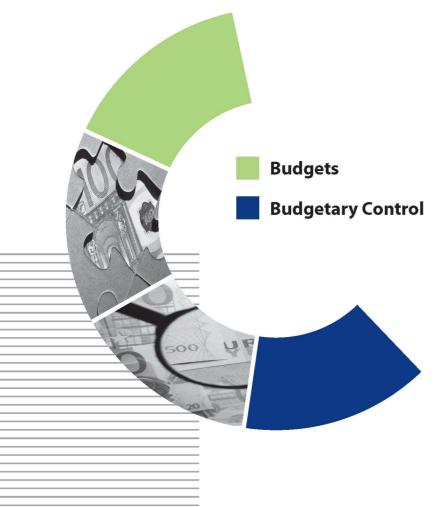


DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL POLICIES



Publications Catalogue





DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR INTERNAL POLICIES

POLICY DEPARTMENT D: BUDGETARY AFFAIRS

Publications Catalogue 2005-2009

Abstract

The catalogue provides the list of publications (2005-2009) prepared by Policy Department D Budgetary Affairs. Short summaries describe the content of each document. Abbreviations inform the reader about the range of available language versions.

The reader is invited to either consult them online or request hard copies for further reading. The full-text versions of all documents are available on our Intranet site at: http://www.ipolnet.ep.parl.union.eu/ipolnet/cms/pid/445 and most of the studies can be found also in the study database at: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/studies.

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REVENUE

Comparative Study on the Situation of Recoveries in Europe, 7/2007

Deloitte Consulting

This study aims principally at presenting the situation of recoveries of community funds as maintained by the Member States, by taking into account the defined framework on the European level, and at identifying good practices and solutions in national mechanisms of recovery in relation to community authorities, in order to deliver reflection paths on possible evolutions of the regulatory budgetary framework of the European Communities.

29.07.2007 Available in EN, FR 79 pages

Future Own Resources, 7/2007

Richard DOHERTY, Deloitte Consulting

A quantitative analysis of the ability, assessed against the criteria of sufficiency and stability, of the following to act as an EU own resource: VAT, corporate tax, and excise duties on fuel and on alcohol and tobacco.

14.07.2007 Available in EN 186 pages

Future Resources of the Union: Background Note for the Parliamentary Meeting of 4-5 December 2006, 12/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This note looks at developments concerning the future resources of the Union that have occurred since the Parliamentary meeting of 8-9 May 2006.

04.12.2006 Available in EN 3 pages

Future Resources of the Union: EP Position Paper for the Parliamentary Meeting of 4-5 December 2006, 12/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This note sets out the position of the European Parliament on developments in the future resources of the Union since the Parliamentary meeting of 8-9 May 2006.

04.12.2006 Available in EN 3 pages

Future Resources of the Union: Background Note for the Parliamentary Meeting of 8-9 May 2006, 5/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This paper describes the resources of the Union to date, and sets out a number of issues concerning the current system before summarising recent developments in the own resources system and options under discussion with a view to future developments in the Union's finances.

08.05.2006 Available in EN, FR 6 pages

Future Resources of the Union: EP Position Paper for Parliamentary Meeting of 8-9 May 2006, 5/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This note describes the European Parliament's views on the current own resources system, recent developments and its views on the future resources of the Union.

08.05.2006 Available in EN 4 pages

Own resources: evolution of the system in an EU of 25, 7/2005

Study Group for European Policies

The study - discusses the issues of fair treatment of the Member States in respect to the "rebates"; - presents commented suggestions in search for genuine and alternative EU own tax resources including excise duties and VAT, - suggests and comments a catalogue of assessment criteria for "candidate taxes", - considers loan financing from the European Investment Bank (EIB), rejects however financing part of the EU budget out of resources at the European Central Bank (ECB); - formulates policy-oriented conclusions and recommendations.

30.07.2005 Available in EN 72 pages

EXPENDITURE

including implementation, financial management and administration, RAL, evaluation, impact assessment, communication on achievements

EXTERNAL POLICIES

Global Evaluation of the European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument, 2/2008

Roberto ZAVATTA and Laura DELPONTE, Economisti Associati

The study finds that ENP policy documents and ENPI budgetary allocations are fairly well aligned with the strategic objectives of EU external policy, and that planned interventions are well aligned with partner countries' needs and development priorities. Regarding performance, although ENPI allows for a more flexible and efficient use of resources compared to its predecessors (MEDA and TACIS), it still too early to assess whether these structural improvements has brought about improved results.

01.02.2008 Available in EN 65 pages

EU Budget Aid for the Philippines, 11/2007

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

The EU provides substantial aid to the Philippines through development and economic cooperation, humanitarian assistance and EIB loans. For EC cooperation projects, on average it takes almost 6 months to move from decision to signature of the financing agreement and well over two years until project implementation starts. However, the time taken to move from decision to subsequent stages in the project cycle has tended to be shorter for more recent projects compared to the past.

19.11.2007 Available in EN 35 pages

EU Budgetary Support for Afghanistan Since 2002, 7/2007

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

A total of €3,1 billion was pledged by Member States and the European Commission for Afghan reconstruction in 2002-2006, and a further €2 billion for coming years. Since 2002 a further €221 million in humanitarian support has been provided by the EC. Budget commitments have been fully implemented and aid disbursal has reached a total of 87%. Since 2002, 494 EC-Afghanistan cooperation projects have been started, of which 180 have been closed. Of the remainder, 176 projects, worth €288,1 million, remain on-going after their end-dates. The number of days by which these projects exceed their end dates totals 73419, or more than 200 years.

06.07.2007 Available in EN, FR 30 pages

EU Budget Aid for Laos, 3/2007

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

Financial resources of €18 million are earmarked for the Lao PDR in the EC-Lao PDR Country Strategy Paper 2002-2006. €1,5 million is earmarked for the Lao PDR in 2006- 2007 in EC Mine Action Strategy and multi-annual Indicative Programming 2005-2007. The rate of implementation of the budget lines through which EC cooperation projects in Laos are funded is generally very high. Commitments allocated to the Lao PDR for humanitarian aid and development aid amounted to €9.49 million in the 2004 EC budget and €2.89 million in the 2005 budget. There are 39 ongoing co-operation projects in Laos (total EC contribution: €42 million) and 27 completed projects (total EC contribution: €59 million). For ongoing projects, on average it currently takes 339 days from project decision to the date on which contracts are signed, 728 days (nearly 2 years) to project start, 1137 days (over 3 years) to the first payment and 2643 days (over 7 years) to project end. This compares to average time lapses for completed projects of 115 days, 319 days (under 1 year), 559 days (1,5 years) and 1287 days (3,5 years) from project decision to contract signature, project start, first payment and project end respectively.

21.03.2007 Available in EN 55 pages

Forgotten Crisis - Budgetary Aspects, 1/2007

Jean-Jacques GAY, European Parliament

Les crises oubliées n'ont pas de base légale propre ni de ligne budgétaire spécifique, mais sont toutefois financées par le Budget de l'Union. Elles sont couvertes par le Règlement (CE) no. 1257/96 de Conseil de 20 juin 1996. Le financement provient de l'enveloppe financière d'ECHO et plus précisément des 85% programmés de l'enveloppe sont consacrés aux crises, y compris les "crises oubliées" (article 2b du règlement) soit environ 80 millions € par an. En 2002-2003 un accord est intervenu entre le PE et la Commission pour réserver une part de ECHO nonprogrammée (15 à 20%) afin de survenir à des besoins urgents et aux crises imprévues. Les critères d'éligibilité sont basés sur des indicateurs de besoins inspirés notamment de la méthodologie de classification de la Banque mondiale. Le Conseil participe à la décision de financement à travers le comité de gestion "Aide humanitaire". En complément à la présentation de la stratégie annuelle (APS), le Parlement est informé des décisions de financement que le Commission entend adopter en matière d'aide humanitaire par le biais des procédures de comitologie au titre du 'droit de regard'. La commission du développement du PE est informée ex-ante des actions menées par la Commission: bénéficiaires, montants, mais les financements ne sont soumis à aucune décision directe de l'autorité législative ou budgétaire. La Commission (ECHO) gère le financement de ces crises de manière centralisée sans appel à proposition, en conformité avec les dispositions de l'article 110 du règlement financier et de l'article 168 de modalités d'exécution. Les décisions de financement sont publiées sur Internet.

30.01.2007 Available in FR 17 pages

EU Financial Assistance to Moldova, 12/2006

Helmut WERNER, European Parliament

The republic of Moldova borders Romania and Ukraine, and has a conflict with secessionist region of Transdniestria which is seeking alignment with Russia. The Party of Communists of the Republic of Moldova (PCRM) is the currently ruling one. From 2000 to 2005 Moldova's GDP showed an average growth rate of 7 %, but the GDP per capita of 645 Eur in 2005 is still by far the lowest in Europe. Remittances (transfers from Moldavians working abroad) increased to over 30% of GDP. But bureaucracy, corruption, money laundering and inadequate or instable legislation are still quoted as hampering business. Russian trade restrictions on Moldovan products (especially wine) and substantially increased gas prices threaten Moldova's economy additionally. Macroeconomic data on Moldova for the years 2000 to 2006 from the Transition Report 2006 of the EBRD (European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, November 2006) are reproduced here as annex (page 10).

12.12.2006 Available in EN 20 pages

The Cost of CFSP - an Assessment, 10/2006

Helmut WERNER, European Parliament

The different sources for the financing of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (EU budget Commission and Council sections; Members States and other) are analysed and assessed against the background and the objectives of the CFSP. The developments of these components in recent years are shown. Evaluation is approached at different levels. Better ex-ante and ex-post reporting on CFSP measures to the European Parliament is strongly recommended.

06.10.2006 Available in EN 53 pages

EU Financial Contribution to Humanitarian Aid and Early Recovery of Lebanon, 9/2006

Anne VITREY, European Parliament

Overview on budgetary possibilities to face the situation after the Israel Lebanon war of 12 July to 14 August 2006.

14.09.2006 Available in EN 10 pages

Assessment of Budgetary Resources and Means in the Area of Development and Cooperation, 8/2006

Roberto ZAVATTA, Alberto BOLOGNINI, Enrico GIANNOTTI and Laura REKA, Economisti Associati

The poverty focus of EC external assistance has increased significantly in recent years, with the share of EC aid financed by the budget going to LDCs rising from 58% in 2000 to 73% in 2005, putting the EC on a par with the average for DAC donors and ahead of the USA. The authors argued that the relevance of projects and sustainability has improved over time, but found overall that EC projects have performed comparatively less well in terms of cost-effectiveness and

impact. A remarkable recovery in performance regarding aid projects in Mediterranean counties, Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans is nevertheless noted, as is a positive trend for projects in trade, regional integration and good governance. However problems with projects in the ACP countries and initiatives in miscellaneous sectors are found to have worsened. The reform of external assistance is considered to have brought a number of positive effects but at the cost of an increase in administrative expenses. The quality of the NGOs, through which around 10-11% of the EC aid budget is spent, is found to be very diverse.

31.08.2006 Available in EN 57 pages

EC Financing to UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East), 6/2006

Helmut WERNER, European Parliament

The Hamas-led Palestinian government has so far failed to meet the Quartet principles (relating to recognition of Israel, repudiation of violence and acceptance of international agreements). Therefore financial aid by most of the donors to and through Palestinian Authority remains suspended and Israel continues to withhold Palestinian (tax) clearance revenues and tightened its closure policy. In its meeting of 9 May 2006, the Quartet "expressed serious concern about deteriorating conditions, particularly in Gaza..." and it "expressed its willingness to endorse a temporary mechanism" for a direct aid to the Palestinian people. The General Affairs and External Relations Council (GAERC) stated on 15 May that the EU must work "urgently to develop such a mechanism, which as a matter of priority will be aimed at contributing to meeting basic needs". Consequently, the Commission together with the Quartet and the Member States elaborated such "Temporary International Mechanism" (TIM).

14.06.2006 Available in EN 7 pages

EU Financing to Palestinian Authority, 5/2006

Helmut WERNER, European Parliament

After an introduction the note gives information about:

- Distribution of EU aid by sectors (2005)
- Aid to Palestinian areas financed on the
- EU General Budget 2000 2005
- The recent EU financial Aid package of 121 M€
- Enquiry into possible fraud and use for terrorist acts
- Controlling and reporting.

16.05.2006 Available in EN 16 pages

Aid to Pakistan and Kashmir, 3/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This note provides information on sources of aid available from the EU budget for Pakistan/Kashmir, aid related specifically to the earthquake of 8 October 2005 and resources proposed for the next financial perspective.

29.03.2006 Available in EN 28 pages

EU Financing to Croatia and Western Balkans, 3/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

Doter les actions extérieures de ressources financières suffisantes, pour que l'Union européenne puisse devenir un véritable "partenaire mondial" sur la scène internationale et ait les moyens de ses ambitions politiques et de ses engagements internationaux, est une priorité du Parlement dans le cadre de la prochaine perspective financière 2007-2013.

21.03.2006 Available in FR 12 pages

Impact of WTO Negotiations/Decisions on the EU Budget, 7/2005

David KERNOHAN, Jorge NUNEZ FERRER, Andreas SCHNEIDER, Centre for European Policy Studies

The paper analyses the relationship between the EU budget and the process of trade liberalisation, in particular the effects of the (then forthcoming) agreements under the WTO Doha Development Agenda (DDA). It discusses, in particular, how sensitive the EU budget might be to future developments, including how it will address the challenges emanating from the trade liberalisation process and facing the European Union. The paper calls for a deep revision of the budget and a speeding up of its restructuring in line with the Lisbon strategy to develop Europe's competitiveness. Even the polices aimed at cohesion have to be improved, by better targeting investing in the domestic growth potential of the poorer EU regions. This requires a better-integrated planning framework. The paper also calls for an improvement in the support for human capital investments from the EU budget.

18.07.2005 Available in EN 49 pages

AGRICULTURE AND PRESERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Financing and Effectiveness of Agricultural Expenditure, 4/2008

Margherita SCOPPOLA, *University of Macerata* and David BALDOCK, *Institute for European Environmental Policy*

Margherita Scoppola of the University of Macerata, Italy and David Baldock of the Institute for European Environmental Policy provided contributions for the joint workshop of the Committee on Budgets and the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development held on 4 April 2008 on the financing and effectiveness of agricultural expenditure. They arrived at the conclusion that the effectiveness of EU agricultural expenditure largely depends on the effectiveness of its principal financial instrument - the Single Farm Payment, which demonstrates little efficiency in attaining the CAP goals set in Agenda 2000 and is not very consistent with the Lisbon strategy. Scoppola described alternative financing scenarios: co-financing of CAP pillar 1 measures or shifting most of resources from pillar 1 to pillar 2.

02.04.2008 Available in EN 52 pages

The EU Added Value of Agricultural Expenditure – from Market to Multifunctionality – Gathering Criticism and Success Stories of the CAP, 12/2007

Jorge NÚÑEZ FERRER and Eleni A. KADITI, Centre for European Policy Studies

On the expenditures of the EU budget, the value added has become a key element of any discussion. This study aim was to describe the CAP in the context of the EU expenditure policies, and to analyze the effectiveness and the added value is noted through the direct payments (Pillar I) and the rural development policy of the CAP. The study opens some ways for reflection on a number of elements.

05.12.2007 Available in DE, EN, FR 45 pages

Forecasts of Agricultural Expenditure for Romania and Bulgaria, 2007-2013, 3/2007

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

Cette note porte sur les plafonds fixés dans les perspectives financières pour la période 2007-2013, en ce qui concerne la conservation et la gestion des ressources naturelles dans l'Union européenne, ainsi que sur le sous-plafond des dépenses de marché agricole et paiements directs; précisons qu'il n'y a pas de plafonds individuels pour les mesures de marché et les paiements directs. S'agissant de la Bulgarie et la Roumanie, la part des crédits pour la politique agricole commune et pour le développement rural réservée à ces deux pays est également présentée dans la note, ainsi qu'une répartition des crédits pour le développement rural entre les deux pays pour la période 2007-2009. En fin de note est présenté un tableau des dernières prévisions portant sur les dépenses agricoles dans l'Union européenne pour la période 2007-2013.

12.03.2007 Available in FR 6 pages

LIFE: Activities and Functioning, 9/2006

Fabrizio PEDICONI, European Parliament

The objective of this study is to highlight the value for money of the various programmes and actions financed under LIFE, to emphasise whether the funds dedicated to their implementation have produced/not produced/not sufficiently produced the expected quantitative and qualitative effects and to give orientations to the future programmes within LIFE + 2007-2013.

14.09.2006 Available in EN 27 pages

Targeted Impact Assessment on Voluntary Modulation, 9/2009

Centre for European Policy Studies

This study assesses the scope of any discrimination and/or distortion of competition that could arise through the application of the new voluntary modulation system. These questions are examined in the context of the EU Treaty, the Common Agricultural Policy and the principles of common rules and equality of treatment. The study then analyses the possible impact of reductions in Pillar 1 payments through the new voluntary modulation system. The analysis is conducted within the context of differing approaches to the application of the reformed CAP in Member States and its regions. On the basis of some assumptions about the voluntary modulation system eventually applied, e.g. a modulation rate of 20%, the analysis concentrates on the impact on direct aids to farmers under the Single Payment Scheme.

01.09.2006 Available in EN 22 pages

Budgetary Aspects of Compulsory and Voluntary Modulation, 7/2006

Anne VITREY, European Parliament

This note deals with the financial aspects of compulsory modulation decided in the context of the 2003 CAP reform on the one hand and on the possible consequences of voluntary modulation decided by the European Council of December 2005.

25.07.2006 Available in EN 10 pages

COHESION

Financial Institutions and Structural Funds Implementation in Southern Italy, 3/2009

Blomeyer & Sanz

This study focuses on the period 2000-2006, giving an overall evaluation of the role and actions of the financial institutions in the implementation of the structural funds in Southern Italy and especially in Calabria and Sicily. In general, what lessons can be drawn from the role of financial institutions in this part of Italy?

10.03.2009 Available in EN 37 pages

State of Play and Forecast of Budget Implementation in Bulgaria and Romania, 10/2008

Jean-Jacques GAY, European Parliament

Bulgaria and Romania benefit from a substantial aid within the framework of the new financial perspective 2007-2013, representing an important increase as compared to the pre-accession funds allocated to the two countries. This study aims to provide a general overview of the use of pre-accession funds by Bulgaria and Romania (SAPARD, PHARE, and ISPA) in 2000-2006 financial framework and their implementation, as well as the overall view of amounts allocated to the two countries after their accession to the EU. The study attempts to determine the main challenges that Bulgaria and Romania faced, which will have to be addressed in order to improve the absorption capacities of the two countries in view of the Structural and Cohesion Funds they are eligible to upon accession.

20.10.2008 Available in EN 44 pages

The Structural Funds in Southern Italy - Focus on Calabria and Sicily, 3/2008

Blomeyer & Sanz

The South of Italy has been one of the main beneficiaries of Community funding, especially of structural funds, for decades. During the new programming period 2007-2013 the two region of South of Italy will receive around 4,8 Billion €. This study will analyse the implementation of the structural funds in Italy and especially in Sicily and Calabria. To this end it will provide, an overall evaluation of the implementation of the structural funds ("value for money"), possible explanations for shortcomings, and an evaluation of the attempted remedies. The study will focus on the period 2000-2006, analysing, for example Southern Italy's absorption capacity for structural funds and the level of implementation of the Operational Programmes originally approved by the Commission.

27.03.2008 Available in EN, IT 52 pages

Structural Funds' Support for Innovation – Implementation Challenges for 2007-2013 and Beyond, 1/2008

Blomeyer & Sanz

This study aims at addressing three issues, i.e. the extent of Structural Funds support for innovation, the main limitations to an effective implementation of Structural Funds support for innovation and possible ways to overcome these limitations. The main conclusions are the following:

- further efforts are required with ensuring complementarity between different instruments for innovation support,
- the effectiveness of Structural Funds support for innovation in 2000-2006 has been limited by regulatory obstacles, design deficiencies and capacity constraints.

The steep increase in innovation allocations for the 2007-2013 programming period points to the urgency of addressing these problems. A set of recommendations intends to make a contribution to improving the effectiveness of Structural Funds support for innovation.

17.01.2008

Available in DE, EN, FR

73 pages

The Structural Funds' Implementation in Poland – Challenges for 2007-2013, 9/2007

Blomeyer & Sanz

In the Structural Funds programming period 2007-2013, Poland will receive €67 billion and the present study therefore aims to address two questions: What are the main reasons limiting the effective implementation of the Structural Funds in 2004-2006? And what can be done to overcome these difficulties in order to ensure a successful 2007-2013 programming period?

04.09.2007 Available in EN, PL 49 pages

Structural Funds in Italy, 3/2007

Elisa DAFFARRA, European Parliament

Note on the Structural Funds in Italy in the Framework of the MFF 2007-2013, including the process of scheduling the implementation of the funds in Italy.

13.03.2007 Available in IT 11 pages

Financial Perspectives 2007-2013: European Territorial Cooperation, 4/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This note summarizes the objectives and resources for cohesion policy proposed by the Commission for the next financial perspective, and provides details of the proposals for European territorial cooperation. Whereas the European Parliament supports the Commission's proposals, the European Council has substantially cut resources to all areas of cohesion policy, particularly territorial cooperation.

31.03.2006 Available in EN 7 pages

ENERGY

The Financing of the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies Fund (GEEREF), 4/2009

Arno BEHRENS, Centre for European Policy Studies, Neil BIRD, Overseas Development Institute, Gunter FISCHER, European Investment Fund

This workshop took place on 16 April 2009 in the Committee on Budgets meeting, based on written contributions presented by experts in EU finances, development and energy from the Centre for European Policy Studies, the Overseas Development Institute and the European Investment Fund. The experts described the potential benefits stemming from the innovative nature of the fund, which may attract financial support from other donors in clean energy and serve as a role-model for further public-private partnerships, but also noted the risks regarding its successful implementation particularly in the current global economic climate.

07.04.2009 Available in EN 40 pages

Does the EU Have Sufficient Resources to Meet its Objectives on Energy Policy and Climate Change? - The Follow up Workshop, 1/2009

David BALDOCK, Institute for European Environmental Policy; Jesse SCOTT, Third Generation Environmentalism in London

On 21 January 2009, Jesse Scott and David Baldock provided contributions to the Climate Change Workshop, which was the follow-up to the study presented on 8 April 2008 in the Committee on Budgets: "Does the EU have sufficient resources to meet its objectives on energy policy and climate change?" The experts focussed on budgetary aspects of both policies, taking into account the most recent developments concerning the economic recession, energy crisis and the EU budget reform. Both Ms. Scott and Mr. Baldock consider expenditure on climate change in the current EU budget as rather modest. However, they both arrive at the conclusion that different solutions could be sought through: strengthening of the position of the climate policy in the structure of the EU budget (Baldock) or creating a new (time-limited) energy and climate security budget, co-financed by European and Member State resources, including auctioning of carbon permits (Scott).

21.01.2009 Available in EN 45 pages

Evaluation of EU Funding of Research in the Fields of Nuclear Fusion and Aeronautics/Aerospace, 7/2008

Andrea RENDA, Alice FELCI and Donatas MYKOLAITIS, Centre for European Policy Studies

Regarding research funding in general, the study finds that lessons learned from FP6 have been only partially reflected in the structure of FP7, but considers the new framework as potentially more conducive to SME involvement. The share of research funding allocated to energy has declined from 66% in 1983 to 10,5% under FP7, of which a growing proportion has been allocated to nuclear fusion, and particularly the ITER programme, increasingly squeezing out funding for research on alternative energy sources. Regarding ITER, the study concludes that the organisational and management arrangements in place are insufficient to tackle the extreme

riskiness of the project. Projects launched in 2006 and 2007 in the field of aerospace/aeronautics were found to be consistent with the EU's medium term goals but improved risk management in launching and implementing large research projects in this field was recommended.

15.07.2008 Available in EN 91 pages

Does the EU Have Sufficient Resources to Meet its Objectives on Energy Policy and Climate Change? 1/2008

Christian EGENHOFER, Arno BEHRENS and Jorge NÚÑEZ FERRER, Centre for European Policy Studies

The study describes the various estimates made of the annual global cost of tackling climate change, ranging from €230 to €614 billion. The EU's share in this ranges from €24 to €194 billion. The study then analyses the resources devoted to climate change in the EU budget and includes suggestions for rectifying shortcomings identified. Overall, although it is difficult to put a precise figure on the amount that should be included in the EU budget, current spending appears rather modest and could and should be increased. Examples of climate change related spending at national level (in Germany, the UK, the USA and China) are also described. The study ends with an assessment of the potential of the EU emissions trading scheme to raise additional resources at EU level to tackle climate change.

08.01.2008 Available in EN 60 pages

Programmes Funded by the EU Budget with an Impact on Energy Policy and Climate Change, 6/2007

Kornelija VALENTELYTE, European Parliament

Programmes funded by the EU budget that are destined for promotion of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources include the Intelligent Energy - Europe Programme, and the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes for Research and Development. Rural development and LIFE programmes contribute to the sustainable management of natural resources. The structural and Cohesion Funds devote larger funding for the projects that contribute to the actions against climate change, in particular in the transport and energy sectors. As emissions from the transport account for a large share of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions, Marco Polo programme and Trans-European networks finances projects that aim to reduce emission.

21.06.2007 Available in EN, IT 19 pages

Energy Policy - Budgetary Elements, 6/2006

Jean-Jacques GAY and Fabrizio PEDICONI, European Parliament

As with all large industrial entities, the European Union, has over the course of the years developed an energy policy, in particular through multiannual programmes, the framework research programmes, Euratom, but also by actions within other budgetary headings. The vigorous growth of the world economy places the European Union on a similar footing like its main partners, facing a scarcity of traditional energy resources, which in turn requires major innovation in the field of energy policy and as reflected in the new financial framework 2007-2013, requiring a substantial reinforcement of the commitments allocated to this policy area.

06.06.2006 Available in EN 25 pages

OTHER

EU Budget Assistance for Natural Disasters in Member States and Candidate Countries 2002-2007, 7/2007

Kornelija VALENTELYTE, European Parliament

This document provides a description of the different instruments financed by the EU budget that may be used to help provide financial assistance to Member States and Candidate Countries in the event of natural disaster, and programmes that help with prevention, preparedness and management of natural disasters.

01.07.2007 Available in EN 18 pages

Natural Disasters in Member States and Candidate Countries 2002-2007, 7/2007

Kornelija VALENTELYTE, European Parliament

Detailed information on natural disasters in Member States and Candidate Countries from 2002 to 2007: dates, locations, types, damage caused and whether any EU funding was made available.

01.07.2007 Available in EN 42 pages

Background Note on Micro-Credits for the COBU Hearing: 27 February 2007, 2/2007

Helmut WERNER and Sina TIEDTKE, European Parliament

The introductory background note for the Hearing of the Committee on Budgets on Microcredits of 27 February 2007 contains the following items:

- EU definition of micro-credits;
- institutional progress in support of micro-finance in the EU (Multi-annual programme for enterprise and entrepreneurship (MAP), Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP));
- European network of micro-finance actors;
- Micro-finance in practice: key lesson and experiences (Hungary, France);
- Findings from the MAP evaluation study;
- possible questions.

26.02.2007 Available in EN 13 pages

Impact of Natural Disasters on Community Budget 2003-2005, 2/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This study examines aids that are available in case of natural disaster, those which have impact on community budget and those which do not, and additionally the instruments programmed in community budget intended to prevent, protect and reduce the effects of natural disasters.

22.02.2006 Available in EN, DE, FR 11 pages

Amounts Allocated to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), 9/2006

European Parliament

SMEs would receive substantially more per year from the research programme and in total in the new Financial Perspective compared to 2006 according to the proposals of Parliament, Council and the Commission. However, although SMEs would also receive significantly more from the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme under the Commission and Parliament proposals, they would receive less under the proposal of the European Council.

05.09.2006 Available in EN 3 pages

Towards Communication? 8/2006

Michael BRUGGEMAN, Julia DE CLERK-SACHSSE and Sebastian KURPAS, Centre for European Policy Studies

This study examines, on behalf of the EP's Budgetary Committee, the most important measures that came under communication headings in the general budget undertaken under the Commission's prerogatives in the years 2000 to 2005 with a view to developing recommendations for future actions. The focus of the study is to establish how much 'value for money' these measures represent by looking at their relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and utility. This study deals with the following areas of activity:

- 1) Media relations and particularly the spokespersons' service and seminars for journalists.
- 2) The PRINCE campaigns and in detail with the measures on the Euro, EU enlargement and the debate on the future of Europe.
- 3) Decentralisation and the work of the Commission's Representations.
- 4) The communication activities of DGs other than DG Comm and how they are coordinated.

31.08.2006 Available in EN 33 pages

Ex-Post Evaluation of the MAP 2001-2005 Initiative and Suggestions for the CIP 2007-2013, 8/2006

Centre for European Policy Studies

Centre for European Policy Studies found the programme to be generally effective in helping SMEs but observed mixed results in terms of cost-effectiveness. They noted that a lack of a clear connection between the general goals and specific pillars of the programme hindered implementation, that indicators selected to monitor the implementation of single projects was sometimes patchy or unclear and that, although progress had been made in regard to communication within the Commission, too often potential beneficiaries were unaware of the existence of the MAP. In order to further improve the impact and effectiveness of the programme in the period 2007-2013, they suggested a much tighter focus based on a few key objectives rather than the broad array of objectives that currently exist, the introduction of frequent and effective feedback mechanisms, and an adequate communications strategy.

31.08.2006 Available in EN 68 pages

EU Citizenship & Education Policies – Value for Money? 8/2006

Christoph O. MEYER, Centre for European Policy Studies

This study examines to what extent the main programmes and actions in the fields of education and citizenship delivered 'value for money' to the European taxpayer in the period 2000-05 (and in part also 2006). More specifically, it analyses their performance using the criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and utility. Furthermore, we have sought to provide guidance for the development of the next generation of programmes in both areas ('Europe for Citizens' and 'Lifelong Learning') for the period 2007-13.

01.08.2006 Available in EN 31 pages

Informing European Citizens? 8/2006

Sebastian KURPAS, Julia DE CLERCK-SACHSSE and Michael BRÜGGEMANN, Centre for European Policy Studies

The authors find expenditure on audiovisual co-productions (APCAV) and Euronews to be cost-effective means of reaching a mass audience. It considers the Commission's Audiovisual Service to be a useful tool for providing unedited material to the media, but is against the upgrading of Europe by Satellite (EbS) into a European News Agency on the grounds of cost and opposition from journalists. Although the Europa website has improved in recent years, it suggests more needs to be done, particularly regarding the search engine. It finds the Europarometer polls useful but relatively expensive. It recommends increased resources for the Europe Direct telephone and e-mail enquiry service, whose usage has grown considerably in recent years. Written publications are found to remain an important tool for reaching a public of all ages. Information outlets and Team Europe are considered relatively cost-efficient means of direct contact with the citizens. The study concludes by observing that the 8% reduction in DG Comm's budget in 2007 could jeopardise the considerable successes achieved in improving information to the citizens.

01.08.2006 Available in EN 37 pages

Multiplication Effects of Direct and Indirect Instruments to Complement National Funding, 5/2006

Elizabeth VILLAGÓMEZ and Emma Oteo ANTUÑANO, Almenara Estudios Económicos y Sociales, S.L.

The study provides concrete examples of multiplication effects of EU direct and indirect financing and discusses advantages and disadvantages of the different instruments of intervention. It assesses for each example their impact and formulates recommendations for conducting such projects, in particular in view of enhancing the leverage effect of the instruments.

The examples examined include - direct financing models: rural development: LEADER II - establishment of community councils, Ireland; environment: URBAN II - programme d'initiative communautaire URBAN (PIC URBAN), France; research: the V and VI framework programme (FP5 and FP6) for research and development - (SOSS, smart organisation of small services), Italy - France - Spain); trans European networks: Madrid - Barcelona French border high speed line, Spain and France; innovative measures under article 6 of the European social fund - futurisme ii (SMES), Belgium, Austria, Germany, Finland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom; - indirect financing models: loans and/or guarantees: application of solar thermal energy in the Mediterranean basin (MEDA - ASTEMB), Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Palestinian authority and Lebanon; FEMIP (facility for euro-mediterranean investment and partnership). financed by EIB, Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Malta, Cyprus, Israel, Gaza-west bank and Turkey; - mixed financing model: ERDF: "Improvement of naval port infrastructures", Spain.

29.05.2006 Available in EN 77 pages

Migration Monitoring, 4/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This note described the resources currently allocated to European migration monitoring, and future resources available for programmes in the field of freedom, justice and security. Until a formal legal base is adopted, however, no further commitments for European migration monitoring are allowed.

24.04.2006 Available in EN 5 pages

AGENCIES

Opportunity and Feasibility of Establishing Common Support Services for EU Agencies, 4/2009

Werner JANN, Bastian JANTZ, Julia FLEISCHER, Thurid HUSTEDT, Tobias BACH, *Institute for Management and Organisation, University of Potsdam*

EU decentralised agencies are submitted to some financial and administrative requirements initially established for the EU Institutions (e.g. arising from Staff Regulation, Financial Regulation). Given the size of most of them, a significant proportion of their staff is dealing with administrative tasks. The study aimed at proposing ways to address these issues. Following, among others, a survey among decentralised Agencies, it presents conclusions and recommendations as to:

- existing common support services, mainly at Commission's level;
- further functional areas suitable for shared services, such as those related to the budgetary process, procurement procedures and legal advice;
- and the possible organisation of such shared services for EU Agencies.

07.04.2009 Available in EN 142 pages

Agencies' Buildings, 12/2008

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

This note summarises information provided by the agencies regarding the buildings they occupy in the Member States and Brussels. Most agencies rent/lease - only 7 occupy buildings owned by themselves/the Communities. OHIM has the largest premises overall and CEPOL the smallest, while FRA has the largest and the ECHA the smallest premises in terms of size per member of staff. The highest rents are paid in London, Brussels and Luxembourg, whereas CEPOL, ENISA, ETF and EUROFOUND enjoy their premises virtually rent-free. While some agencies used a negotiated or open procedure to select their buildings, the majority have bought or are renting the only building(s) proposed to them by the Member States. Several agencies have indicated that they need more space.

09.12.2008 Available in EN 22 pages

Background Documents for Meeting with Agencies 2008, 7/2008

European Parliament

Details of agencies' expenditure, revenue and establishment plans in 2008, and requests for the agencies in the 2009 budget from the Commission and from the agencies themselves.

23.07.2008 Available in EN 131 pages

Budgetary Implementation of EU Agencies - the Use of EC Appropriations and the Assigned Revenue Instrument, 7/2008

François JAVELLE, European Parliament

Taking all theoretically available EC appropriations as a reference for the calculation of the Agencies' budgetary implementation rates leads to a weaker implementation (some 79% on average for 2006) than is usually pictured. Such an analysis also shows that in 2006 30% of finally unused funds have though been transferred to the Agencies. This excessive funding provides the Agencies with some margins to use this surplus during the 2 following years through the mechanism of assigned revenue. In this respect, the procedure followed for the first time in the 2009 Preliminary Draft Budget (PDB), which consists in anticipating assigned revenues available one year later for each Agency, is a step towards more rigorous budgetary management and better information for the Budgetary Authority, even if this new procedure also has drawbacks.

10.07.2008 Available in EN 43 pages

Series of Notes on Individual Agencies - Elements for an Evaluation, 5/2008

François JAVELLE, European Parliament

These notes follow a study completed by the Policy department in October 2007. They focus on individual Agencies and aim at providing elements for their evaluation. They specifically deal with budgetary and staffing matters, Agencies' tasks and objectives, their governance structure and the possible impact of their location. The agencies covered are: Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CDT), European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Eurojust, Office for Harmonisation of the Internal Market (OHIM), European Centre for the Development of Vocational training (Cedefop), European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA), European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (OSHA).

21.05.2008 Available in EN 66 pages (total)

Best Practice in Governance of Agencies – a Comparative Study in View of Identifying Best Practice for Governing Agencies Carrying out Activities on Behalf of the European Union, 1/2008

Werner JANN, Tobias BACH, Julia FLEISCHER, Thurid HUSTEDT, Institute for Management and Organisation, University of Potsdam

The comparative study comprises "public organisations outside core government" in seven EU Member States (Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom) and the EU agencies. Federal agencies in the USA are considered briefly. The report deals with agency governance at the three levels of (1) institutional design and the set up of agencies, (2) the (day-to-day) management and steering of agencies, and (3) agency accountability towards other actors (including audit) and transparency. The proposed recommendations for EU agencies include the following ones:

- limitation of number of agency types,
- stakeholders to be represented in management boards,
- agency staff to be recruited by open competition procedure,
- creation of an agency only after passing the recommended checklist,

- EU agencies to have managerial autonomy regarding finances and personnel,
- legal oversight by only one principal,
- governance by yearly performance agreement with limited number of objectives,
- regular scrutiny by EP committees and by the general public,
- regular and ad-hoc audit by the European Court of Auditors,
- clearly defined appeals process for each EU agency.

30.01.2008 Available in EN 261 pages

Agencies: Origin of Tasks, Local Conditions and Staffing, 10/2007

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

Many agencies carry out new tasks but a significant number have taken over tasks from the Commission and/or Member States. Most agencies have received at least start-up help from the host state. Generally, agencies have good access to international transport and international schooling but some face difficulties such as expensive schooling and accommodation, or lack of childcare or job opportunities for spouses. While for individual agencies, a significant proportion of staff tend to be of host country nationality, for the agency "sector" as a whole, nationalities are more widely distributed.

10.10.2007 Available in EN 15 pages

Background Documents for Meeting with Agencies 2007, 7/2007

European Parliament

Details of agencies' expenditure, revenue and establishment plans in 2007, and requests for the agencies in the 2008 budget from the Commission and from the agencies themselves.

11.07.2007 Available in EN 134 pages

Agencies' Discharge, 12/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

A study of the rules defining which agencies should be subject to discharge from the European Parliament. The rules as set out in article 185 of the Financial Regulation are found to be inconsistently applied and inconsistent with other articles in the Financial Regulation and other legal texts, which imply that all agencies should be subject to separate Parliamentary discharge. These findings are consistent with the European Parliament's call, as set out in the agency discharge resolutions, for Parliamentary discharge to be extended to all agencies.

12.12.2006 Available in EN, DE, FR 35 pages

Background Documents for Meeting with Agencies 2006, 7/2006

European Parliament

Details of agencies' expenditure, revenue and establishment plans in 2006, and requests for the agencies in the 2007 budget from the Commission and from the agencies themselves.

12.07.2006 Available in EN 138 pages

AUDIT AND FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD

Annual summaries in the context of shared management: evaluation, ways forward and possible usefulness for the Court of Auditors, 6/2009

Konrad KNEDLER, Miroslaw STASIK, Sławomir ŻAŁOBKA, Damian GADZINOWSKI, Marta MACKIEWICZ, Miriam ALLAM, European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)

For funds under shared management, Member States established annual summaries ("of the available audits and declarations") for the first time for the year 2007. The study analyses and evaluates the value added of the 2007 summaries. It concludes that, given the limited value-added of annual summaries in their current form, notably when compared to other existing reporting documents drawn up by Member States, the annual summaries should be developed further in view to instituting comprehensive national management declarations.

05.06.2009 Available in EN 100 pages

The Follow-up of the European Anti-Fraud Office's (OLAF) Administrative Investigations, 2/2009

Luis Rodriguez SOL, Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office, Madrid, David LEVY, Fraud Prosecution Office, London, Thomas LAMIROY and Jean Pascal THOREAU, Federal magistrates, Brussels, Alfredo ROBLEDO and Francesco CAJANI, Public Prosecution Office, Milano

This workshop took place on 19 February 2009 in the Committee on Budgetary Control meeting. Four experts from Member States' prosecutors' offices were invited to present written contributions and share their experiences. The workshop was set up in preparation of the revision of the OLAF regulation (codecision procedure).

19.02.2009 Available in EN 33 pages

OLAF - Activities and Functioning, 9/2006

Jean-Jacques GAY, European Parliament

Cette étude se livre à une première analyse de l'activité et du fonctionnement de l'OLAF, après 7 années d'existence. A observer ses prérogatives, l'on se rend compte, bien que doté d'une indépendance fonctionnelle dans l'exercice de sa mission d'enquête, que l'OLAF reste cependant un service administratif de la Commission. Dès lors, bien que l'Office ait globalement rempli la mission qui lui a été dévolue par son règlement, peut-on aussi souhaiter que le nouveau projet de règlement dont le Parlement est désormais saisi, puisse permettre de lever certaines ambigüités.

19.09.2006 Available in FR 42 pages

Whistleblowing Rules: Best Practice; Assessment and Revision of Rules Existing in EU Institutions, 5/2006

Björn ROHDE-LIEBENAU, RCC Risk Communication Concepts

The study explains the concept of "whistleblowing" and its importance notably for risk management. It reports different approaches for such protection of disclosure of information in the public interest from the UK, the USA, from other law traditions as well as from the United Nations General Secretariat. From this it distills 18 elements constituting Best Practice and which can be used for benchmarking. The current rules on whistleblowing in EU institutions are described and discussed in their context. The assessment against the benchmarks leads to proposals and recommendations for a revision of these rules.

12.05.2006 Available in EN 90 pages

OLAF: Perspectives and Suggestions for Reform, 4/2006

Jean-Jacques GAY, European Parliament

Créé le 1er juin 1999, au lendemain de la crise qui provoqua la chute de la Commission Santer, l'OLAF a été créé dans le but de protéger les intérêts financiers de l'Union européenne. Doté d'une indépendance fonctionnelle dans l'exercice de sa mission d'enquête l'OLAF reste pourtant largement un service administratif de la Commission. La note ci-après donne un premier aperçu des récentes études réalisées sur les activités de l'OLAF et son fonctionnement.

24.04.2006 Available in FR 7 pages

Strenghtening OLAF: Towards Greater Effectiveness in the Protection of the Communities' Financial Interests: the Revision of the OLAF Regulation 1073/99, 6/2005

Constantin STEFANOU and Helen XANTHAKI, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London

The study analyses and makes recommendations concerning the following issues: 1: A consideration of the relations between prosecution of fraud and audit/budgetary control authorities, 2: OLAF's administrative and operational independence, 3: Judicial supervision of investigations in European Institutions and in some Member States, OLAF's accountability, 4: Protecting witnesses and accused of OLAF's investigations, 5: OLAF's cooperation with national investigative bodies, 6: Possible evolution of OLAF's relations with European and Europol, and the future European Public Prosecutor, 7: Possible evolution of OLAF's relations with the European Parliament, in particular with the Committee on Budgetary Control.

30.06.2005 Available in EN 101 pages

REGULATORY AND OTHER QUESTIONS

including MFF, budgetary reforms, budgetary planning, code of conduct

The Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 and 2005-2009 budgetary procedures, 6/2009

François JAVELLE

During European Parliament's 6th legislature (2004-2009), five General Budgets of the European Union have been adopted. In this period, the budgetary procedures took place in the following context: two successive enlargements have produced their full effect, the European Union has also deeply reformed its financial management and a new multi-annual financial framework (MFF) and inter-institutional agreement (IIA) were negotiated and entered into force.

After a short introduction, this study presents the negotiations, content and implementation of the 2007-2013 MFF and IIA. Then from an EP's perspective, it gives an overview of the main achievements and successive steps of the annual budgetary procedures, from 2005 to 2009 Budgets.

12.06.2009 Available in EN 90 pages

Code of Conduct for Commissioners - improving effectiveness and efficiency, 6/2009

Blomeyer & Sanz

The aim of the external study was to provide the Committee on Budgetary Control, and also the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, with an independent evaluation of the current Code of Conduct applicable to Members of the European Commission with the aim of rendering the Code of Conduct more useful. The most important recommendations essentially focus on improving the Commissioners' declaration of interests, limiting the Commissioners' (national) political activity, strengthening post-office employment requirements, introducing additional transparency on Commissioner travel, strengthening the policy on the acceptance of gifts, providing for a specific course of action in the case of conflicts of interest arising in office, introducing monitoring and evaluation, and ensuring oversight in relation to the President of the Commission, highlighting existing complaints procedures in front of the European Ombudsman and providing for sanctions of minor Code of Conduct infringements.

Those recommendations aim to render the Code of Conduct a more effective instrument in promoting ethical conduct and in increasing public trust in the EC's ethics regime.

12.05.2009 Available in EN 118 pages

Factual Study on the Follow-Up of Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions, 4/2009

Fabia JONES and Christian APOSTOL, European Parliament

This study examines budgetary resources for Pilot Projects (PPs) and Preparatory Actions (PAs) in 2000-2008 and the outcome of PPs and PAs that have come to an end in this period. While the activities of the majority of PPs that ended during this period were continued in some form, 40% of them were nevertheless abandoned; the activities of only 16% of PAs were abandoned.

07.04.2009 Available in EN 76 pages

Liability of the Community and Liability of the Actors of the Financial Regulation, 10/2008

Deloitte Consulting

The objective of the study is to shed light on the question of "non-contractual liability" and compensation in connection with the application of the Financial Regulation of the European Communities. It considers jurisdiction based on article 288(2) TEC, and articles 64 to 68 of the Financial Regulation as well as article 22 of the Staff Regulations. For comparison, the relevant practice in three Member States (Belgium, Germany, UK) and at an international organisation (United Nations secretariat) is also looked at. Recommendations are formulated including the extent of liability and possible implications for the Financial Regulation.

17.10.2008 Available in EN 110pages

Decentralisation Following the Reform of the European Commission: Evaluation and Perception, 7/2008

Michael W. BAUER, Christoph KNILL, Tim BALINT and Stefan BENZING, University of Konstanz

This study analyses the current system of decentralised administrative support and coordination within the European Commission, focussing particularly on organisational efficiency in Human resources management and in External Communication as well as on staff perceptions in general. It includes eight recommendations.

25.07.2008 Available in EN, FR 122 pages

The Role of the European Parliament under the Financial Provisions of the Lisbon Treaty, 3/2008

Giacomo BENEDETTO, Centre for European Politics, Royal Holloway, University of London and Johannes LINDNER, European Central Bank

Giacomo Benedetto of the Centre for European Politics, Royal Holloway, University of London and Johannes Lindner of the European Central Bank provided contributions to the workshop of 27 March 2008 on the role of the European Parliament under the financial provisions of the Lisbon Treaty. Benedetto is of the opinion that the EP, Council and Commission all lose certain of their powers in this field but gain others, and all three institutions benefit from the simplification in procedures. Lindner considers that while, overall, the EP's powers regarding the EU's finances

have been strengthened, revision of the implementing rules and the EP's rules of procedure will determine the extent to which it takes advantage of these new powers.

26.03.2008 Available in EN 35 pages

Elements for a Comparison between EU and National Budgets' Breakdown from 2002 to 2005, 3/2008

François JAVELLE, European Parliament

The present note aims at identifying the respective levels and evolutions of EU and national budgets by categories. Its main conclusions are as follows:

- EU budget represented in 2005 some 2% of all national government expenditure,
- considering individual expenditure categories, the level of EU budget expenditure as a
 proportion of all EU-25 national budgets is close to 20% for the "Economic Affairs" category.
 This demonstrates the large input of EU budget to EU's productive environment. EU
 expenditure also reaches the significant threshold of 3.5% of national budgets as regards
 "environment protection",
- EU budget growth (+25%) from 2002 to 2005 has been faster than the consolidated national budgets' (+16%),
- the budget framework used ('Cofog') sheds a new light on the allocation of EU resources, since the respective evolutions of the considered expenditure categories show large shifts in the allocation of EU funds, that are not visible when considering the same expenditure by EU budget policy areas. These shifts result not only from the changes in Community's main policy priorities, but also from the allocation of funds within each individual policy, according to the sectoral legislation and guidelines.

It has finally not proved feasible to identify the part of national budgets that is aimed at fulfilling the cofinancing requirements of EU funding. A further step could be to request the Commission to carry out such an analysis, with a view to determine the leverage effect of EU funds.

17.03.2008 Available in EN 13 pages

Study on the Administrative Reforms of the Commission in Relation to ABB/ABM, 1/2008

Deloitte Consulting

This study aims at evaluating the achievements of the Commission's administrative reform objectives presented in the 2000 White Paper, concerning the introduction of tools for the definition of priorities, and a better allocation and use of resources (ABM). It addresses the three main following topics:- state of the play as regards ABB-ABM, - effectiveness of the new structures and procedures put in place in that context, - inherent characteristics and efficiency of these new structures and procedures. The main conclusion is that, although a lot of progress has been made, the system is far from realising its full potential. Several improvements could enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the SPP/ABM cycle. The recommendations presented concern both the content and the organisation of the SPP/ABM cycle.

17.01.2008 Available in DE, EN, FR 47 pages

National Parliaments' Use of Official Cars, 9/2007

Jean-Jacques GAY, European Parliament

Based on a survey led in 2002, in 27 countries, today EU members, upon request of the Questors College; this study replies to the request of analysis, made by the Committee on Budgetary Control, on use of service cars in public sector. If 2/3 countries have replied to the questionnaire addressed in 2002, only 3 countries have replied to the one addressed in spring 2007, which makes it impossible to provide comparative analysis. Although some information has been used from the replies delivered to the questionnaire from 2002, the realities vary to this point that the conclusions, based on national replies concerning the use of public cars, services and resources, avoid any generalisation.

21.09.2007 Available in EN, DE, FR 23 pages

The Financial Regulation of the European Communities - Comparative Study, 3/2007

Deloitte Consulting

This study should be seen in the context of the inter-institutional debate concerning further improvements of the Financial Regulation of the European Communities. In recent years, the focus in this debate has shifted more towards simplification of the financial rules, while continuing to ensure the principles of control, accountability and objectivity. To this end, the Directorate General for Internal Policies of the European Parliament decided to launch a comparative study on a number of subject matters of relevant areas that could serve as an input for the ongoing debate and for future reform efforts by the European Parliament in the years to come.

21.03.2007 Available in EN 62 pages

Financing the Globalisation Fund, 6/2006

Anne VITREY, European Parliament

The note sets out the legal provisions in the light of article 28 of the IIA of 17 May 2006, the Commission proposal and the Financial Regulation and discusses the financial mechanism, where does the funding come from and how is it made available.

15.06.2006 Available in DE, EN, ES, FR, IT, PT 9 pages

Financial Aspects of the Constitution for Europe, 6/2006

Fabia JONES, European Parliament

The modifications introduced by the draft Constitution for Europe were largely inspired by the practice the Institutions have followed over the last decades. The budgetary procedure was, at least formally, simplified, whilst respecting the balance of powers between Parliament and Council as foreseen in the current Treaty, and improved financial stability was introduced through incorporation of the multi-annual financial framework (MFF) into the Treaty. The protection of EU financial interests might be reinforced by the Constitution for Europe which paves the way for the creation of the European Public Prosecutor.

06.06.2006 Available in EN 12 pages

European Investment Bank - Activities, Mechanisms and Legal Aspects, 3/2006

Miriam ORIESKOVA, European Parliament

Note includes chapters on the EIB and the Lisbon Strategy, on the scope of the EIB's Activities, on Enhanced Cooperation Projects, on other financial mechanisms and on legal and financial limits of EIB support.

01.03.2006 Available in EN 9 pages

The Effect of the Application of Article 272 of the EC Treaty, 1/2006

Anne VITREY, European Parliament

The note addresses the technical and political feasibility of application of the European Parliament's right to increase expenditure in the budgetary procedure according to article 272 (9) of the EC Treaty by the "maximum rate of increase" mechanism.

30.01.2006 Available in EN 6 pages

Legal and Financial Support Available to Members of Parliament, 10/2005

European Parliament

The comparative study examines the legal and financial support available to Members of Parliaments (including those of the "Upper Houses") for their work, including individual staff and support provided by the political groups and administration. The study covers the parliaments of several EU Member States, the United States, Australia and Japan, and compares their services to the ones available for Member's of the European Parliament (MEPs) as well as their value for money.

14.10.2005 Available in EN 75 pages

DATA

Allocation of the EU Budget 2007, 9/2008

European Parliament

A selection of tables based on the European Commission publication "EU budget 2007 financial report" showing the allocation of EU expenditure by Member State and by Financial Perspective heading, and the source of EU resources.

07.09.2008 Available in EN 48 pages

EU Budget and National Budgets: 1997-2007, 7/2008

European Parliament

Annual data on the budgets of the Member States and the EU for the period 1997-2007 in € billion, as a percentage of GDP and annual growth rates.

07.07.2008 Available in EN 17 pages

Allocation of the EU Budget 2006, 3/2008

European Parliament

A selection of tables based on the European Commission publication "EU budget 2006 financial report" showing the allocation of EU expenditure by Member State and by Financial Perspective heading, and the source of EU resources.

07.03.2008 Available in EN 45 pages

EU Budget and National Budgets: 1996-2006, 7/2007

Kornelija VALENTELYTE, European Parliament

Annual data on the budgets of the Member States and the EU for the period 1996-2006 in € billion, as a percentage of GDP and annual growth rates.

07.07.2007 Available in EN 18 pages

Allocation of the EU Budget 2005, tables, 7/2007

Kornelija VALENTELYTE, European Parliament

A selection of tables based on the European Commission publication "Allocation of 2005 EU expenditure by Member State" showing the allocation of EU expenditure by Member State and by Financial Perspective heading, and the source of EU resources.

07.07.2007 Available in EN 50 pages

see also the **Budget "DIY" kit**, a database on the budgetary procedure (current, on a rolling basis) in the budget folder of EPADES-PUBLIC and on the Policy department's intranet site

see also the **Budget Implementation and the RAL figures**, updated at least once per month on the Policy Department's intranet site http://www.ipolnet.ep.parl.union.eu/ipolnet/cms/pid/2303



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