

MEPs must vote to tackle poverty by protecting the environment

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MEPs will vote in committee on a revised European Consensus on Development on 25 January. WWF is calling on them to ensure the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and the economic, environmental and social aspects of sustainable development are fully reflected in future EU development aims.

“The oceans, air and forests are shared across borders. Protecting them now means protecting the wellbeing of future generations across the world”, commented **Sally Nicholson, Head of Development Policy and Finance** at WWF European Policy Office. “We count on MEPs to put environment at the heart of development aims, and ensure EU policy is consistent with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which encompass people, planet and the economy.”

“The EU must also make sure none of its policies undermine sustainable development efforts in other countries - for example, when importing goods like fish or timber,” added Nicholson.

What's happening:

The European Parliament is voting in committee on Wednesday 25 January [on its report on the European Consensus for Development](#). A vote in plenary will follow on 13 February, and the outcome will become the Parliament's position on the Consensus as negotiations go forward with the Member States and Commission.

The revision of the Consensus is an opportunity to make EU development policy better reflect the system-wide changes required for greater sustainability. The Consensus must reflect the the Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015.

What is the European Consensus for Development?

The European Development Consensus sets out how the EU and its Member States will cooperate on development matters over the next ten years. It defines their shared goals and values, and is the basis for joint contribution to the external part of sustainable development. The European Commission published its proposal for a new Consensus in November 2016 - [which WWF reacted to](#) - and now the Parliament and Member States are discussing it.

What's next:

The Foreign Affairs Council should adopt conclusions on the revision of the Consensus in May 2017.

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