

#### The European Neighbourhood Policy and the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument

4<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries Bled, 10-11 December 2007





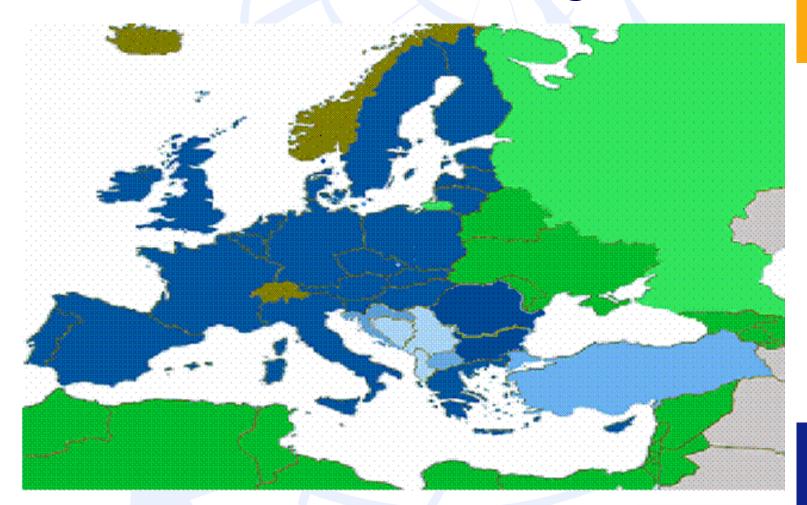
Jenny Mård DG External Relations European Commission

### The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)

- **1.** Background, objectives and principles of the ENP
- **2.** Content and methods of the ENP
- **3.** Environment issues within the ENP
- 4. Instruments available to support the ENP
- 5. Next steps in ENP development and implementation



## The EU and its neighbours





## **ENP** partners

The **immediate** neighbours of the enlarged EU ... but <u>not</u> candidate countries or "potential candidates"

- Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus
- Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan
- Syria, <u>Lebanon</u>, <u>Israel</u>, <u>Palestinian Authority</u>, <u>Jordan</u>, <u>Egypt</u>, Libya, <u>Tunisia</u>, <u>Algeria</u>, <u>Morocco</u>
- Strategic Partnership with the <u>Russian Federation</u>



## Content of the policy

- Focus and direction: A <u>comprehensive agenda</u> for relations with EU neighbours
- Aim: good governance and institutional reform
- Offer: progressive <u>economic integration</u>, deepening <u>political co-operation</u>
- Based on: <u>values</u> and common <u>interests</u>
- Assistance for: agreed <u>reform objectives</u>, economic and social <u>development</u> and <u>cross-border</u> <u>cooperation</u>



## **ENP Action Plans**

- Key operational instruments
- Country-specific, tailor-made political documents
- Jointly defining agenda on political, economic and sector reforms
- Short & medium-term priorities (3 5 years horizon)
- Guidance for assistance programming



## ENP Action Plans – environment components

Three pillars:

- 1. Promotion of good environmental governance
- 2. Environment sectors (water, air, waste, nature...)
- 3. Enhancing international and regional co-operation

In addition:

- 4. Sustainable development strategies
- 5. Specific environment objectives within energy and transport

Level of ambition tailored in each Action Plan according to the specificities of the country in question



## ENP Action Plans Examples of water related actions

- Establish a nation-wide surface and ground water quantity and quality – monitoring network to accurately control surface and groundwater level and quality (Lebanon)
- Take steps towards adoption of plans and programmes related to air quality, water quality and biodiversity (Egypt)
- Pursue efforts to improve water supply and quality, especially in rural areas, with a view to meeting WHO standards (Palestinian Authority)
- Promote rational management of water resources. Adopt a general financial strategy on water issues where appropriate (Morocco)
- Prevent pollution of waters, in particular through enhanced water pollutant emission reporting, drawing on the experiences within the EU Water Framework Directive (Israel)



## New EC financial support

#### 2007-2013

#### European Neighbourhood & Partnership Instrument (ENPI):

✓Almost €12bn (+32% increase in "real terms")

✓ More flexible, policy-driven instrument

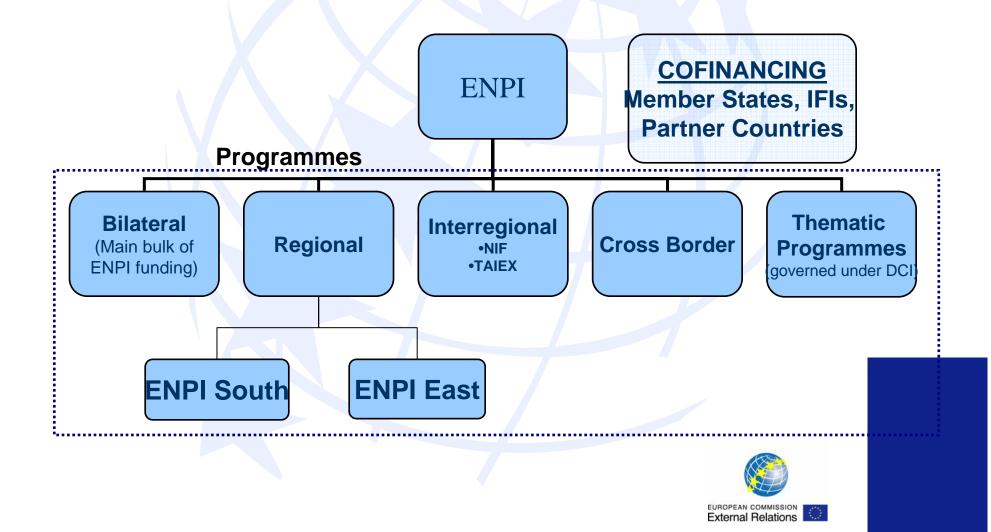
Supporting priorities agreed in the ENP Action Plans
Simplified approach for cross-border co-operation

Technical assistance: institutional capacity-building

Plus increased **EIB** lending mandate: **€12.4 bn** (€8.7 bn for Mediterranean & €3.7 billion for Eastern Europe / Southern Caucasus / Russia)



# Potential sources of ENPI financing



## Environment (including water) in 2007-2010 ENPI programmes (examples)

#### □ National Programmes (examples):

- Jordan € 10 m (water management programme)
- Tunisia € 43 m (energy/environment)
- In many cases environment/water can be addressed under component for "support for the ENP Action Plan"

#### **Regional Programmes:**

- ENPI South: € 33 m (environment)

#### □ Interregional Programme (entire ENPI area):

- -TAIEX: can address environment
- -Neighbourhood Investment Facility: environment a priority area
- **CBC Programmes:** can address environment
- Environment thematic programme (governed by DCI)
- € 12.3 m (climate change/biodiversity in ENPI region)
- € 9.2 m from DCI (EU Water Initiative and EU Energy Initiative)



## Strengthening the ENP

- Communication on strengthening the ENP (Dec 2006)
- Progress Report by the (German) EU-Presidency on strengthening the ENP (June 2007)
- Conclusions of the GAERC and the European Council (June 2007)
- ENP Conference, Brussels (Sept 2007)
- Communication on a strong ENP (Dec 2007)
- Country-specific Progress Reports (April 2008)



## Conclusions

- External relations' priority of the Commission
- An ambitious political framework for EU relations with neighbouring countries
- Environment protection is a key priority sector within the ENP
- The ENPI offers different possibilities to support environment/water related issues. Priorities and indicative budgets for 2007-2010 are now set. Concrete projects are being prepared, but their formulation depends on active input by the partner countries.
- Of mutual, long-term interest; commitment to a strengthened ENP



## **ENP** Website

Dedicated website on Europa server under

"Commission - Europe in the World"

(or just google "ENP"):

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/world/enp

