

#strongertogether

EaP | Eastern
Partnership



20 Deliverables for 2020:
State of play in 2018

Launched in 2009 as a joint policy initiative, the Eastern Partnership (EaP) aims to deepen and strengthen relations between the European Union (EU), its Member States and its six Eastern neighbours: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Within this framework, all partners agreed to deliver tangible benefits to the daily lives of their citizens by focusing on achieving 20 Deliverables for 2020.

CROSS-CUTTING DELIVERABLES

The EU and partner countries' cooperation features three cross-cutting issues: engagement with civil society, women's empowerment and gender balance, and strategic communication. While progress has been achieved in the area of strengthening strategic communication, creating an enabling environment for civil society and independent media needs urgent attention.

ACHIEVED

- ✓ EaP citizens' positive perception of the EU is increasing: **trust in the EU is higher than ever**, with 61% of citizens considering the EU as the most trustworthy foreign institution

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- Creating an enabling environment for **civil society**
- Supporting pluralism and independent **media**
- Ensuring **gender equality** and non-discrimination

STRONGER ECONOMY

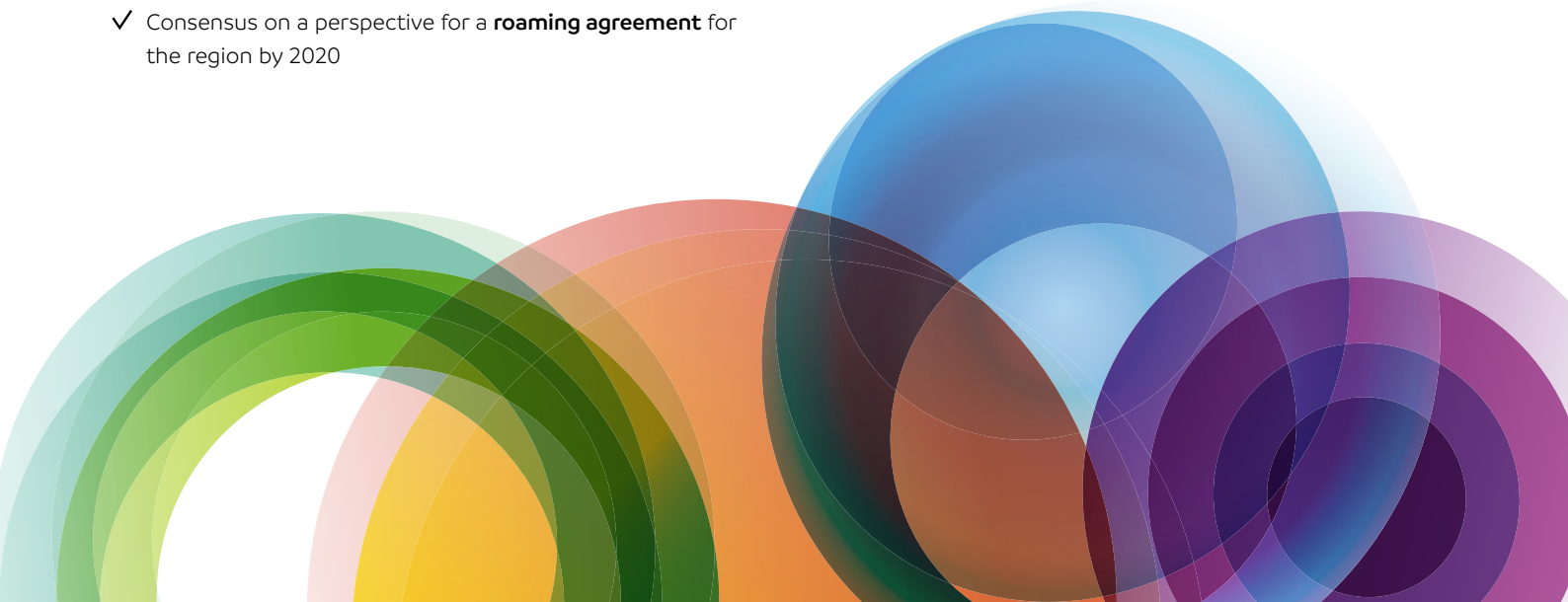
Building economic resilience is at the heart of the EU's cooperation with EaP countries. The focus is on working together to develop stronger, diversified and vibrant economies. Significant progress has been made to help small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) grow; to attract investments; to create jobs in new sectors; and to increase trade opportunities by supporting access to new markets.

ACHIEVED

- ✓ **More than 50%** of the EU's loans to SMEs are now in local currency
- ✓ **Increase in trade** between all six partner countries and the EU since 2016: by 15% with Armenia, 17% with Azerbaijan, 19% with Belarus, 6% with Georgia, 20% with Republic of Moldova, and 24% with Ukraine
- ✓ Consensus on a perspective for a **roaming agreement** for the region by 2020

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- Ensuring commitments to harmonise digital markets are effectively implemented
- Strengthen intra-regional trade



STRONGER GOVERNANCE

Scaling-up efforts in the area of strengthening institutions and good governance is a top priority for the EU in the EaP countries where challenges remain. In particular, more efforts need to be made in the rule of law, implementing key judicial reforms, and in the fight against corruption. These are the preconditions for citizens' trust in the state, long-term stability and an investment-safe climate.

ACHIEVED

- ✓ **E-asset declarations systems** set up in Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine
- ✓ Improvements in **civil service laws** paved the way towards a more depoliticised civil service in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- Strengthening the **rule of law**
- Implementing **key judicial reforms** and reinforcing public administration
- Strengthening **security cooperation**, notably to tackle organised crime, support conflict resolution, and protect against new threats and cybersecurity

STRONGER CONNECTIVITY

The EU's work with partner countries to improve transport links and infrastructure, boost energy resilience and efficiency, as well as the use of renewable energy to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions has resulted in significant progress. Continuing to invest in these areas will lead to greater sustainable economic development and concrete benefits to the lives of citizens by reducing energy dependence and consumption.

ACHIEVED

- ✓ The indicative **TEN-T Investment Action Plan** finalised, foreseeing the development of approximately 5,500 kilometres of roads and railways across the region by 2020 and an additional 4,600 kilometres by 2030
- ✓ The recent inauguration of the Azerbaijan – Georgia section of the **Southern Gas** Corridor strengthens common energy security
- ✓ High-level energy efficiency initiative between the EU and International Financial Institutions has led to improved legislation and investments to reach more people, municipalities and SMEs to **help cut energy** bills, and improve standards

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- Further **reduction of CO2 emissions** and setting up effective national emissions monitoring
- Stepping up action on **biodiversity protection** and sustainable forestry

STRONGER SOCIETY

The EU and six Eastern partners have invested in young people's skills, entrepreneurship and employability, including by developing education policies.

ACHIEVED

- ✓ The first **Eastern Partnership European School** was launched in Tbilisi
- ✓ Since 2014, more than 30,000 young people have taken part in exchanges, mobility and volunteering through **Erasmus+**
- ✓ The **EU4Youth** programme is actively supporting the employability and entrepreneurship of around 23,000 young people in partner countries, and 200 **Young European Ambassadors** are fostering cooperation with youth organisations across the EU and the partner countries
- ✓ All partner countries have full access to **Horizon 2020**

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- Continuing to monitor progress of **Mobility Partnerships**
- Improving **quality and relevance of education systems**, modernising teaching methods and reinforcing employability of graduates

20 DELIVERABLES FOR 2020

MODERATE PROGRESS:  | ON TRACK:  | COMPLETED: 

CROSS CUTTING DELIVERABLES

-  1. More engagement with civil society organisations
-  2. Increase gender equality and non-discrimination
-  3. Strengthen strategic communication and supporting plurality and independence of 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
-  5. Address gaps in access to finance and financial infrastructure
-  6. Create new job opportunities at the local and regional level
-  7. Harmonise digital markets
-  8. Support intra-regional trade among partner countries and the EU





STRONGER GOVERNANCE

Strengthening institutions and good governance:

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





STRONGER CONNECTIVITY

Connectivity, energy efficiency, environment and climate change:

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

STRONGER SOCIETY

Mobility and people-to-people contacts:

-  17. Progress on Visa Liberalisation Dialogues and Mobility Partnerships
-  18. Strengthen investment in young people's skills, entrepreneurship and employability
-  19. Establish an Eastern Partnership European school
-  20. Integrate Eastern Partnership and EU research and innovation systems and programmes

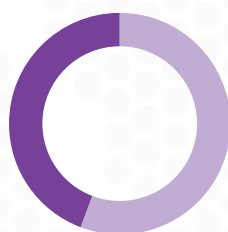
PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN 2018



CROSS CUTTING



ECONOMY



GOVERNANCE



CONNECTIVITY



SOCIETY