and propaganda.** **Plurality of independent information improved.** **The audience share of media outlets having received EU assistance is growing.**
Reinforced efforts to counter disinformation.	Continued work to identify, raise awareness of and increase immunity to disinformation, including through website, social media and engagement with governments, media and NGOs.	EEAS East Stratcom Task Force	**Public support for the EU is level or increasing in all Partner Countries.** **Improved resilience to disinformation.**

> **Priority I: Economic development & market opportunities**

Sustainable economic and social development and support to transformation process are at the heart of the EU's contribution to stabilising the neighbourhood. Policy advice on **macroeconomic stability** to Partner Countries and **Macro-Financial Assistance** (MFA) programmes in close coordination and complementary to activities of the IFIs[7] have provided substantial support to help beneficiary countries regain macroeconomic stability while pushing forward necessary structural reforms, including in the area of economic governance.

In addition to underpinning macroeconomic stability through **sound economic policies**, Partner Countries need to face the challenge of driving their economic transition process forward with a view create an attractive environment, a level playing-field for investments and business, as well as to improve their capacity to take advantage of the trade opportunities with the EU, such as the DCFTAs. This will also help to generate sustainable employment opportunities. An overarching framework to assess general progress in these reforms will be reports such as the annual World Bank (WB) Doing Business Reports, as well as official International Labour Organisation data on employment.

Improving the business environment for small and medium-sizes enterprises (SMEs) remains key in particular by helping them to overcome challenges such as a complex operational environment, lack of relevant skills (including in marketing) to start up and grow their businesses, poor public-private dialogue, constraints in accessing foreign markets, and limited access to finance. The modernisation of economies, such as in the areas of agriculture or fisheries, greening of the economy and digital markets, with support from the IFIs and the EU, as well as the modernisation of the educational systems in line with labour market demands (see Priority IV) are further important priorities. In particular, the **digital economy** is an area with yet untapped potential for both the EU and the Partner Countries for social and economic development, as well as for the creation of growth and jobs. The EU's support in this area will be provided in the framework of the **EU4Digital** initiative. The role of Cross-Border Cooperation programmes in supporting economic development along the EU's external border and reducing differences in living standards is also key.

Given these considerations, the following deliverables are envisaged under Priority I:

4. The investment climate and business environment in Partner Countries will be improved and the growth **_potential of EaP Partners' SMEs_** will be further unlocked through key measures, including on the **_regulatory environment_**, in the framework of the **EU4Business** initiative.

More specifically, measures taken to pursue this particular deliverable will contribute to improving the business climate, including alignment of policies with the 10 principles of the Small Business Act (SBA)[8]; increasing the quality, diversity and access to services provided to SMEs by business support organisations; strengthening the quality of public private dialogue; facilitating access to finance for the small companies across the region, allowing them to perform the needed capital investments; improving information to SMEs on market opportunities in the EU and available EU assistance via the EU4Business Information Portal.

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[7] Notably the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank (WB), the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).
[8] The SBA entails the following principles: entrepreneurial learning and women's entrepreneurship, bankruptcy and second chance for SMEs, regulatory framework for SME policy making, operational environment for SMEs, support services for SMEs and start—ups, public procurement, access to finance for SMEs, standards and technical regulations, enterprise skills, innovation, SMEs in a green economy, internationalisation of SMEs).

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
At least 1 000 SMEs have received financial support from EU4Business resources, since the end of 2015.	EU4Business credit lines for SMEs	European Commission IFIs Financial intermediaries	**At least 10 000 additional SMEs to benefit from EU assistance (with 80% in DCFTA countries), since the end of 2016.** **At least another 60 000 new jobs created and/or sustained in the supported companies, since the end of 2016.**
SME strategies and action plans/roadmaps adopted in at least one more Partner Country. *[To date three countries already have SME Strategies in place]*	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy European Commission EU Member States Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) IFIs	**Partner Countries to improve the score on a 2019 OECD Small Business Act assessment by 10% on the regulatory framework, the operational environment and support to SMEs (as compared to 2015).**
Priorities and recommendations of the private sector to improve the business climate and related economic reforms are communicated to their governments: declaration by the East Invest business community presented before the 2017 EaP Business Forum.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy European Commission EU Member States Network of Business Support Organisations OECD IFIs International Trade Centre	**Public Private Dialogue (PPD) institutionalised across the EaP region through appropriate mechanisms (e.g. PPD platform steering group / consultative forum established, PPD rules agreed upon).**
Improved support services to businesses via: **- the strengthening of a network of at least 100 business support organisations;** **- provision of coaching and advisory services (management, business, accounting, export).**	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes)	European Commission EU Member States Business Support Organisations and networks OECD IFIs	**150 supported client-oriented business support organisations improved their services to SMEs, also in relations to the DCFTA requirements, as well as global market requirements.** **Improved/increased number of assistance programmes by national authorities to their SMEs (dedicated SMEs agency in place in each Partner Country).**

Organisation of investment roadshows under the EU4Business (East Invest programme). **6 roadshows in 2016 which gathered 134 SMEs and 6 roadshows in 2017 gathering more than 120 SMEs.** **Organisation of at least two Business Fora in June 2017, gathering more than 200 SMEs each.**	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Chambers of Commerce Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy EU Member States European Commission	**Setting up of a new regional economic diplomacy framework for increased trade and investment promotion in/across the EaP region.**

5. _**Gaps in access to finance and financial infrastructure**_[9] will be addressed to continue pursuing reforms for economic development and transformation effectively. The deepening and broadening of capital markets will be supported, which would contribute to diversify sources of financing for households and companies. These reforms should also encourage the increase of lending in local currency by partner IFIs.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Gaps in access to finance related to missing financial sector infrastructure identified in at least three Partner Countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EU Member States IFIs	**Pilot programmes developing a comprehensive approach to implement capital market reforms started in at least three Partner Countries.** **Efficient credit registries developed in three countries, assuring a wider coverage and a more efficient flow of information among financial intermediaries, to facilitate collateral based lending.** **Set up and development of alternative sources of financing for SMEs supported. This should include: instruments to facilitate investments (i.e. leasing, factoring) and instruments to increase export (i.e. export guarantee mechanisms, insurance schemes), as well as equity financing.**
Increased financial support to SMEs provided in local currency, including through the launch of a study to analyse blended finance solutions to reduce foreign exchange risk and identify best practices.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	European Commission EU Member States IFIs	**At least 1/4 of EU financial support to SMEs is provided through local currency financing, since the end of 2016.**

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[9] E.g. banking sector reform and legislation, improved credit / collateral registries, improved financial reporting and audit, measures enabling capital markets, such as development of micro-credit, leasing, factoring and insurance.

6. The creation of ***new job opportunities at the local and regional level*** will be supported via EU programmes aimed at diversifying the economic activity and reducing disparities.

In particular, the new initiative **Mayors for Economic Growth** will aim to mobilise at least 30 Local Authorities in the EaP region to commit to the implementation of smart local economic strategies aiming at GDP/per capita growth and more employment opportunities.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
New Mayors for Economic Growth initiative launched; at least 10 Partner Countries' Local Authorities committed to submit a plan for local economic development and selected for grant demonstration projects.	Mayors for Economic Growth programme	Partner Countries' Local and Regional Authorities European Commission Conference of Regional and Local Authorities for the Eastern Partnership (CORLEAP)	**At least 30 Partner Countries' Local Authorities implement a plan for local economic development, and at least 10 urban demonstration projects are kick-started.**
A local pipeline of projects is elaborated and approved in at least one Partner Country through a multi-sectoral regional development strategy programme.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Cross Border Cooperation programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Local and Regional Authorities Partner Countries' Ministries of Regional Development European Commission EU Member States	**Where appropriate, decentralisation process implemented per relevant Public Administration Reform strategy.** **Regional development projects implemented where appropriate in at least three Partner Countries via their pipeline and/or regional development fund.** **Regional/local stakeholders participating in planning and implementation of relevant local pipeline in at least three Partner Countries.**
At least one Partner Country committed to develop place-based smart specialisation strategy for research and innovation to enhance regional competitiveness.	Smart Specialisation Platform	Partner Countries' Local and Regional Authorities European Commission	**Smart specialisation strategies identifying key priorities for economic modernisation developed in at least two countries.**
Agricultural development strategies in place in three Partner Countries. **Continued increase of farmers' participation in business oriented groups/cooperatives.**	Bilateral programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Agriculture European Commission EU Member States	**At least 15 000 farmers are members of business oriented farmer groups/cooperatives; at least 1 000 business-oriented farmer groups created to promote better market access.** **Progress in the implementation of agricultural development strategies.**

7. The *__harmonisation of digital markets__* (HDM) will be fostered in the framework of the **EU4Digital** initiative, to help eliminate existing obstacles and barriers for pan-European online services for citizens, public administrations and businesses, bearing in mind the upcoming reforms within the EU digital markets.

This will result in improved online services at better prices and with greater choice; it will attract investments and boost trade and employment. Existing companies will grow faster and start-ups will be created more easily, which will contribute to prevent brain drain. Data flows and personal data protection will require specific attention.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Commitment by Partners to establish an independent national regulatory authority for electronic communications (if not in place). **Commitment by Partners to coordinate on spectrum issues, among them and with the EU.** **Feasibility study completed on a harmonised approach to roaming pricing and reduced roaming tariffs among the Partners – options and measures proposed; commitment by Partners to work towards a common international roaming space among them (including work towards a roaming agreement).** **Commitment by Partners to develop national Broadband strategies (if not in place), and adopt relevant EU acquis and best practices facilitating Broadband development.**	EU4Digital Alignment of funding approach with IFIs HDM Panel Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries and regulatory bodies European Commission EU Member States Telecom network IFIs	**Independent national regulatory authority for electronic communications in place in at least five Partner Countries.** **Coordinated national spectrum strategies among the Partners and with the EU.** **Harmonised roaming pricing and reduced roaming tariffs among the Partners. Ongoing roaming discussions with the EU[10].** **Roll-out of national Broadband strategies by all Partners, in line with similar EU strategies.**

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[10] Discussions with the EU are expected to start in spring 2018, after the first data on markets' reactions to EU's Roam-Like-At-Home.

Commitment by Partners to adopt the Trust Services part of the eIDAS[11], the Regulation, the General Data Protection Regulation and other relevant EU *acquis* (if not in place). **Commitment by Partners to develop national CERTs[12] (if not in place), in line with EU best practices.**	EU4Digital Alignment of funding approach with IFIs HDM Panel Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EU Member States Trust&Security network IFIs	**Pilot in place for interoperable cross border eSignature and regional framework for cross border eServices for businesses among Partners and with the EU in place.** **Fully operational national CERTs in all Partners in place, linked to EU CERTs.**
eTrade study completed – regional recommendations and national roadmaps issued for harmonised eTrade systems among the Partners, in line with EU norms. **Commitment by Partners to adopt eCommerce, eCustoms and eLogistics-related EU *acquis*.** **eLogistics study completed –feasibility analysis done and recommendations issued for implementing a Digital Transport Corridor between the Baltic and the Black Sea.**	EU4Digital Alignment of funding approach with IFIs HDM Panel Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EU Member States eTrade network IFIs	**Harmonised legislation for eCommerce, eCustoms and eLogistics among Partners and with the EU.** **Pilot in place for cross-border eTrade among Partners and with the EU.** **Pilot in place for a Digital Transport Corridor between the Baltic and the Black Sea.**
Commitment by all Partners to develop and implement national digital skills strategies, in line with similar EU strategies. This includes commitment by the Partners to establish national coalitions for digital jobs (if not in place), based on the EU's digital skills & jobs coalition. **National coalitions for digital jobs established by at least two Partner Countries, based on the EU's digital skills & jobs coalition.**	EU4Digital Alignment of funding approach with IFIs HDM Panel Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EU Member States eSkills network IFIs	**National digital skills strategies formulated and implemented by all Partners, in line with similar EU strategies.** **National coalitions for digital jobs established by all Partners, based on the EU's digital skills &jobs coalition.**

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[11] The Regulation (EU) N°910/2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market.
[12] Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Information Communication Technology (ICT) innovation and start-up ecosystems study completed: needs assessment for all Partners done; regional recommendations issued and national roadmaps proposed for promoting ecosystem development in the Partner Countries. **Mapping of Partners' ICT digital innovation ecosystem stakeholders, including start-ups and those in ICT research. Partners' stakeholders' information incorporated in relevant Start-up Europe Networks and online platforms.**	EU4Digital Alignment of funding approach with IFIs HDM Panel Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EU Member States ICT Innovation network IFIs	**Well-structured ICT research, innovation and start-up ecosystems in place for all Partners.** **Established connections among Partners' innovation ecosystems and with similar EU ecosystems, including via the EaP Connect infrastructure and services.**
Commitment by Partners to adopt eHealth-related EU *acquis* (if not in place). **eHealth study completed - regional recommendations and national roadmaps issued for harmonised eHealth systems among the Partners, in line with EU norms.**	EU4Digital Alignment of funding approach with IFIs HDM Panel Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries eHealth network European Commission EU Member States IFIs	**Harmonised legislation for eHealth among the Partners and with the EU.** **Pilot in place for cross-border eHealth services among Partners and with the EU.**

8. _**Trade among Partner Countries and between them and the EU**_ will be supported, including through progress on the _**DCFTAs implementation**_ for the three associated countries.

Following the differentiation principle, the EU will continue to explore bilaterally with all Partner Countries attractive and realistic options to strengthen trade and investment relations that reflect mutual interests, international trade rules and contribute to modernisation and diversification of Partners' economies. The re-launch of the Expert Panel on Trade and Trade-Related Regulatory Cooperation will provide a results-oriented dialogue format for all six EaP partners, leading to practical solutions and contributing to enhancing trade with the EU and in the region.

In addition, specific measures will support Partner Countries to benefit from bilateral agreements in place, such as the Association Agreements including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement and the future EU-Azerbaijan Comprehensive Agreement. Furthermore, the EU-Trade Dialogue with Belarus supports _inter alia_ the country´s accession process to the WTO. The three Associated Countries are engaged – notably through the ongoing implementation of the DCFTAs - in designing and pursuing trade-related reforms leading to improvements in their domestic business environment, as a result of progressive alignment with EU legislation, rules and standards. Thanks to the ongoing market access liberalisation, citizens start to profit from broader choice of products on the market (not only imported, but also developed domestically due to growing competition), products and services of higher quality and safety, in accordance with the increased standards of consumer protection.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Preliminary data showing a positive trend in total intra-regional trade (i.e. among EaP Partners). **Factual analysis shared with Partner Countries and Member States on Eastern Partners' potential to enhance trade and economic integration with the EU and within the EaP region.**	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade Partner Countries' companies, foreign investors European Commission EU Member States	**Continuation of positive trend in total intra-regional trade (i.e. between Partner Countries).**
Preliminary data reflecting a general positive trend in total trade between Partner Countries and the EU, and in particular between DCFTA countries and the EU.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade Partner Countries' companies, foreign investors European Commission EU Member States	**Continuation of a positive trend in total trade between Partner Countries and EU, and in particular between DCFTA countries and the EU.**

Preliminary data showing a positive trend in the number of companies (notably SMEs) from Partner Countries exporting to the EU, in particular from DCFTA countries.	**European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes** **Relevant EU Member States' programmes** **Export and investment promotion agencies**	**Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade** **Partner Countries' companies** **European Commission** **EU Member States** **EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries**	**Strengthening of the positive trend in the number of companies (notably SMEs) from the Partner Countries exporting to the EU, increased, in particular from the DCFTA countries.**
Preliminary data reflecting a general positive trend in total exports from Partner Countries to the EU, in particular from DCFTA countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade Partner Countries' companies European Commission EU Member States EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries	**Enhancement of a positive trend in total exports from Partner Countries to the EU increased, in particular from DCFTA countries.**
Increasing number of entities from DCFTA countries authorised to export agricultural/food products to the EU, following the adoption and start of implementation of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) strategies/roadmaps by the DCFTA countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade Partner Countries' companies European Commission EU Member States EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries	**Further increase in number of companies authorised by EU SPS authorities to exports to its market, having met the regulatory and inspection conditions to do so.** **Recognition by the EU of food safety measures for the sectors/products that will fully comply with EU acquis and feature enforcement by inspection structures in the DCFTA countries, with the aim (if conditions are met) of initiating the process of determination of equivalence of relevant measures.**

Positive trend in stock/inflow of Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) in Partner Countries as a result of improving investment climate and business environment.	**European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes** **Relevant EU Member States' programmes** **Export and investment promotion agencies**	**Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade** **Partner Countries' companies** **European Commission** **EU Member States** **EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries**	**Strengthening of FDIs stock/inflow in Partner Countries due to successful reforms in creating transparent, predictable market economy.**
Adoption and start of implementation of the public procurement roadmaps, aiming at the creation of a well-functioning, competitive, accountable and transparent procurement system in DCFTA countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade Partner Countries' companies European Commission EU Member States EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries	**Increased market access opening on reciprocal basis in public procurement in accordance with the staging committed in the DCFTAs.**
Further progress in alignment of technical regulations and standards and related conformity assessment rules to the EU system in order to ensure the industrial products safety, hence better use market opportunities created by the tariff liberalization provided by the DCFTAs.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade Partner Countries' companies European Commission EU Member States EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries	**Achieving the state of regulatory approximation and institutional capacity building (including market surveillance) in priority sectors allowing to negotiate the Agreements on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA).**
Setting up Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programme, in particular in DCFTA countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade Partner Countries' companies European Commission EU Member States EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries	**Implementation of compatible AEO programmes in DCFTA countries allowing further facilitation of customs procedures in mutual trade and a dialogue on mutual recognition of the AEO programmes.**

Advancement of approximation/incorporation of provisions of the Convention of 1987 on a common transit procedure.	**European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes** **Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies**	**Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade** **Partner Countries' companies** **European Commission** **EU Member States** **EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries**	**If appropriate, accession to the Convention on a common transit procedure, and thus simplification of the customs and transit formalities in trade between the EU and DCFTA Partners and among the latter.**
Making progress on approximation/incorporation of provisions of the Convention of 1987 on the Simplification of Formalities in Trade in Goods.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes Export and investment promotion agencies	Partner Countries' Ministries of Economy/Trade Partner Countries' companies European Commission EU Member States EU companies exporting and investing in Partner Countries	**If appropriate, accession to the Convention on the Simplification of Formalities in Trade in Goods that would allow simplifying the application of the common transit procedure between the EU and DCFTA Partners and among the latter.**

> ➢ **Priority II: Strengthening institutions and good governance**

Improved **governance**, the strengthening of **electoral systems** and **justice reform** are a precondition for citizen's trust in the state and long-term stability[13] of countries. Only when a functioning justice system is in place, there is a chance that **fundamental rights** are respected and that crimes, corruption and violence are reduced. A functioning legal system and an efficient, corruption-free public administration are at the basis of all other policies and also crucial for the business. Besides, credible, competitive and inclusive elections in line with OSCE and Council of Europe standards are an essential step to ensure the democratic legitimacy of governments.

Furthermore, the stronger **security cooperation** proposed by the ENP Review and requested in numerous comments by Partner Countries and Member States, as well as in a non-paper, will also improve Partner Countries' resilience and institutional resources. In fulfilling these objectives, the European Union Advisory Mission in Ukraine (EUAM), the European Union Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM) and the European Union Border Assistance Mission in the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) play an important role in particular as regards strengthening the rule of law, preventing further crisis from developing, and promoting border cooperation, respectively. Cooperation to strengthen both Partner Countries´ and the EU´s resilience to different concrete security threats, including hybrid threats, has been enhanced compared to the previous version of the "20 Deliverables for 2020".

Given these considerations, the following deliverables are envisaged under Priority II:

9. *__Rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms__* will be strengthened by *inter alia* supporting the establishment of sustainable structures to prevent and fight corruption, ensuring that legislation[14] and institutional changes are implemented effectively, and strengthening transparency and fight against money laundering.

Relevant anti-corruption mechanisms, which should be aligned with international standards and recommendations, range from prevention to enforcement, including financial investigation tools and the seizure, confiscation and management of assets. The participation of civil society is key to ensure the implementation of anti-corruption mechanisms.

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[13] Progress will be measured *inter alia* through the indicators developed by Transparency International, The Council of Europe's Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), and the World Bank.

[14] All Eastern Neighbourhood countries are party to the UN Convention on Corruption. Also the European Commission on behalf of the EU is party.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Progress towards an effective system of declarations of assets and conflicts of interest, i.e. - adoption of the required legislative and institutional framework, including verification mechanisms and dissuasive sanctions against false declarations; - launch, publication and verification of easily searchable public registries of interests and assets in at least three Partner Countries. **Steps taken to implement GRECO[15] recommendations on political party funding, based on the outcome of the third round of GRECO evaluations.**	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes SIGMA[16] Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice and anti-corruption bodies European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of Europe OECD IFIs	**Effective systems of declaration of assets and conflict of interest developed and implemented for at least Members of Parliament (MPs), politicians and high ranking officials developed and implemented in at least four Partner Countries, including: - an electronic, easily searchable public registry of interests and assets; - effective verification mechanism; - dissuasive sanctions.** **Steps taken to implement GRECO recommendations on the prevention of corruption in respect of members of parliament, judges and prosecutors, based on the outcome of the fourth round of evaluations GRECO.**
Effective progress towards independent specialised anti-corruption bodies in at least three Partner Countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice and of Interior European Commission EU Member States Council of Europe	**Independent specialised high-level anti-corruption bodies fully operational in at least four Partner Countries.** **Track record of investigations and convictions of high-level corruption cases.**

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[15] Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption.

[16] SIGMA (Support for Improvement in Governance and Management) is a joint initiative of the OECD and the EU. Its key objective is to strengthen the foundations for improved public governance.

Effective progress towards the establishment of Offices for the recovery and management of assets (AROs) established in at least three Partner Countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes TAIEX Training on best practice of AROs in Member States on tracing and identifying criminal assets Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice, Interior, Finance and anti-corruption bodies European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of Europe	**Legal framework allowing for the effective seizure, confiscation and management of crime proceeds across the EaP region.** **AROs in place with a track record for identification, freezing, management and confiscation of criminal/unjustified wealth across the EaP region.**
Legal framework against money-laundering in line with the EU's fourth Anti-Money Laundering Directive adopted in at least three Partner Countries. **Public registries of beneficial ownership of legal entities and legal arrangements developed in at least one Partner Country.**	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice, Interior, Finance and anti-corruption bodies European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of Europe	**Effective tools for financial investigations are in place, in particular:** **- centralised bank accounts registries;** **- reinforced Financial Intelligence and Investigation Units.** **Public registries of beneficial ownership of legal entities and legal arrangements developed in at least three Partner Countries.**

10. The *__implementation of key judicial reforms__* will be supported through essential measures strengthening the independence, impartiality, efficiency and accountability of the judiciary, and with a special focus on the **track record** by agreeing on a set of key indicators by 2017.

Additional measures include the set-up of **Information and Communication Technology (ICT) systems** for the judiciary including for random case allocation and the improvement of the enforcement of judgements.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
A transparent and merit-based recruitment[17] of judges and prosecutors adopted in at least two Partner Countries, including: - an independent appointing authority; - mandatory written exams; - initial training.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes TAIEX peer review missions to assess judicial recruitment/ appointment processes in place and to formulate recommendations Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Presidential Administrations Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice Partner Countries' Judiciaries European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of Europe	Track record of transparent and merit-based recruitment and promotion system disaggregated by gender in place in at least three Partner Countries. Track record of judges' and prosecutors' performance, as per their career development, in place in at least three Partner Countries.
Progress in the adoption of effective disciplinary rules and codes of ethics in line with EU standards for judges and prosecutors. Functioning complaint mechanisms accessible to the public adopted in at least three countries. This would be indicated *inter alia* by the number of disciplinary proceedings initiated and by the number of sanctions pronounced against judges and public prosecutors, in line with European standards.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes TAIEX peer review missions and exchange of best practice with MSs on disciplinary rules and codes of ethics. Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Presidential Administrations Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice Partner Countries' Judiciaries European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of Europe	Track record of reported disciplinary cases, proceedings initiated and convictions in line with EU standards.
Progress in the adoption and implementation of necessary structures, policies and practices to ensure that the principle of access to justice for all (including women, children, the poorest and the most vulnerable) is	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice Partner Countries' judiciaries European Commission EEAS	Improved access to justice in at least three countries, in particular for women, children and the most vulnerable groups, and whenever civil rights or obligations are at issue or criminal charges are to be determined. This

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[17] The recruitment is undertaken through transparent, merit-based and objective criteria and fair selection procedures.

		EU Member States Council of Europe Civil society	**would be assessed through the amount of legal aid spent per capita, public access to free legal aid, information mechanisms and special arrangements for vulnerable persons.**
respected. **Effective legal aid established in at least two countries, as indicated inter alia by public budget allocated to legal aid and by the number of cases referred to the court for which legal aid was granted.**			
Training of the judiciary ensured in at least two Partner Countries, by approximation of the judicial training practices with the EU standards via strengthening capacities and programmes.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice Partner Countries' judiciaries European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of Europe	**Comprehensive and effective training of the judiciary on judicial competences and ethics in at least three Partner Countries, demonstrated *inter alia* by an increase in budget allocated to initial and in-service training.** **Independent training institutions delivering initial and continuous training to the judiciary, in line with the EU standards and best practices.**
Improvement in the day-to-day administration of courts without undue interference from executive or legislative authorities in at least two Partner Countries, as indicated *inter alia* by effective electronic judicial case management systems that are able to provide random case allocation and judicial statistics.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes TAIEX Peer review missions to assess the transparency of court decisions, private interests or other Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice Partner Countries' judiciaries European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of Europe	**Substantial reduction of the backlog of civil and criminal cases and case disposition time across Partner Countries.** **Improved enforcement of judgements in civil and administrative cases as well as court decisions' execution according to enforcement timeframe and recovery rates indicators in at least three Partner Countries.**

11. Support will be provided to the ***implementation of public administration reform*** in line with the Principles of Public Administration to help establish professional, depoliticised, accountable and ethical public administrations, which provide high level public services for citizens and businesses.

This will be done through measures such as clarifying roles, responsibilities and career paths for civil servants; improving inclusive and evidence-based policy and legislative development and impact assessment, monitoring and evaluation of policies; better accountability; improving management and transparency of public finances; improving citizens' rights to good administration, access to information and administrative justice; and improving service delivery by introducing e-government services and streamlined administrative procedures. The possibility of a job-shadowing scheme for civil servants will be explored.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Principles of Public Administration presented across the EaP region.	Support through regional platforms and bilateral meetings, including for baseline assessments OECD/SIGMA Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries and administrations European Commission EEAS EU Member States CSOs/other non-state actors OECD/SIGMA	**At least three Partner Countries upgraded or adopted their PAR strategies in line with the Principles of Public Administration.**
Successful launch of major Public Administration Programme in Ukraine. **Civil service laws assessed in one-two Partner Countries.**	European Commission's bilateral programmes OECD/SIGMA Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries and administrations European Commission EEAS EU Member States OECD/SIGMA	**Civil service laws led to a de-politicised civil service in at least two Partner Countries, including through improved merit-based and transparent recruitment and promotion.**
Citizens' engagement for better policies and services increased in line with the Open Partnership agendas in at least two Partner Countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries and administrations CSOs/other non-state actors European Commission EU Member States	**Accountability and openness of state administration strengthened in at least three Partner Countries:** **- access to Information Laws adopted/amended and implemented in at least one country;** **- accessible, more service-oriented administrations in place, also through e-gov. services and one-stop-shops in one-two Partner Countries.**

Communication and dialogue with non-state actors improved, aimed at reinforcing transparency and accountability in economic governance including via Citizens Budgets, budgetary governance, internal and external performance audits in at least two Partner Countries.	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries and administrations European Commission EU Member States	**Decisions taken on the changes required to approximate national governance with EU standards related to economic governance, including via reinforced budget oversight, fiscal rules and councils, and medium-term budgets, in at least two Partner Countries.**
At least one Partner Country revises its statistical law and adopts it, in accordance with the "Generic Law on Official Statistics".	EaP Workshop on Statistics Global assessment with recommendations to revise the statistical law	Partner Countries' countries' National Statistical Institutes Partner Countries' relevant Ministries and administrations European Commission EEAS	**At least four Partner Countries have revised their statistical laws in accordance with the "Generic Law on Official Statistics".** **Increased availability and quality of statistical information to serve better transparency in the decision-making process.**

12. The resilience of the Partner Countries to security threats, including hybrid threats, and to disasters will be strengthened through stronger cooperation in the area of _**security**_ and disaster risk management.

The aim is to support Partners, including through capacity building projects in their fight against organised crime (in particular in the areas of illicit firearms trafficking and cybercrime), to make them more resilient to hybrid threats, including cybersecurity to mitigate CBRN[18] risks of criminal, accidental or natural origin, and to be better prepared to prevent conflicts and manage crises .

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Advance possibilities of cooperation between key EU agencies in the fight against organized crime and Partner Countries.	Existing Operational agreements with Europol Exchange of strategic and technical data e.g. on trends and threats, new operational tools and forensics between Europol and EaP partners (no agreement needed) Existing cooperation agreements with Eurojust	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice and Interior European Commission Europol Eurojust	**Improved capacity of Partner Countries in combatting organized crime.**
Operational Action Plan aiming at sharing intelligence and operational data regarding the illicit firearms trafficking adopted by at least one Partner Country. **EU Liaison Officers deployed in at least one Partner Country.**	European Commissions' technical assistance, regional and bilateral projects Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Interior and Finance EEAS European Commission EU Member States Europol CEPOL European Border and Coast Guard Agency (EBCGA)	**Operational Action Plan aiming at sharing intelligence and operational data regarding the illicit firearms trafficking adopted by at least two Partner Countries.** **List of risk indicators established in at least two Partner Countries about potentially dangerous firearms transport and hotspots.** **Intelligence-led multinational Joint Actions conducted.**
Strategy or Action Plans to address cybercrime adopted by at least two Partner Countries. **Operational contact points for international police-to-police and judicial cooperation on cybercrime and e-evidence designated.**	European Commissions' regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Justice and Interior European Commission EU Member States Council of Europe Europol	**Strategy or Action Plans to address cybercrime adopted across the region.** **Fully-fledged, operational cybercrime units in law enforcement authorities created.** **Budapest Convention**

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[18] Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear.

			fully implemented, particularly as per procedural law for the purpose of domestic investigations, public-private cooperation and international cooperation.
Hybrid threat risk assessment piloted in at least one Partner Country. **Commitment by Partner Countries to develop national CERTs[19] and Cybersecurity Strategies (if not in place), in line with EU best practices.**	European Commission's bilateral programmes TAIEX Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries and administrations EEAS European Commission EU Member States	**Reinforce protection of critical infrastructure.** **Fully operational National CERTs in all Partner Countries are in place, linked to EU CERTs.** **Actionable national Cybersecurity Strategies are in place in all Partner Countries, on the basis of EU best practices and guidelines.** **Enhanced public/private and international cooperation on cybersecurity.**
Increased support to the EaP region through the Regional Secretariat on Chemical, Biological, Radiobiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation of the EU CBRN Centres of Excellence.	Tbilisi Regional Secretariat of the EU CBRN Centres of Excellence	Partner Countries' Ministries of Interior and of Defence EEAS European Commission National Focal Points and their CBRN National Teams	**Strengthened capacity to respond to a Regional Chemical, Biological, Radiobiological and Nuclear incident, in connection with other threats related to cybersecurity, counter-terrorism and border management.**
Participation by at least three Partner Countries in EU's CSDP operations.	Framework participation agreements with individual Partner Countries Security agreements with Partner Countries participating in EU missions and/or battlegroups Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Governments/ administrations EEAS EU Member States	**Conceptual and technical interoperability of Partner Countries' units with the EU facilitated, enabling systematic participation in EU missions.** **Stable participation in EU battlegroups.**

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[19] Computer Emergency Response Teams.

Enhancement of training initiatives focused on CSDP and CFSP issues.	TAIEX European Security and Defence College (ESDC)	Partner Countries' Ministries of Defence EEAS European Commission	**Including CSDP/CFSP element in curricula of Defence colleges, police, diplomatic academies, universities.** **Streamlining CFSP /CSDP in the training system of Partner Countries.**
Risk assessment and mapping are increasingly integrated in national, trans-boundary and regional disaster risk management plans.	European Commission's technical assistance, regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Governments/ administrations EEAS European Commission EU Member States	**Comprehensive national and regional disaster risk management policies – including industrial risks – are developed and implemented based on risk assessment.**
At least one Partner Country established closer working relationships with the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, including joint trainings and exercises.	European Commission's technical assistance, regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Governments/ administrations EEAS European Commission EU Member States	**Partner Countries closely cooperate with the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.**
At least three Partner Countries increased initiatives to promote multi-stakeholder mechanisms, including local actors and civil society.	European Commission's technical assistance, regional and bilateral programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Governments/ administrations EEAS European Commission EU Member States	**Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction strategies are adopted at national and/or local level in line with the Sendai Framework, thereby increasing resilience.**

> ➢ **Priority III: Connectivity, energy efficiency, environment and climate change**

Better **transport links** provide the necessary infrastructure to open new opportunities for economic development and to enable closer communication and exchanges between the EU and the Partner Countries, as well as among the Partner Countries themselves. Similarly, **energy interconnections** and **energy efficiency** help Partner Countries to reduce energy dependency and to bolster their resilience. Political commitments to pursue a **green, low-carbon transition** have recently been reinforced by the successful conclusion of the **Paris Climate Agreement** and the adoption of **EaP Ministerial Declaration on Cooperation on Environment and Climate Change**. Enhanced climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts help Partner Countries to develop more efficient economies, while becoming less vulnerable to the adverse impact of climate change. Furthermore, developing policies for a more circular economy and climate-proofing infrastructure are key for citizens' well-being, increasing resource efficiency and opening up new economic opportunities.

Given these considerations, the following deliverables are envisaged under Priority III:

13. Progress on the **_extension of TEN-T core networks_**, including road, rails, ports and airports and inland waterways, will be supported following a long-term investment action plan to complete the TEN-T network by 2030. Progress will also be made towards the signature of Common Aviation Area Agreements.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Agreement reached on highest priority projects to be incorporated into the single coordinated pipeline, feeding into NIF (e.g. East –West Highway; sustainable modes of transport e.g. rail modernisation; reconstruction of interchanges on TEN-T - corridor roads, including M1 and M5 (E95), M6 (E40), M7 (E373)). *[Discussion currently ongoing in the context of the EaP Platform and Panels; first analysis provided in dedicated study]*	Focussing IFI-financing on core TEN-T network	Partner Countries' Ministries of Transports European Commission IFIs	**Implementation under way on six missing links on the extended core TEN-T network with agreed pipeline of projects in place.**
Financial mechanisms agreed with Partner Countries and IFIs.	Identification of potential projects (pre-feasibility studies) and bottlenecks Financial mechanisms to attract private funds and finance smaller projects (NIF framework loans, complemented with EU-grant component)	Partner Countries' Ministries of Transports European Commission IFIs	**Bottlenecks in the logistic chain removed, through smaller-scale projects with high added value i.e. 'quick win' projects.** *[First analysis currently conducted; some projects under development]*

Continued and/or launched negotiations on a Common Aviation Area Agreement (CAA) with at least three more Partner Countries. *[To date two countries are provisionally implementing the agreement, while progress on negotiations with other three countries is under way]*	**Negotiations with the countries involved**	Relevant Ministries of Transport European Commission EEAS EU Member States Council of the EU	**Having in place CAAs with the six Partner Countries.**
Negotiations ongoing for the inclusion of inland waterways (IWW) into the indicative TEN-T network.	Political dialogue with Romania (lower Danube) and Ukraine, based on progress to be realised by Ukraine on compliance with international environmental conventions	Relevant governments European Commission EEAS	**Inclusion of IWW into the indicative TEN-T network.**
National road safety action plans adopted in and national agencies established, where conditions allow.	Country expert group meetings Twinnings Investments in black spot improvement and ITS Awareness raising campaigns (via NGOs) Data harmonisation, collection and exchange Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Transport Ministries European Commission EU Member States Road Agencies Enforcement agencies IFIs	**Number of fatalities due to road accidents reduced.** **National road safety action plans adopted and national road safety agencies/platforms established in all Partner Countries.** **Road design standards in line with EU standards and vehicle technical inspection services operational according to EU standards.**

14. The security of *energy supply* will be increased through enhanced gas and electricity interconnectivity among Partner Countries and between them and the EU. Furthermore, under the **EU4Energy** initiative, a higher degree of efficiency and transparency of the energy markets will be pursued.

Increased energy security will be achieved notably through the ongoing activities in the framework of the Energy Community and by developing an objective methodology for identifying key interconnection projects involving Partner Countries that are not Contracting Parties of the Energy Community. At the same time, EU4Energy activities will help improve the availability and quality of data for consumers, investors, researchers and policy makers, including through better management, analysis and translation of data into policy decisions[20].

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
EU4Energy national work plans are developed for the newly established programme.	Regional programme EU4Energy (follow-up of INOGATE) started in July 2016 EU4Energy to develop methodology for project pipeline	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission International Energy Agency Energy Community Secretariat and Energy Charter Secretariat IFIs	**Defining projects involving Eastern Partners outside Energy Community framework.**
Adoption of projects of strategic importance: Projects of Energy Community Interest (PECI) and Projects of Mutual Interest[21] list (PMI), and starting with implementation monitoring and reporting. *[New PECI list adopted in October 2016; first PMI list adopted in October 2016]*	Transposition of all necessary provisions of Regulation 347/2013 as adopted in the Energy Community and monitoring and reporting obligations of all selected projects Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Energy Community Secretariat and Energy Community Contracting Parties European Commission EU Member States	**Projects implementation review; update and review of key priority projects related to Eastern Partners.**
Moldova-Romania: progress in developing the gas interconnection. *[Interconnector operational since May 2015, pipeline Ungheni-Chisinau to be constructed; feasibility study finalised in July 2016; Financing Decisions signed in December 2016]*	Resolving outstanding issues regarding financing and operation of the pipeline	Ministries of Economy of Republic of Moldova and Romania European Commission IFIs Project promoters	**Gas interconnection Ungheni-Chisinau operational.**

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[20] Some actions in the area of energy security can include when relevant "neighbours of the neighbours", i.e. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.
[21] Between EU Member States and Energy Community Contracting Parties.

Solid progress made on the expansion of the South Caucasus Gas Pipeline based on Azerbaijan continued cooperation *[Currently all contracts awarded; work started on construction of compressor station and pipeline sections]*	Southern Gas Corridor (SGC) Advisory Council Penta-lateral Working Group and implementation of the Ashgabat Declaration of 1 May 2015	Governments of all countries along the SGC corridor European Commission IFIs	**Southern Gas Corridor operational and gas flowing to Turkey and the EU.** **Relevant progress on SGC extension towards Central Asia.**
Electricity interconnections Georgia-Armenia. *[Currently no reliable power connection between Georgia and Armenia]*	Technical Assistance financed through NIF	Governments of Georgia/Armenia European Commission IFIs	**Establishment of the NIF supported back-to-back electricity interconnection between Georgia and Armenia.**

15. Decisive steps will be taken to _**enhance energy efficiency and improve the use of renewable energy, and to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions**_, in line with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

This will be done particularly by aligning financial instruments with plans and Partner Countries' national policies in this area; coordinating with IFIs as outlined in the implementing Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAP) through the Covenant of Mayors (CoM) Programme; implementing SMEs support for sustainable efficiency[22], ensuring synergies between EU4Business, EU4Energy and EU4Innovation; unlocking finance for green investments through blending facilities; supporting the preparation of national mid-century, long-term low greenhouse gas (GHG) emission development strategies[23], as well as the establishment of national emissions monitoring, reporting and verification.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
CoM East II is launched (Yerevan, October 2016). **At least 20 Partner Countries' Local Authorities committed to CoM-East 2030 objectives.** *[Currently at the beginning of the implementation process]*	Design and implementation of local SECAP (including energy efficiency measures, i.e. better-performing district heating systems, energy efficient public transportation/lighting) Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' cities/city networks, Local Authorities Partner Countries' Ministries of Energy and Climate European Commission EU Member States IFIs	**At least 100 Partner Countries' Local Authorities reduced urban CO2 emissions of 20%.** **At least 50 Partner Countries' Local Authorities committed to more ambitious objectives.**
Political ownership of energy efficiency raised through Informal Policy Dialogue and investment priorities set jointly with IFIs, in line with the High-level Energy Efficiency Initiative with IFIs.	Green for Growth Fund Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership (E5P) Municipal Project Support Facility Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Energy and Climate European Commission EU Member States IFIs	**Funds' disbursement rates improved following policy reform in Partner Countries.** **Progress on supported investment projects achieved to targets.** **EU investment funds provided in compliance with EU and/or international environmental requirements.**
Nationally determined contributions (NDC) to the Paris Agreement developed. *[Currently two countries have developed their NDCs as they ratified the Paris Agreement]* **Sectoral Policy guidelines for the implementation of**	Clima East Project Future regional project on climate action (to be formulated) and possibility for twinning projects (to be assessed). EU-UNDP Biomass project in Moldova	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EU Member States International organisations	**Partner countries on-track with Paris Agreement to communicate and implement their NDCs as well as their mid-century, long-term low GHG emission development strategies.**

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[22] EU support: €55 million.
[23] To be communicated to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat.

the Paris Agreement drafted. *[Currently no such guidelines in place]*	SUDeP pilot projects Relevant EU Member States' programmes E5P	IFIs	
Start upgrading national greenhouse gas monitoring, reporting and verification practices in line with the Paris Agreement.	Clima East Project Future regional project on climate action (to be formulated) and possibility for twinning projects (to be assessed).	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EU Member States International organisations IFIs	**Partner countries getting on-track with Paris Agreement transparency requirements.**
Launch of climate action investment facilities agreed with Partner Countries and IFIs. *[Currently no specific climate action investment facilities agreed]*	Financial mechanisms to attract private funds and finance investment projects (NIF framework loans and EU grant)	European Commission IFIs	**At least one major climate action investment facility per Partner Country in place.**

16. *Environment and adaptation to climate change* will be supported by improving water resources management and trans-boundary cooperation, mainstreaming environmental goals, into development and sectoral policies and plans, developing sounder environmental governance, enhancing environmental awareness, improving the sustainable management of key natural resources and promoting climate change resilience.

The EU environmental legislation, notably the Water Framework Directive (WFD) will serve as benchmark for actions which will lead to improved health and quality of life of citizens; stronger resilience based on preserved ecosystem services, including through a pan-European network of protected areas; new **economic opportunities**, including green jobs and higher revenue; higher productivity following a better use of materials in production processes with relevant indicators coming closer to world average; the establishment of the necessary policy and regulatory frameworks to achieve gains of up to 2% of GDP in terms of avoided premature deaths and related economic costs stemming from environmental pollution and adverse impacts of climate change. Measures tackling illegal logging and actions to promote the rational exploitation of resources in the Black Sea will strengthen the sustainable management of valuable natural resources and help Partner Countries benefit economically from more sustainable exploitation.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
National and regional work plans to improve water management ready. **Two-three pilot Water Framework Directive compliant River Basin Management Plans adopted by Partner Countries.** **Water quality surveys, including two Joint Black Sea surveys carried out.**	EU Water Initiative+ Environmental Monitoring of the Black Sea project Cross-Border Cooperation programmes Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission EU Member States OECD, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Black Sea Commission	**At least 30% of River Basin Management Plans developed and a Water Framework Directive compliant management commenced.** **Risks for the Black Sea degradation and target environmental quality identified and marine litter clean-up carried out in Georgia and Ukraine based on active public participation.**
Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production Clubs of SMEs created in all Partner Countries. **Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) legislation adopted and implementation launched.** **Green economy plans drafted and adopted by two-three Partner Countries.** **New green economy programme formulated.**	EaP GREEN Project National programme in Belarus EaP Panel on Environment and Climate Change Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Governments, incl. economic and sectoral Ministries and LAs European Commission EU Member States CSOs SMEs and Business Support Organisations OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNDP IFIs	**Share of and revenue from green economy sectors increased.** **200 SMEs trained.** **10% cost savings realised by 60 pilot enterprises due to cleaner production.** **Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) legislation compliant with relevant Conventions and EU**

Action Plan drafted along provisions of EaP Ministerial Declaration on Cooperation on Environment and Climate Change. **Adaptation measures identified as part of sector-specific actions.**			**benchmarks and applied in line with the intended scope across all sectors.** **1000 SMEs aware of green economy benefits.** **Green growth and adaptation measures identified as part of sector-specific actions.**
Progress in developing and enforcing sustainable forestry laws and strengthening institutions, thus laying the basis for combatting illegal logging and promoting sustainable trade.	Regional "Forestry Law and Enforcement Governance" Programme and its successor Twinning project or study visit (involving competent authorities, customs, and other relevant institutions) e.g. in Ukraine and Belarus and projects funded by Member States	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries, forest agencies and customs European Commission EU Member States (in particular EU Timber Regulation competent authorities) World Bank CSOs and local communities	**Illegal logging addressed, and level of illegal timber exports prevented.** **Improved and transparent forest governance.** **Improved livelihoods for people in forestry-dependent communities.**
Launch of preparation for national and sectoral adaptation plans. *[To date no plans in place]*	Clima East Project	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission	**National and sectoral adaptation plans in place.**
National work plans and a regional work plan for sharing environmental information developed and adopted.	"Shared Environmental Information System" Project	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission European Environment Agency	**Improved on-line access to data and state of the environment analyses.**
Nature conservation strengthened through progress on identification of a shared network of specially designated protected areas.	"Emerald Network" Programme and follow-up activities	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries European Commission European Environmental Agency Council of Europe CSOs	**Increased share of officially designated protected areas under the Emerald Network.** **Improved management of existing designated areas.**

> ➢ **Priority IV: Mobility and people-to-people contacts**

Mobility and people-to-people contacts bring EU and Partner Countries' societies closer together and offer tangible benefits to citizens. **Visa liberalisation** in a secure and well-managed environment promotes movement of people and the diversification of professional cross-regional networks.

Investing in **education** policies and systems contributes to building participative societies, youth employability and innovation. The quality and relevance of education in EaP Partner Countries will be further enhanced with the focus on the modernisation agenda and reforms in line with the European Higher Education Area. Support for and empowering of the **young generation**, particularly in terms of developing their skills, civic engagement and fostering their employability, has a direct impact and strengthens the social fabric of the society.

Cooperation on **culture** enriches contacts between societies and promotes cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue, and contributes develop the potential of cultural and creative sectors. The participation of three Partner Countries in Creative Europe increases opportunities for cultural exchanges, stimulates cultural industries and facilitates peer-to-peer learning.

Finally, creating closer links between **research and innovation** initiatives and results to market demand and opportunities, as well as carrying out cooperation, will accelerate the market uptake of research results and help improve competitiveness and innovation in economic development.

Given these considerations, the following deliverables are envisaged under Priority IV:

17. Progress on *__Visa Liberalisation Dialogues and Mobility Partnerships__* will be supported, with visa free travel with Moldova, Georgia and Ukraine already in place. Consideration will be given in due course to the opening of a Visa Liberalisation Dialogue with Armenia, if conditions allow; the first High-Level Mobility Partnership meetings with Azerbaijan took place and a first one with Belarus is to be held.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Visa-free regime for Ukraine and Georgia. **Continuous fulfilment of VLAP benchmarks for Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.** **Consider in due course the opening of a Visa Liberalisation Dialogue with Armenia, if conditions allow.** **Re-launch and finalisation of the Visa Facilitation and Readmission negotiations with Belarus.** **Holding of first High Level meeting under Mobility Partnership with Belarus.** **Holding of the first High Level meeting under Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan.**	The visa-free regime for holders of biometric passports entered into force on 28 March 2017 for Georgia and on 11 June 2017 for Ukraine. Increased people-to-people contacts between the EU and Partner Countries as a consequence of considerably eased travel conditions TAIEX peer review Improved migration management in Partner Countries Relevant EU Member States' programmes Monitoring the implementation of the Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements concluded between the EU and Partner Countries.	Partner Countries' Ministries of Foreign Affair, Home Affairs and Justice Partner Countries' Law enforcement agencies European Border and Coast Guard Agency European Commission EEAS EU Member States	**Continuous fulfilment of VLAP benchmarks for Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and annual reporting by the Commission.** **Effective implementation of all Mobility Partnerships, with balance between the 4 pillars (legal migration, irregular migration, migration and development, international protection), including circular migration, return and reintegration schemes.** **Significant progress made towards the possible conclusion of VLAP with Armenia and subsequent visa-free travel for its citizens, if all benchmarks are met.** **Consider in due course the opening of a Visa Liberalisation Dialogue with Azerbaijan, if conditions allow.**
Integrated Border Management: reconstruction works under way in at least seven Border Crossing points.	Integrated Border Management Flagship Initiative EBCGA-led EaP Integrated Border Management capacity building project Cross-Border Cooperation programmes	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries and administrations European Commission EEAS EU Member States European Border and Coast Guard Agency (EBCGA)	**Modernised network of Border Crossing Points among Partners and between them and EU Member States.** **Contribution to enhanced trade flows and mobility among partners as well as between them and the EU.**

18. Investment in *young people's skills, entrepreneurship and employability* will be substantially strengthened, with a particular focus on leadership, mobility and quality of formal and non-formal education.

The Erasmus+ programme provides mobility opportunities to young people and youth workers from Partner Countries in the formal and non-formal educational sector. Youth leadership and entrepreneurship will be fostered through the **EU4Youth** initiative. The participation of Partner Countries to Erasmus+, Creative Europe, COSME and Horizon 2020, including the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, opens up new mobility opportunities for universities, administrations, businesses, professionals, cultural and audio-visual operators, young people students and researchers. These are further supported by new IT-based tools such as the EaPConnect, allowing researchers and students in the EaP area to virtually collaborate with their counterparts.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
1st group of multilateral partnerships supporting entrepreneurship education and social entrepreneurship established (see also Civil Society Fellowships; Deliverable 1). *[EU4Youth implementation starting in 2017]*	EU4Youth	Youth organisations in EU and Partner Countries European Commission	**Along Civil Society Fellowships for youth, partnerships for Entrepreneurship and transnational cooperation projects implemented, with 100 youth organisations and organisations addressing youth issues supported and reduced skills - labour market demands mismatch.**
800 bilateral projects among Higher Education Institutions and 60 capacity building projects carried out. *[In 2015-2016: 613 HEI and 47 capacity building projects carried out]* **10 000 individual mobilities from Partner Countries funded.** *[In 2015-2016: 7 500 individual mobilities from Partner Countries' funded]* **200 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees full scholarships awarded.** *[In 2014-2016: 164 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees full scholarships awarded]* **2 000 projects, 1 300 teachers and 800 schools**	Erasmus+	Partner Countries' Ministries of Education European Commission EU Member States Higher Education Institutions from EU and Partner Countries Central and National Support Services of eTwining and eTwinning Partner Support Agencies	**Over 1 200 bilateral projects among Higher Education Institutions and 110 capacity building projects carried out.** **Over 20 000 mobility opportunities in the field of education.** **Around 350 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees full scholarships awarded.** **Over 3 000 projects, 2 600 teachers and 1 000 schools connected via eTwinning Plus[24].** **Improved quality and relevance of education systems, modernised teaching methods and reinforced**

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[24] NB. eTwinning Plus initiative is currently in a pilot stage and subject to a decision on its continuation.

connected via eTwinning Plus. *[In 2014-2016: 1546 projects, 938 teachers and 426 schools connected]*			**employability of graduates.** **Progress in adoption and effective implementation of legislation and policies in line with the European Higher Education Area and Bologna principles.** **Increased internationalisation and excellence of higher education systems in Partner Countries.**
Over 20 000 young people/youth workers from Partner Countries involved in Erasmus+[25]. *[In 2014-2015: 14.000 young people/youth workers involved][26]*	Erasmus+ (including EU4Youth programme Component) EaP Youth Forum	Partner Countries' relevant Ministries Youth organisations, youth workers and young people from EU and Partner Countries European Commission EU Member States	**Over 60 000 young people and youth workers from Partner Countries took part in Erasmus+.** **Partner Countries' youth benefits from facilitated inter-cultural dialogue and increased employability and civic skills.** **Enhanced openness/inclusiveness in EU-Partner Countries cooperation.**
Youth employment and transition to work strategies and action plans/road maps adopted in at least two or more countries. *[Work in progress]*	European Commission's bilateral programmes EU4Youth programme Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Education and Employment European Commission EU Member States European Training Foundation	**Partner Countries reduce youth unemployment and NEETs[27] rates.** **Partner Countries develop employment and transition strategies and skills-development actions.**

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[25] Youth exchanges, European Voluntary Service, Youth workers training and networking, meetings between young people and decision makers in the field of youth.

[26] From 2014-2016 about 66000 young people and youth workers from Erasmus+ Programme Countries and Partner Countries have been involved in joint non-formal learning youth projects. About one third of these participants are from Partner Countries.

[27] Not (engaged) in education, employment or training.

The quality and attractiveness of vocational education and training, and in particular its responsiveness to labour market needs, starts to improve. *[Bilateral programmes in place and supported by Torino process]*	European Commission's regional and bilateral programmes (i.e. MOST). Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' Ministries of Education and Employment European Commission EU Member States European Training Foundation Other multilateral and bilateral donors	**Enrolment in vocational education and training is increased.** **The percentage of vocational education and training graduates in employment or further study after six months is increased.** **Reduced mismatch between skills and labour market demands.**
Participation of three Partner Countries in the Creative Europe programme, and advanced preparation for at least one more to join in 2018. *[Currently three Partner Countries already participate]*	Creative Europe	Partner Countries' Ministries of Culture European Commission Cultural and creative operators from EU and Partner Countries	**Reinforced cooperation under the Creative Europe network in the Neighbourhood.**
Increased participation in international cultural cooperation initiatives and synergies between public and private actors. *[Work in progress; between April 2016 and October 2016, 66 events were held, with 6709 direct participants]*	EU-EaP Culture Programme II	Partner Countries' Ministries of Culture European Commission Programme consortium, including Cultural Institutes from EU Member States and Partner Countries	**Cultural and creative sectors are integrated into cultural policy reforms and strategic document of Partner Countries.** **Civil society and other relevant non-state actors in Partner Countries actively participate in the formulation of culture policies and in capacity building activities.**
Active participation of Partner Countries in researcher mobility and exchanges. *[In 2014-2015: 129 EaP research fellowships; 43 participating institutions]*	Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions	Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions National Contact Points in Partner Countries European Commission EU Member States	**Increased number of Partner Countries' researchers and research organisation benefitting from opportunities for mobility, training, and cooperation under Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions.**

19. An ___EaP European School___ will be established to provide high quality education to pupils from Partner Countries; increase their educational and employment opportunities; promote co-operation, multi-cultural understanding, tolerance, fundamental values and a better understanding of the EU and its engagement in the region.
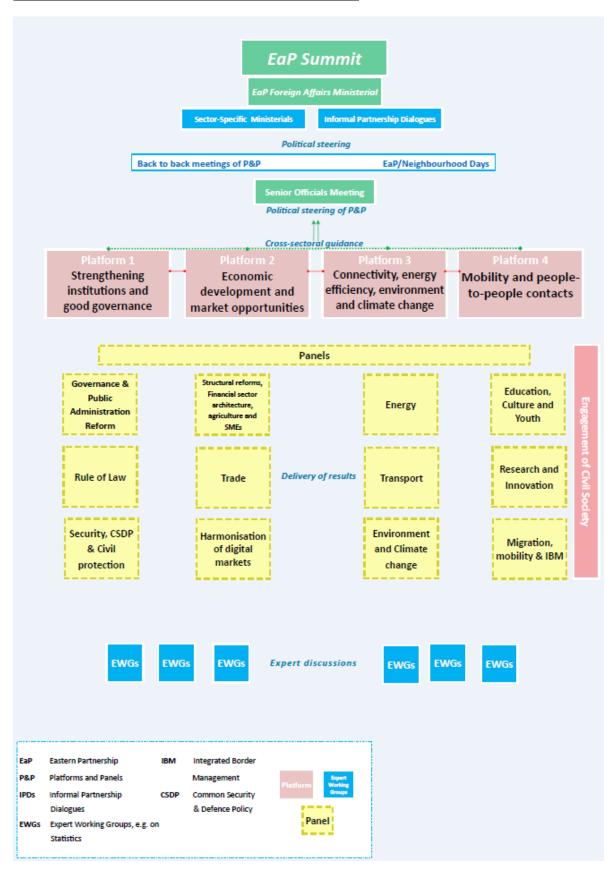
Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Study on setting up the school finalised and plan for establishment developed. **Proposed didactic programme, governance and funding arrangements developed.**	Study European Commission's regional programme	Partner Countries' Ministries of Education and Foreign Affairs European Commission International schools Governors Board of International Baccalaureate	**EaP European school set up.**
The setting of the network of Partner Countries' universities delivering EU-focused programmes in progress.	EU funded programme with strong alignment with Erasmus+ and EU Member States' initiatives	Higher Education Institutions from EU and Partner Countries European Commission EU Member States	**Network of Partner Countries' universities will be up and running focusing on EU studies and excellence in teaching.**

20. The _**integration of EaP and EU research and innovation systems and programmes**_ will be also promoted through a new **EU4Innovation** initiative, aiming to enhance _inter alia_ the employment and career prospects of researchers; aligning of EaP and EU research programmes mainly through the association process, funding research and innovation on a competitive basis; and fostering research-industry partnerships.

Milestone by 2017 Summit	Implementation	Main actors	Target by 2020
Fully functional associations of at least four Partner Countries to Horizon 2020.	Horizon 2020 support actions and projects Horizon 2020 Programme Committees Joint Horizon 2020 Association Committees	Partner Countries' Ministries of Education and Science European Commission EU Member States National Academies of Science; research and business communities	**Associated countries' research and innovation stakeholders integrated in relevant EU networks/platforms, and alignment of associated countries' and EU's strategies for research and innovation.** **Full access of Partner Countries to all Horizon 2020 funding schemes for individual researchers/innovators.**
Successful implementation of the Association of Ukraine to the Research and Training Programme of Euratom (2014-2018).	Ukraine-Euratom Research and Innovation Committee Euratom Programme Committee	Ukrainian Ministries of Education and Science; Energy and Coal European Commission National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) and its research institutes State Enterprise "National Nuclear Energy Generating Company "Energoatom" State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine European Commission	**Reinforced cooperation in nuclear research (fission – direct and indirect actions - and fusion).**

New coordination and support project of H2020, EaP Plus promoted; coordination platform fully operational. *[Platform launched in September 2016]*	Networking and brokerage events, training, promotion of Horizon 2020 calls Study visits to relevant EU national ministries/agencies[28] EU4Innovation	Partner Countries' Ministries of Education and Science European Commission EU Member States EU and Partner Countries' research and business communities	**Substantially increased participation of Partner Countries in Horizon 2020.** *[Currently 103 retained H2020 participation]* **Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy Recommendations "EU-EaP beyond 2020" based on fact-finding reports for Partner Countries.** *[No such recommendations currently in place]* **Six new EU-EaP Innovation Clusters (one per country) established, and innovation managers in Partner Countries trained.** *[No such Clusters currently in place]*
Peer-reviews of at least four countries' research and innovation systems. *[Process ongoing for the four countries]*	Technical assistance and experts missions Relevant EU Member States' programmes	Partner Countries' National authorities European Commission EU Member States	**National public research and innovation systems improved in performance, competitiveness.**
High-capacity broadband internet network for research and education being established across Partner Countries.	EaP Connect	European Commission GÉANT National research and education network	**Six National research and education networks in the region integrated in pan-European GÉANT network, decreasing digital divide.** **Eduroam deployed and integration with GÉANT services stimulated.**

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[28] Covering topics such as IPR, science/industry links, research integrity including ethical behavior, open access.

Annex – The streamlined EaP multilateral architecture