

INGLÉS. SEGUNDO EJERCICIO. PARTE B.

PRUEBAS SELECTIVAS PARA INGRESO EN LA ESCALA DE TÉCNICOS FACULTATIVOS SUPERIORES DE ORGANISMOS AUTÓNOMOS DEL MINISTERIO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE CONVOCADAS POR RESOLUCIÓN DE 17 DE OCTUBRE DE 2016.

(TEXTO PARA LECTURA POR ESPECIALISTA)

Solidarity at the heart of European construction

The European Union (EU) and its Member States are the largest donors of official development assistance (ODA). Together, in 2013, they provided aid to the tune of €56.5 billion, which amounted to 52 % of the total global ODA donated during the year.

The EU has a global presence in 140 countries, wide-ranging expertise and a unique credibility and neutrality when it comes to human rights, electoral observation, governance and crisis resolution. The EU programmes stretch over several years, thus mobilising long-term and predictable aid. Both are essential factors in achieving sustainability in development.

The EU plays a role in coordinating the actions of the different donors. Thanks to its supranational dimension, it can set ambitious joint objectives and map out comprehensive solutions to global development challenges. In the current economic climate, avoiding duplication makes more sense than ever. Finally, the EU has the critical weight to respond to global challenges.

The EU's development activities are coordinated with its efforts in other fields, such as humanitarian aid, environment, security and trade policy.

Development cooperation has been part of the European integration process from the beginning. The Treaty of Rome (1957) provided for the creation of the European Development Fund to grant assistance to colonies and overseas territories. When decolonisation began in the early 1960s, Member States agreed to share part of the cost of supporting their former colonies following their independence. The policy was gradually extended to include more and more developing countries in Asia, Latin America and the European neighbourhood.

The year 2000 saw the signature of the far-reaching Cotonou Agreement between the EU and African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. This trade and aid agreement is the most comprehensive partnership between ACP countries and the EU to date and was concluded for a 20-year period. It aims to work together to eradicate poverty and to help ACP countries integrate into the world economy.

Additional financial instruments, such as the Development Cooperation Instrument and the European Neighbourhood Instrument, allow the EU to pursue its work in other parts of the world.

Furthermore, in 2000, the EU committed itself to supporting the United Nations millennium development goals to reduce extreme poverty by 2015.