



European Commission
United Nations Development Programme
Joint Task Force on Electoral Assistance



EC-UNDP Workshop on

Formulating and Implementing Electoral Assistance Projects in the Context of the EC UNDP Partnership

EC-UNDP Partnership

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The UN and the EU

- ❑ The EU and the UN are natural partners. They are united by the core values laid out in the 1945 Charter of the UN, and the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- ❑ Member States and the EC are the largest contributors to the UN system. A total of €1.3 billion was approved by the EC to be channelled to the UN in 2006.
- ❑ 2001 EC's communication: "Building an effective partnership with the UN", and 2003 EC's Communication: "EU-UN relations: The choice of multilateralism".
- ❑ To facilitate programmatic cooperation between the EC and the UN, an updated [Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement \(FAFA\)](#) was agreed in 2003.



History of the EU/UN relationship

Overall Policy Framework

Two Communications with key aims

- **Strengthen policy dialogue**
- **Transparent, financially predictable, easy to monitor partnership**
- **Match with EU objectives and deliver concrete solutions to global challenges**
- **EU's commitment to multilateralism as a central strand of EU external action**



Overall Policy Framework – 6 strategic partnerships

- **Six strategic partnerships signed**
- **Possible idea of thematic partnerships focusing on policy development and key issues (e.g.) gender, governance and democracy, climate change, energy.**
- **Trend towards more informal arrangements**
- **EC UNDP Operational Guidelines on the Implementation of Electoral Assistance**

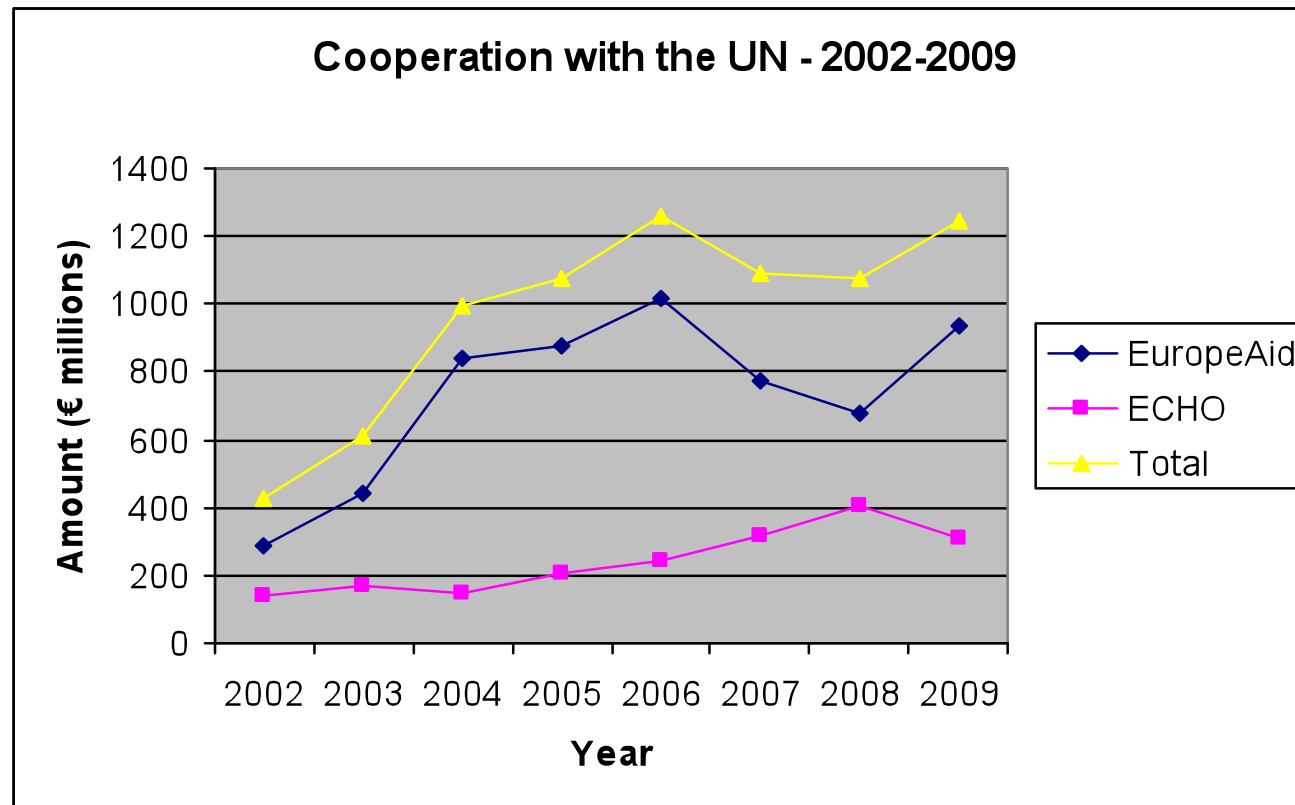


Overall Policy Framework – EU perspective

- The European Consensus - a genuine EU policy
 - **Eradication of poverty**
 - *In the context of*
 - **Sustainable development**
 - *Including*
 - **Pursuit of MDGs**
- Country level assistance, based on country programming and principle of partner country ownership of development strategies
- Enhanced cooperation with the UN « *where such cooperation provides added value* »

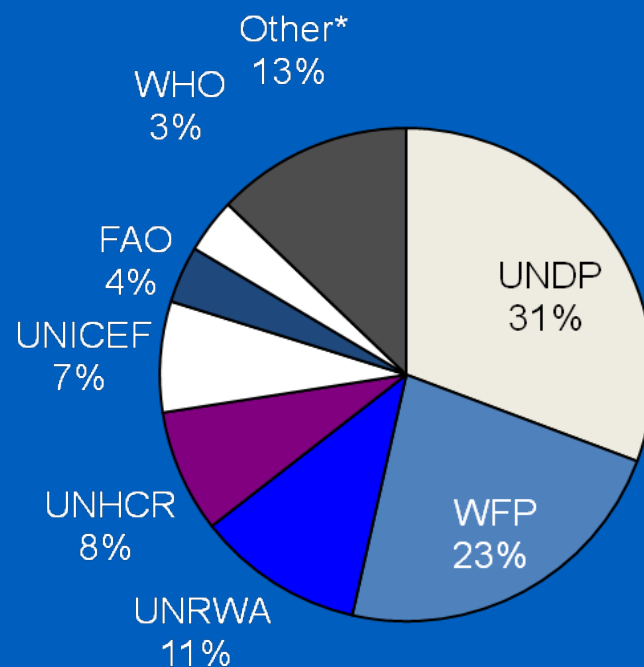


Cooperation with the UN 2002-2009



Distribution des montants contractés de RELEX, DEV, EuropeAid et ECHO par des entités de l'ONU

Total amount contracted: €5.1B

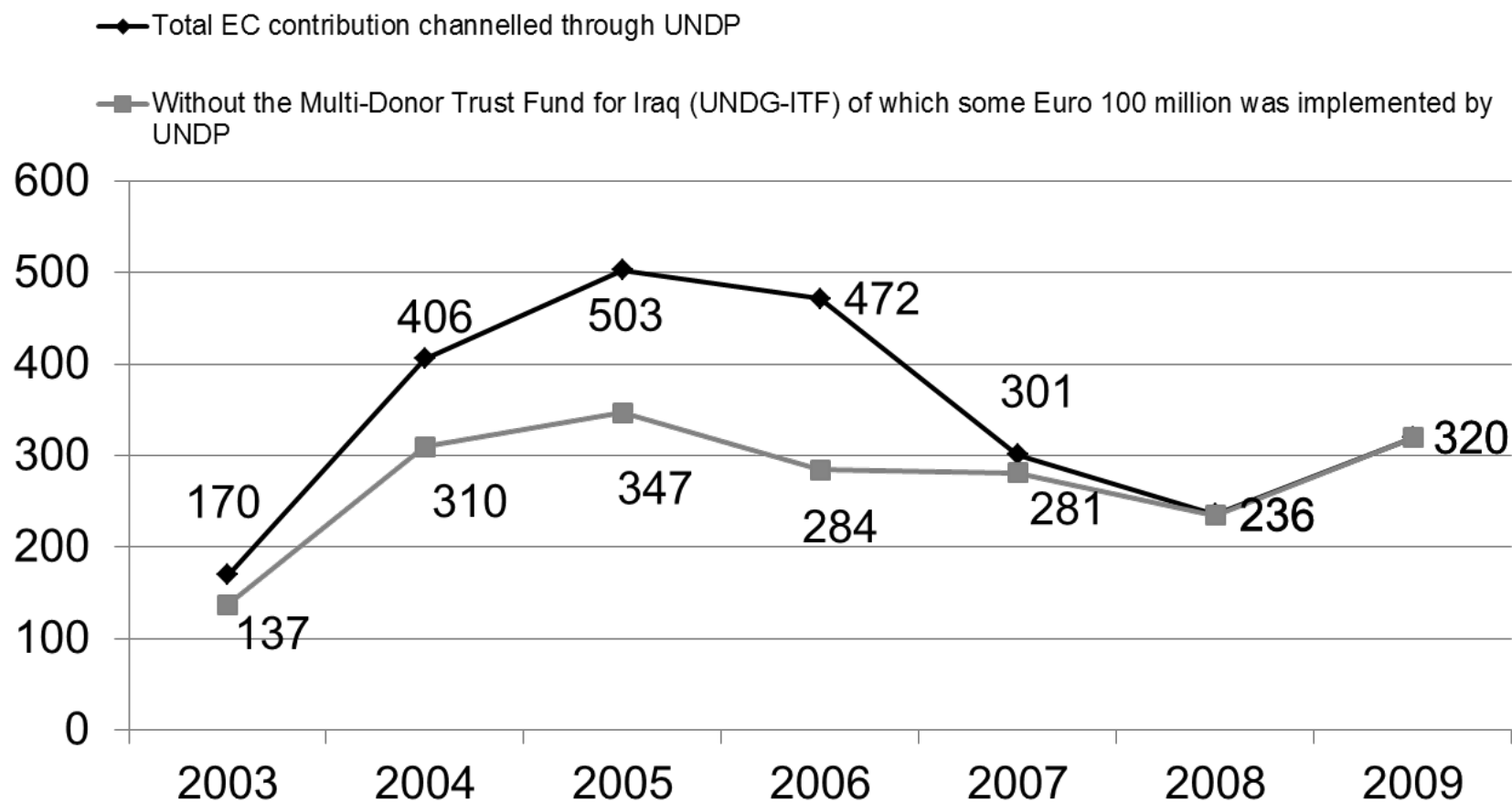


Source: CRIS, OLAS, HOPE

Note: other includes: UNOPS, UNOD, UNO, UNITAR, UNIFEM, UNFPA, UNFCC, UNESCO, UNCTAD, UNAIDS, OHCHR, OCHA, IOM, ILO, Habitat, ESCAP, ECLAC, PAHO, UNEP, UNIDO, UNOV, UNCHS

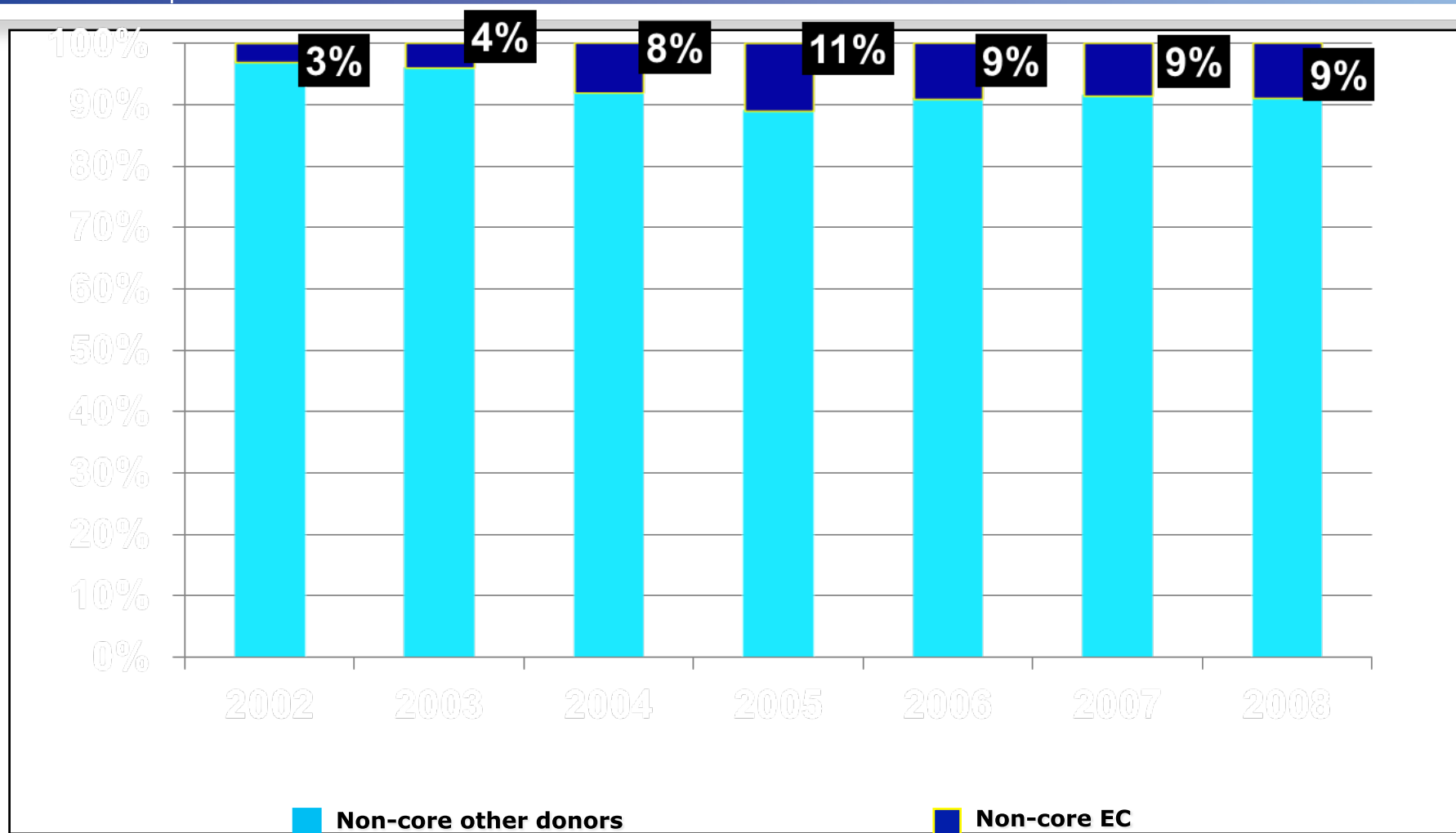


Financial contributions from the European Commission channelled through UNDP in million EUR [2003-2009]



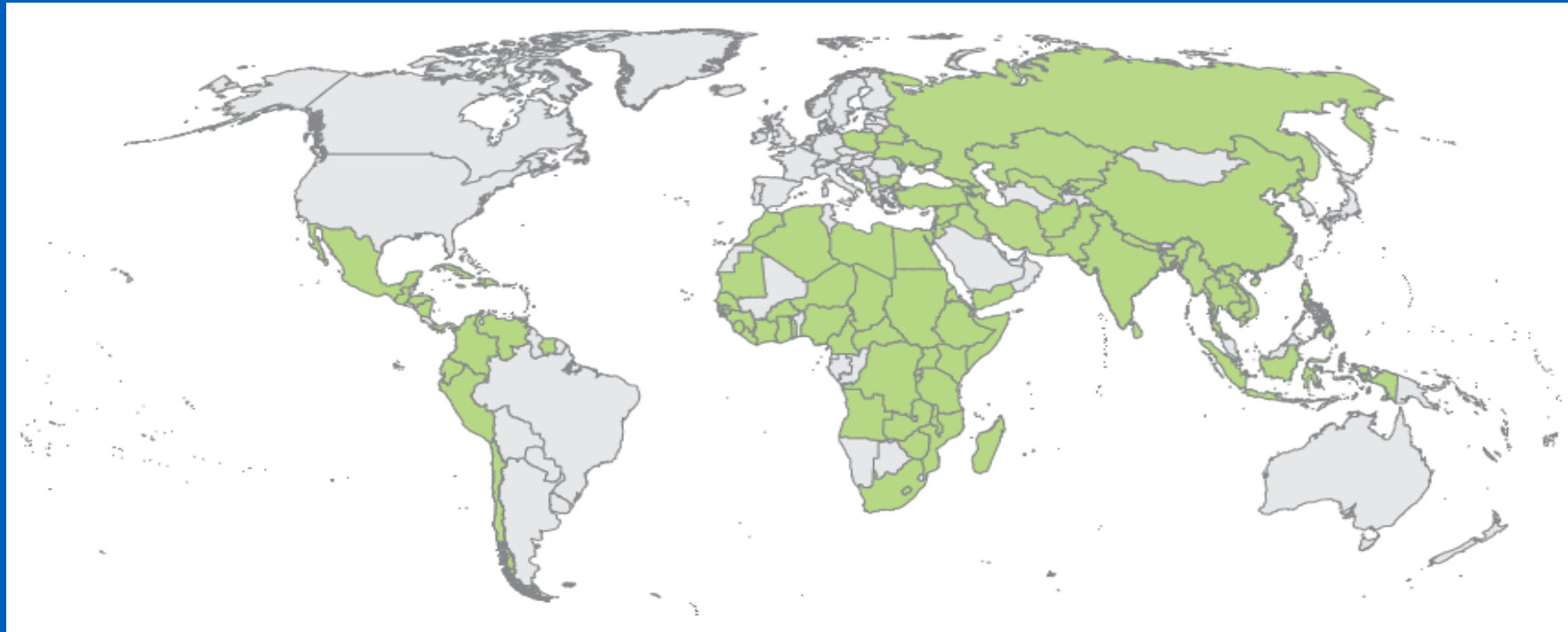


EC contribution to UNDP non-core budget



An extended Partnership

The UNDP-EC partnership is in over 90 countries across all regions of the developing world

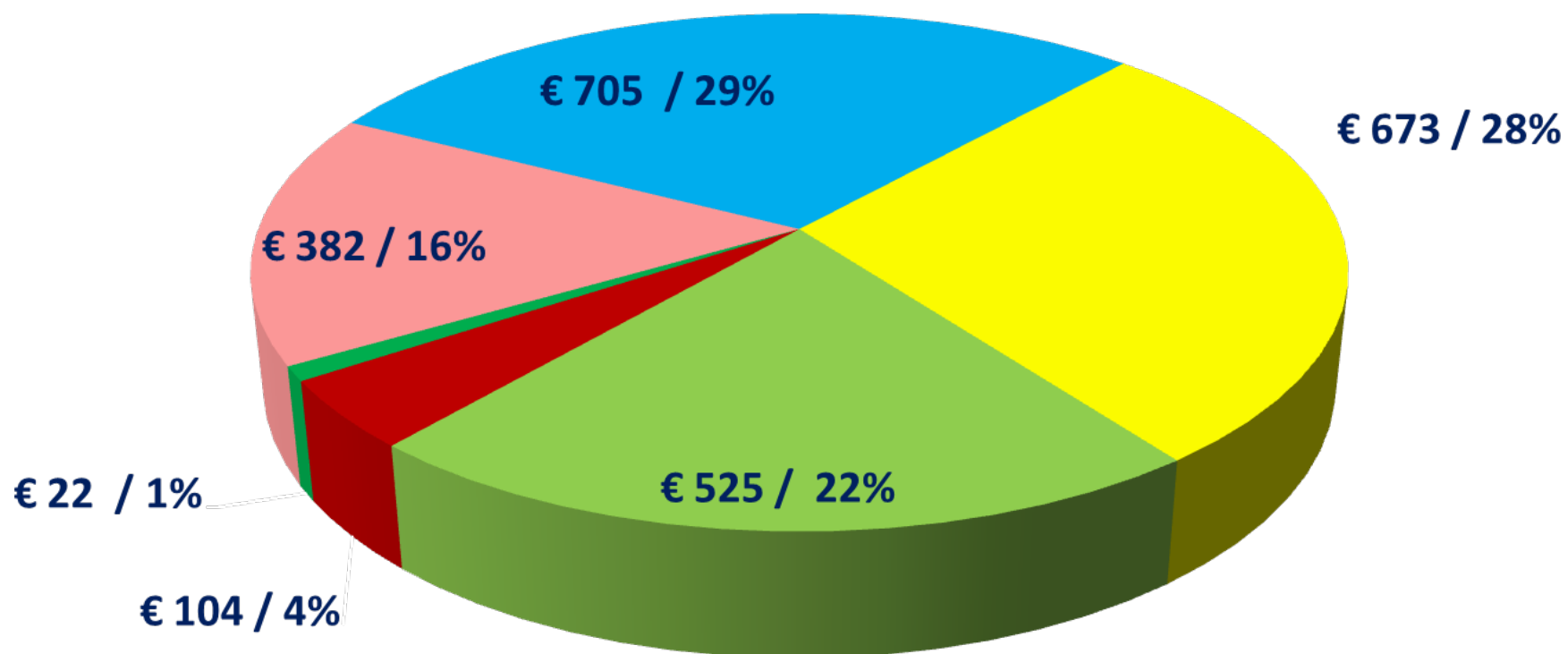


*** The above map refers to year 2007 and does not include regional programmes**



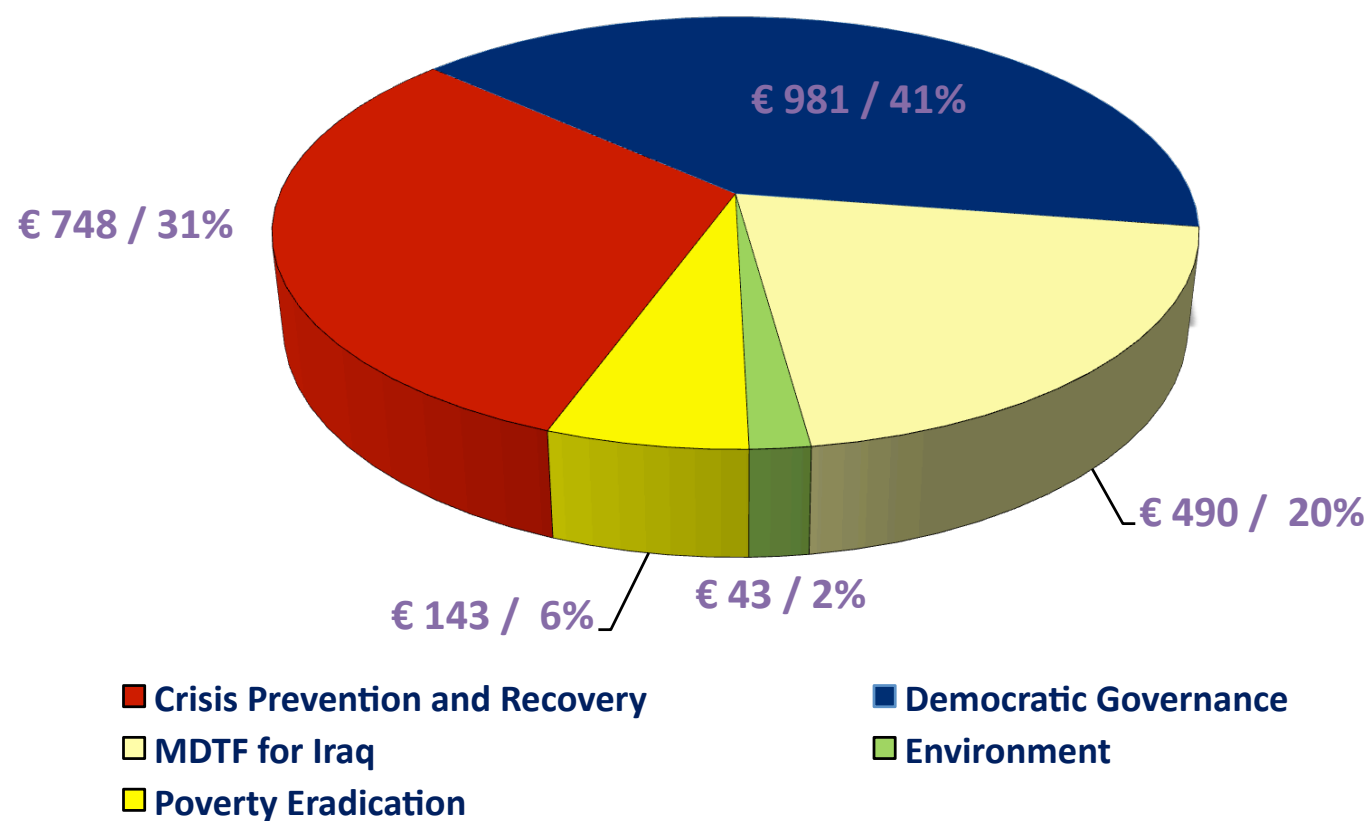
Overall value of EC-UNDP agreements signed in 2003-2009 regional breakdown

■ RBEC ■ RBAS ■ RBAP ■ RBA ■ RBLAC ■ Other/Regional/Global



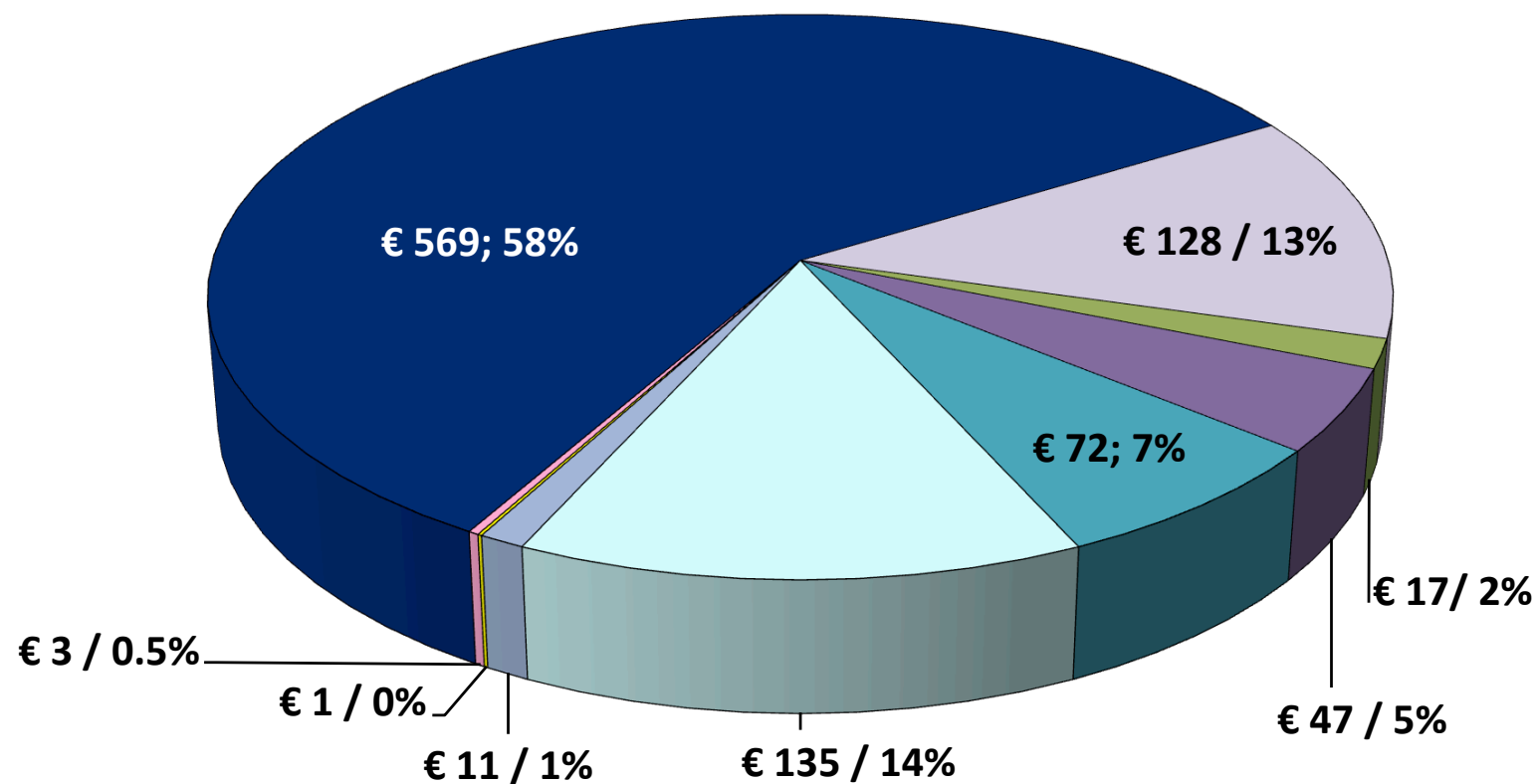


Overall thematic breakdown of EU contributions channelled through UNDP in million EUR [2003-2009]





GOVERNANCE PORTFOLIO SUB-DIVISION IN 2003-2009 (IN MILLION €)



■ DG-Elect ■ DG-CB ■ DG-L ■ DG-J ■ DG-Dec ■ IBM ■ DG-HR ■ Gender ■ HIV



EC-UN *different corporate cultures*

- **Limited knowledge of one another (still...)**
- **EU basis anchored in internal economic issues vs UN(DP) is anchored in security and development**
- **Regional organisation with global aspirations vs THE world's global body**
- **"Round table" vs "Square table" approach**
- **"Nouveau riche" vs "Old lord" (clash of personalities)**



EC-UN *different corporate cultures*

But...

Complementary

- ☐ **Values**
- ☐ **Policy**
- ☐ **Membership**
- ☐ **Set up**



“Image” of the UN in the EC

- ☐ **A mixed picture that leans towards the bad...**
- ☐ **Poor reporting, slow, “tricky”, costly, heavy administrative procedures, no visibility, talks a lot but does not always walk the talk**
- ☐ **Does not always share the same priorities or agenda**



“Image” of the UN in the EC

But...

- ☐ **Close to beneficiary governments**
- ☐ **Neutral partner with capacity to deliver, also in politically sensitive situations**
- ☐ **Comparative advantage, specific strengths and technical knowledge (see: strategic partnership agreements)**
- ☐ **Ability to pool and manage significant financial resources (e.g. multi-donor set ups), added value**
- ☐ **Long experience and mandate for donor coordination**



“Image” of the EC by the UN

- ☐ **A mixed picture that leans towards the bad...**
- ☐ **Bureaucratic, concerned with visibility, tendency to micro-management, high maintenance, cumbersome, no big picture approach**



“Image” of the EC by the UN

But...

- ☐ **Same values and common objectives** aid effectiveness, country-ownership, reliance on comparative advantages, transparency
- ☐ **Serious and reliable partner**
- ☐ **Financial means** (The EC + EU Member states account for around 50% of UN funding. EC's EuropeAid Cooperation Office alone channels 10% of aid through the UN)



EU and UN - natural partners?





The UN as seen by the EU - funding

- **The EU/UN partnership is extremely important**
- **EuropeAid alone channels 20% of aid through international organisations**
- **EuropeAid channels 10% of aid through the UN**
- **The Commission accounts for +/- 6% of UN funding**
- **The Commission + Member States are major partners for the UN, accounting for +/- 50% of UN funding**



The UN as seen by the EU *– one option among many*

- ☐ The Commission tries to identify the most appropriate partners to achieve the desired result – need to justify the choice and explore alternatives.
- ☐ Budget/sector support (centralised management) and decentralised management
- ☐ Delegation to a public or private body
- ☐ Multilateral channels – international organisations such as UN, World Bank, regional development banks, etc.
- ☐ Other entities such as NGOs and other Non State Actors



The UN as seen by the EU – positive evaluation, with some caveats

- ☐ Confirmation of the value of the partnership – working together made more and bigger interventions possible, impacting directly and positively on beneficiaries
- ☐ Confirmation of the key facilitating role of the FAFA
- ☐ Commission needs to know more about UN to further capitalise on the partnership
- ☐ Commission needs to develop a more strategic approach to cooperation



What is the EU wants from the UN?

- ☐ **Delivery**
- ☐ **Results**
- ☐ **Added value**
- ☐ **Accountability**

