20 DELIVERABLES FOR 2020
Monitoring – State of Play March 2019

Following the endorsement by the Eastern Partnership Brussels Summit of the "20 Deliverables for 2020" and its new institutional setup, engagement is now focusing on implementation of this ambitious work plan and strategic communication about its tangible results for citizens.

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

The document attached provides an updated overview of the implementation of the "20 Deliverables for 2020" as well as of concrete results achieved by March 2019. It does not contain new commitments. Its findings are based on an internal monitoring process that involved EEAS and Commission services and take into consideration results from meetings of the new institutional setup (including platforms and panels). This document selectively highlights most representative findings from the in-depth internal monitoring. The previous report covered results achieved until September 2018.

CROSS CUTTING DELIVERABLES

1   More engagement with civil society organisations

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

2   Increase gender equality and non-discrimination

- ✓ New generations of **Gender Action Plans** have been developed in **Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova** and **Ukraine**.
- ✓ **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova** and **Ukraine** have specific laws on gender equality.
- ✓ **All six Partner Countries** have adopted specific legislation against domestic violence, while **Armenia and Ukraine** have now further amended the legislation.
- ✓ Over **50%** of the 6.000 beneficiaries of the **EU4Youth** programme are **women.**

3   Strengthen strategic communications and supporting plurality and independence of media

- ✓ Significant steps have been taken on more coherent branding, messaging, visibility and outreach, for example regional campaigns **"stronger together".**
- ✓ **Communication campaigns** encompassing all EU actions are ongoing in **all Partner Countries**. For example in **Georgia** ("EU4Georgia") and **Ukraine** ("Moving forward together"). More diverse and regional audiences reached through the active **500 Young European Ambassadors**.
- ✓ According to the EU Neighbours East survey 2018, more than **60% of citizens from Partner Countries** have a **positive perception** of the **EU and its values**.
- ✓ Improved **resilience to disinformation** with **Action Plan** presented in December 2018.
- ✓ **More than 600 journalists and media professionals** were **trained** in 2018 thanks to EU support in journalism literacy and skills, contributing to media independence.

Continued special attention needs to be paid to **Deliverable 1** (civil society support), by strengthening more actively an enabling environment for civil society in order to address the closing of civic space. In **Deliverable 2** (Gender equality and non-discrimination)**,** results remain uneven. While Georgia ratified the Istanbul Convention, further steps towards ratification and implementation are expected across the region. In **Deliverable 3** (strategic communication and independent media) good progress has been noticed across the region, while more efforts are needed to strengthen independent media.

STRONGER ECONOMY

Economic development and market opportunities:

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

- ✓ Since 2016, over **9500 SMEs** (**70%** in **DCFTA countries**) have benefited from EU financial assistance. More than **30.000 jobs** have been created or sustained, and over **218 business support organisations** were assisted through the EU4Business initiative.

5 **Address gaps in access to finance and financial infrastructure**

- ✓ Out of EUR 200 million in new access to finance programmes committed since the end of 2016, around **50%** (EUR 100 million) will mobilise **local currency lending**. Policy work is ongoing to increase SME's access to finance through **non-banking financial alternatives**.

6 **Create new job opportunities at the local and regional level**

- ✓ Since 2016, over **250 Local Authorities** have committed to submit a plan for Local Economic Development (and **120 have already prepared it**), while **16 urban demonstration projects** have been kick-started.

7 **Harmonise digital markets**

- ✓ Eastern Partnership countries agreed on a detailed **roadmap for an intra-EaP regional roaming agreement** by 2020.
- ✓ All Partners are preparing **National Broadband Strategies** aligned with similar EU strategies.

8 **Support trade among partner countries and between them and the EU**

- ✓ The number of **companies from DCFTA** countries exporting to the EU **has significantly increased** since 2015: **Georgia** by **35%, Moldova** by **40%** and **Ukraine** by **26%**.
- ✓ Volumes of trade between all the Eastern Partnership countries and the EU have increased since 2017: by **12%** with **Armenia, 28%** with **Azerbaijan**, **16%** with **Belarus**, **3%** with **Georgia,** by **14%** with **Moldova** and **9%** with **Ukraine.**
- ✓ **Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine** continued approximation with the EU technical regulations framework.

Special attention needs to be paid to **Deliverable 7** (digital markets) to ensure the commitments made are effectively implemented, in particular on coordinating national spectrum strategies among partners and with the EU. In **Deliverable 8** (trade), it is necessary to address the mixed performance of intra-regional trade and to assure the full implementation of trade agreements to maximise benefits in the medium and long term.

STRONGER GOVERNANCE

Strengthening institutions and good governance:

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

- ✓ Legal frameworks on **confiscation** are in place in **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus**, **Georgia**, **Moldova**, **and Ukraine** with different confiscation regimes, including criminal confiscation, civil forfeiture and/or administrative forfeiture.
- ✓ **E-asset declaration systems** have been set up in **Armenia**, **Georgia**, **Moldova**, **and Ukraine**; **Azerbaijan** has expressed its interest in such systems.

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

- ✓ Initial steps towards establishing track records of judges' and prosecutors' performance have been taken, such as the online appraisal system for prosecutors in **Georgia** and planned work or initiatives in **Armenia** and **Ukraine**.
- ✓ **Ukraine** is establishing a **High-Anti-Corruption Court** and selected its judges in cooperation with international experts.

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

- ✓ Increased citizen engagement through high-level civil society dialogue in **Armenia, Georgia** and **Ukraine** paves the way to open and accountable Eastern Partnership state administrations.
- ✓ The administrations have become more accessible and service-oriented with **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova** and **Ukraine** having introduced service-centre one-stop-shops and/or e-government services.

12   **Stronger security cooperation**

- ✓ **Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine** have adopted (sub)**strategies and action plans on cybercrime**. Although not yet fully aligned with the Budapest Convention, a**ll six Eastern Partnership countries** have set up **specialised cybercrime units** within the law enforcement.
- ✓ **Increased cooperation with EU Agencies** has led to the arrest of members of organised crime groups from Eastern Partnership countries active in the EU.
- ✓ Implementation of the **Administrative Arrangement** on **stronger cooperation in civil protection** and **disaster management** signed with **Georgia** in July 2018 is ongoing.

Special attention needs to be paid under **Deliverable 9** (rule of law) to address high-level and complex corruption across the region, among others through the effective operationalisation of the anticorruption institutional framework, establishment of track records of cases, the effective use of financial investigation tools and publicly available beneficial ownership registry data. Regarding **Deliverable 10** (key judicial reforms), progress is still needed as regards merit-based recruitment, reduction of backlog of cases and enforcement of judgements in civil and administrative cases. With first steps taken, actual track records of judges' and prosecutor's performance still needs to be established. In **Deliverable 12** (security), substantive criminal law and criminal procedural law, provisions on cybercrime and electronic evidence are still needed to fully comply with the Budapest Convention. In addition, more emphasis should still be put on disaster risk management than only emergency responses.

STRONGER CONNECTIVITY

Connectivity, energy, efficiency, environment and climate change:

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

- ✓ **High-level Understandings** on defining the indicative extended **core TEN-T network** were signed and the related European Commission Delegated Act entered into force in January 2019. The **Indicative TEN-T Investment Action Plan** has been published and investment priority projects are being planned.
- ✓ All countries have endorsed a **Declaration on Road Safety. Road Safety Investment Programmes** have been approved in **Armenia** and **Ukraine.**

14 **Increase energy supply security**

- ✓ Progress on the **Southern Gas Corridor** is on track. First commercial deliveries from **Azerbaijan** to Turkey started in 2018.
- ✓ A **roadmap** for the identification of **energy interconnectivity projects** of interest to the Eastern Partnership was adopted.

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

- ✓ Within the framework of **Covenant of Mayors, 187 Local Authorities** have committed to cut **CO_2 emissions by 20% by 2020** and **210 Local Authorities** by **30% by 2030.**
- ✓ In 2018, the **Ukrainian window** of the **Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership (E5P)** had the best results since establishment. E5P has leveraged a total investment of EUR 770 million in **five Partner Countries**.
- ✓ The **high level EU-IFIs energy efficiency initiative** has increased political ownership in Georgia and Ukraine, e.g. in **Ukraine** an Energy Efficiency Fund for residential buildings was established. The high-level **EU-IFIs energy efficiency** initiative was extended to **Armenia** in March 2019.
- ✓ Ukraine adopted a Low Emission Development Strategy until 2050.

16 **Support the environment and adaptation to climate**

- ✓ **Azerbaijan, Belarus**, **Georgia**, **Moldova**, and **Ukraine** adopted new laws on **environmental assessment of strategies, plans,** and **investment projects.**
- ✓ To protect and connect natural areas, **Belarus**, **Georgia**, **Moldova**, and **Ukraine** have officially adopted **Emerald Network** sites on their territories. **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** officially nominated such sites.
- ✓ **Armenia, Belarus and Moldova** officially adopted **three river basins plans in line with EU benchmarks;** other five plans are in the pipeline. **Ukraine** launched a European-like **water monitoring system** in January 2019.
- ✓ Five Partner Countries put in place **one-stop-shops for environmental data**.

Special attention needs to be paid to **Deliverable 14** (energy security), where challenges related to interconnection projects still need to be overcome. Additional efforts are needed on the unbundling of the gas transmission system operators in those partners who are Energy Community Contracting Parties. In **Deliverable 15** (energy efficiency), further efforts are needed on regulatory aspects of energy efficiency, monitoring and implementation of the reduction of CO2 emissions. Other transboundary environmental problems need further attention on **Deliverable 16.**

STRONGER SOCIETY

Mobility and people-to-people contacts:

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

- ✓ **Georgia**, **Moldova** and **Ukraine** continue to overall **fulfil the Visa Liberalisation Action Plans benchmarks.**
- ✓ **Modernisation of Border Crossing Points'** network is on track – e.g. **jointly operated** border crossing points between Poland and **Ukraine** and between **Moldova and Ukraine**.
- ✓ **Integrated border management strategy** has been introduced to **all Eastern Partners** and structured cooperation is now in place.
- ✓ **The Mobility Partnrship implementation with Belarus was launched.**

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

- ✓ **EU4Youth** programme operational, encompassing **84 capacity building projects** in the areas of civil society and entrepreneurship addressing challenges for youth entrepreneurship and disadvantaged youth, already to the benefit of over **6.000 young people**. EU4Youth **second phase** adopted in December 2018, including newly launched call for proposal on social entrepreneurship.
- ✓ **Erasmus+** provides strong support to mobility and quality of formal and non-formal education, **25.000** students and staff members participating in **academic exchanges**, **37.000 young people** involved in youth exchanges, mobility and **volunteering**, and **1.700 schools** participating in **eTwinning Plus**.
- ✓ Eastern Partnership countries participation in **Creative Europe** programme has increased; cultural organisations are involved in nearly 30 projects.

19   **Establish an Eastern Partnership European school**

- ✓ **Eastern Partnership European School** in Tbilisi operational since September 2018, with **30 diploma students** from all Partner Countries. Scholarship scheme covering tuition and boarding costs in place for 30-35 new students per year.

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

- ✓ All Partner Countries have full access to **all Horizon 2020 funding schemes** for individual researchers, with 94 currently participating from Eastern Partnership region.
- ✓ National research and education networks from all Partner Countries are integrated in the pan-European **GÉANT network**.

Special attention needs to be paid to **Deliverable 17**, by continuing to fulfil the recommendations of the Visa Suspension Mechanism Report. Effective cooperation to implement the Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements should continue, in particular for Armenia and Azerbaijan, in order to consider in due course, if conditions allow, the opening of a Visa Liberalisation Dialogue, as well as to **Deliverable 18**, by strengthening existing efforts to address quality assurance in education and challenges for youth employment and young people not engaged in education, employment or training.

CROSS CUTTING DELIVERABLES	STATUS	CHANGE?
1. More engagement with civil society organisations	✚	no change
2. Increase gender equality and non-discrimination	✚	no change
3. Strengthen strategic communications and supporting plurality and independence of media	✚✚	no change

STRONGER ECONOMY		
4. Improve the Investment and business environment and unlock Small and Medium-sized Enterprises' (SMEs) growth potential	✚✚	no change
5. Address gaps in access to finance and financial infrastructure	✚✚	no change
6. Create new job opportunities at the local and regional level	✚✚	no change
7. Harmonise digital markets	✚✚	improved
8. Support intra-regional trade among partner countries and the EU	✚✚	no change

STRONGER GOVERNANCE		
9. Strengthen the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms	✚	no change
10. Support the implementation of key judicial reforms	✚	no change
11. Support the implementation of public administration reform	✚✚	improved
12. Stronger security cooperation	✚✚	no change

STRONGER CONNECTIVITY		
13. Extend the TEN-T core networks, transport	✚✚	no change
14. Increase energy supply security	✚✚	no change
15. Enhance energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy; reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions	✚	no change
16. Support the environment and adaptation to climate change	✚	no change

STRONGER SOCIETY		
17. Progress on Visa Liberalisation Dialogues and Mobility Partnerships	✚✚	no change
18. Strengthen investment in young people's skills, entrepreneurship and employability	✚✚	no change
19. Establish an Eastern Partnership European school	✚✚✚	improved
20. Integrate Eastern Partnership and EU research and innovation systems and programmes	✚✚	no change

✚✚✚ - completed; ✚✚ - on track; ✚ - moderate progress;

⬭ -no change; ⬆ - improved;