



EUROPEAN UNION IN GHANA

65+ years of EU-Ghana partnership

EU and Ghana: Where did it all start?

Over 65 years have passed since the signing of the Treaty of Rome - which led to the creation of the European Union - and since Ghana's independence. Since 1957, the EU and its

Member States have sought an **active partnership and friendship** with African partners, particularly with Ghana. Over the past decades, a lot has been achieved in this regard.

1st and 2nd Yaoundé

Conventions, first partnership agreements between EU and African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) member states

Lomé

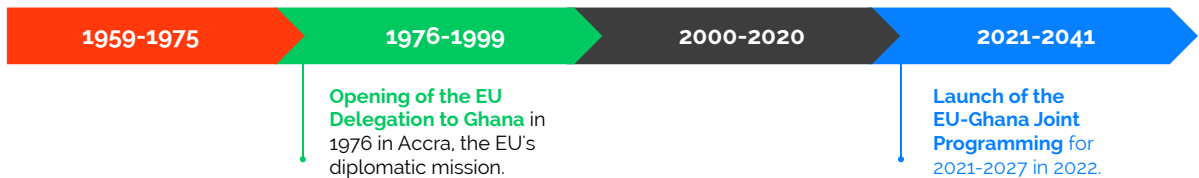
Conventions I-IV second EU-ACP partnership agreements

Cotonou

Agreement, third generation of framework for EU-ACP relations.

Post-Cotonou

Agreement the new framework for EU-ACP relations



The **European Union** in Ghana is a diplomatic mission and officially represents the European Union in Ghana. It is part of the **European Union External Service (EEAS)**, which has 142 diplomatic representations throughout the world.

Alongside the EU Delegation, there are 9 **EU Member States** that have a resident Ambassador in Ghana.

EU Member States in Ghana



Czech Republic



Denmark



France



Germany



Hungary



Italy



Malta



Netherlands



Spain

EU and Ghana: Looking Back

€1 billion

From 2007-2022, the EU has provided more than €1 billion in development aid to Ghana across a variety of sectors.



1. Support the agriculture sector and resilience against climate change in order to increase agricultural productivity, protect natural resources, and improve access to markets, infrastructure (farm roads and irrigation) and capital. EU programmes have focused on supporting smallholder farmers and encouraging the introduction of more sustainable farming and processing practices in the agriculture sector. One of the EU's flagship agricultural projects is the €132M EU-Ghana Agriculture Programme (EU-GAP) in the Upper West, Savannah and North East regions.



2. Enhancing job creation and private sector development, in particular in the green and circular economy sectors. The EU is especially supporting women and youth entrepreneurs to create profitable, sustainable and growing businesses. The €20.6M GrEEen is one among other projects helping achieve these goals. In May 2021, the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced €170M support for the new National Development Bank of Ghana, to increase access to finance and boost job creation in key businesses sectors including agribusiness, manufacturing and tourism. The EIB support is the largest ever engagement in Ghana and most significant support for a national development institution in Africa.



3. Strengthening Ghana's market competitiveness and trade relations. The EU has helped improve Ghana's export competitiveness by introducing more sustainable production and delivery practices and supporting increased access to regional and international markets. This has been supported notably through the €120M West Africa Competitiveness Programme (WACOMP), with €6.35M allocated to Ghana. More generally, the EU has been committed to strengthening EU-Ghana and intra-African trade relations by supporting the implementation of the EU-Ghana Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) with over €74M.



4. Helping strengthen Ghana's resilience to health crises. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU and its Member States actively supported the country with vaccine donations – in fact, Ghana was the first country in the world to receive vaccine doses through the COVAX facility. The EU and Team Europe partners provided Budget Support to Ghana amounting to €86.5M during the pandemic. Meanwhile, the EU is also supporting Ghana to achieve local vaccine production capacity, notably by strengthening the Ghana Food and Drugs Authority's (FDA) regulatory role.



5. Creating more efficient and sustainable infrastructure, especially encouraging greener and more sustainable energy management. In 2019, the European Investment Bank provided €12.5 million to help restore and upgrade the Kpong Dam facilities – which today provide about 12% of Ghana's electricity production. Support the rehabilitation of the Ghana-Burkina Faso inter-commission transmission line (€10.2M), boosting economic development in Northern Ghana.



6. Supporting better management of natural resources and the protection of wildlife and environment. The EU has actively supported Ghana in preserving and protecting its land and maritime environment, specifically fighting against deforestation, illegal logging, illegal mining, and irregular, unregulated and unmonitored (IUU) fishing. In 2019, EU conducted a wildlife census and provided training for Mole National park staff to improve their skills to better manage and preserve their surroundings.



7. Reinforcing Ghana's security sector. This includes efforts to curb cross-border crime and irregular migration by strengthening the capacities of border and immigration forces, enhancing cross-border cooperation, and improving intelligence gathering and sharing. Additionally, the EU is also working more broadly on early warning and conflict prevention, by supporting dialogue and mediation initiatives to resolve social tensions and prevent radicalisation, particularly in the Northern regions of Ghana. EU is also active in the fight against piracy in the Gulf of Guinea. Flagship security projects include Strengthening Border Security (SBS) (€5M), Preventing Electoral Violence and Providing Security to the Northern Border Regions of Ghana (NorPrevSec) (€5.9M), as well as the SWAIMS maritime security programme.



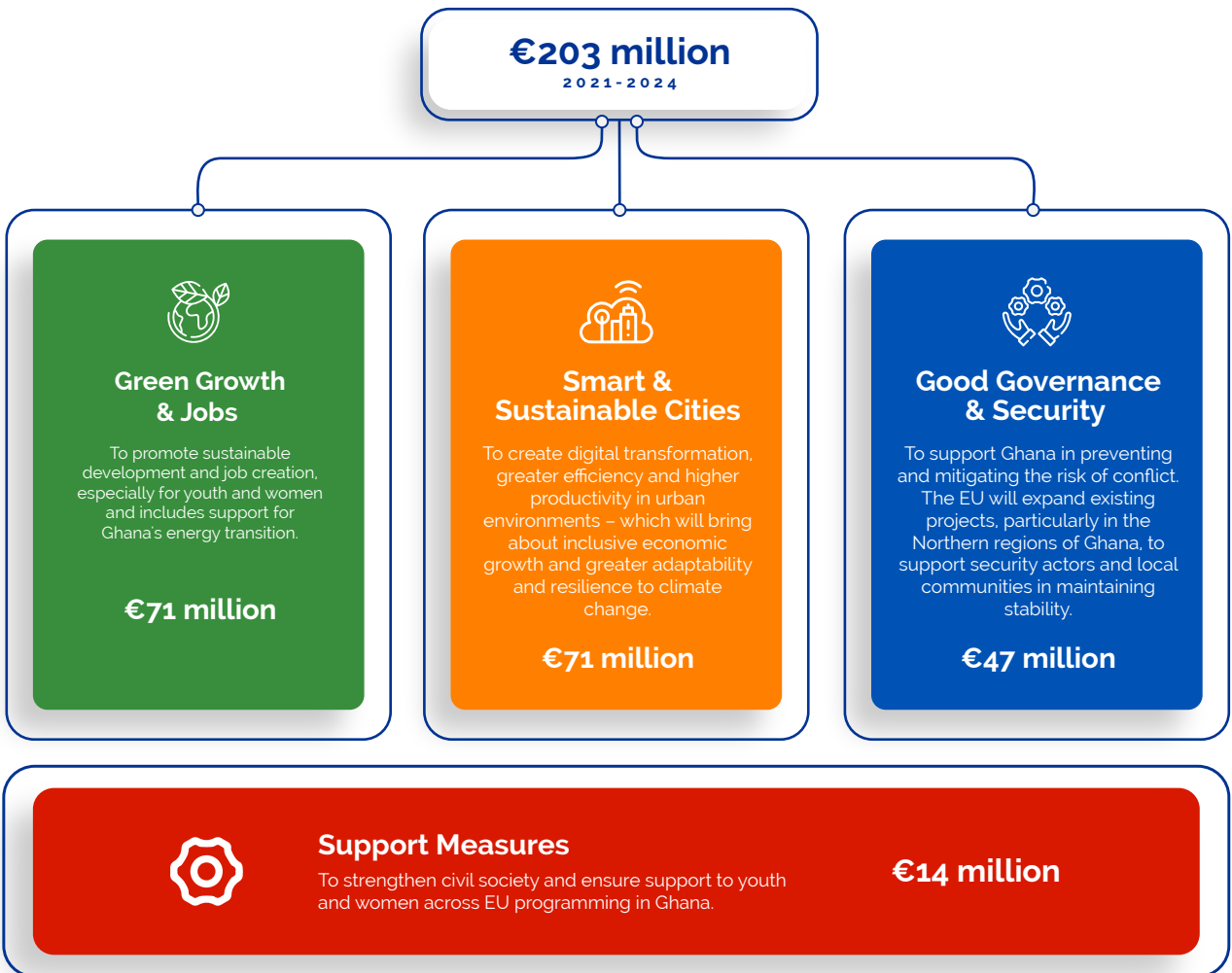
8. Supporting good governance across all sectors of Ghanaian society, including the promotion of fair and transparent elections as well as anti-corruption, accountability and rule of law across all branches of government. Both in 2016 and 2020, an EU Electoral Observation Mission helped to successfully oversee national elections in Ghana and provided detailed recommendations on how to improve electoral management. At local level, EU has supported the Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly with €2.5million to better manage solid waste and improve service delivery in the metropolis, through the Holistic Reinforcement for Sustainable Development (HORESD) project.



The Future of EU-Ghana Relations: Towards A Stronger Economic And Political Partnership

The EU in Ghana is starting its **Joint Programming for 2021-2027** which was launched by Minister of Finance, Ken Ofori-Atta, and EU Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, during her visit to Accra in April 2022. This programming falls under the Global Europe financing instrument, which

allows for the deployment of geographical, thematic and rapid response actions to support the EU's partner countries. Under this programme, the EU will provide **EUR 203 million for the period 2021-2024** for the following three priorities:



These priorities were determined by the EU together with its **Team Europe** partners (Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, and the European Investment Bank) and the **Government of Ghana**. Other **Ghanaian stakeholders** were also actively consulted,

especially civil society, including youth and women's organisations.

These priorities align with the EU's overarching approach based on the following policy frameworks:

• **The European Green Deal** provides a roadmap to address climate change, revert biodiversity loss, cut pollution and boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean circular economy. Europe will play a leading role in achieving these goals, alongside its African partners to reach the common objectives outlined in the Paris Climate Agreement.

• **The Global Gateway** is the new European strategy to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport sectors and to strengthen health, education and research systems across the world. This will allow the EU to step up its investment in infrastructure development around the world, including partner countries like Ghana.

• **The EU Gender Action Plan III (2020-2025)** is an ambitious plan to promote gender equality and women's empowerment through all external actions of the European Union. The Gender Action Plan focuses on five areas of intervention, including promoting gender equality and empowerment across all EU programmes.

• **The EU Youth Strategy (2019-2027)** seeks to foster youth participation in democratic life, support youth social and civic engagement, and ensure that all young people have the necessary resources to take part in society. This is especially important in Ghana, where 58% of the total population is under 25 years old.

Beyond the Joint Programming, the EU and Ghana are working together to strengthen their political partnership. With Ghana's seat at the **UN Security Council** (2022-2023) and Chairmanship of **ECOWAS** (2020-2022), the EU is joining forces with Ghana to assert their shared values and positive agenda at global level, particularly in the

area of regional security. Ghana and EU's common priorities are discussed and reiterated annually at national level, through the **EU-Ghana partnership dialogue**.

More generally, the EU-Ghana political partnership is grounded in the ongoing EU-AU dialogue. This cross-continental partnership strives to bring Africa and Europe closer together by strengthening economic cooperation and promoting sustainable development, with both continents defending and promoting peace, security, democracy, prosperity, solidarity and human dignity. At the **6th EU-AU Summit** in Brussels in February 2022, the following joint priorities were agreed between the Heads of States and governments of AU and EU members:

- A joint vision for a renewed partnership;
- A prosperous and sustainable Africa and Europe, with the **Africa-Europe Investment Package** of €150 billion;
- Ensuring fair and equitable access to vaccines;
- A renewed and enhanced cooperation for peace and security;
- An enhanced and reciprocal partnership for migration and mobility; and
- A commitment to multilateralism.

These shared ambitions will support the **African Union Agenda 2063**: The Africa We Want.



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