



THE ROLE OF EUROPEAN CONSULTANTS IN THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF EU DEVELOPMENT POLICY

From Policy to Projects



THE CHALLENGE

"As I hope you will already be aware, when we embarked on the reform programme, the main aim was to improve the delivery of external assistance to ensure that the Community budget was being well spent and was reaching those for whom it was intended. With an overall aid budget of more than 10 billion in 2002, the Commission has a responsibility to make sure the Union gets the most value for money."

Chris Patten, Commissioner for External Relations

"What is the main goal of our policy? Fight against poverty is the European priority objective of development aid."

*Poul Nielson, Commissioner for
Development and Humanitarian Aid*



THE MISSION

*Consulting engineers and consultants play a key role in
implementing EU development policy*

They analyse each project in its global context including the social, environmental and economic dimensions. They contribute in many ways to the successful achievement of development programmes and strategies of the European Union.

THE ROLE OF EUROPEAN CONSULTANTS



European consultants have developed innovative instruments to promote economic development designed to meet the challenges of the future by putting available human, financial and institutional resources to optimal use.

They contribute efficiently to the main objectives of EU external aid by:

- providing professional designs best suited for local conditions. A well-engineered project can be enhanced by an effective legal and financial framework, but clever financing can never make a badly designed project feasible;



- proposing appropriate technologies which facilitate the long-term ownership and ongoing maintenance of projects by the beneficiaries;



- transferring know-how, pooling European resources as necessary and cooperating with local firms;



- endorsing the political will to achieve good governance and to fight corruption.



EFCA AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



EFCA

EFCA is the sole European federation representing engineering consultancy and related services. It comprises 25 national associations from 24 European countries and represents approximately 10,000 firms which are currently employing over 221,000 staff. These firms have an annual turnover exceeding 26 billion.

EFCA is a non-profit making and independent professional organisation committed to represent and promote engineering consultancy and related services.

EFCA endeavours to support the implementation of:

- appropriate legislation
- fair business conditions
- efficient selection and award procedures in the tendering process
- adequate information sources
- proper publicity for evolving programmes

EFCA and its membership are committed to sustainability and integrity

EFCA's Task Force on Development Cooperation

- Focuses on constructive contacts with the European Commission and other agencies active in the development sector;
- Monitors relevant development initiatives in the European Commission and the European Parliament;
- Presents the views of the profession on a series of issues such as tender procedures, availability of experts, unfair competition, the impact of the EU's deconcentration and decentralisation policies, fee rates, etc.
- Promotes the expertise of the profession.

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF ENGINEERING CONSULTANCY ASSOCIATIONS

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