

Weekly Compass Extended Version

Topics monitored

Some sections may be empty if there was no news this week.
For archives: http://delicious.com/cotonou_online/policy_news

Editor's Choice.....	2
Off the track.....	3
Development Policy.....	3
International external assistance.....	3
EU external assistance.....	3
International development and aid effectiveness.....	3
EU development effectiveness.....	7
Financing for development.....	7
EU Coordination, Complementarity and Coherence (3Cs) and division of labour.....	7
Migration and development.....	7
Climate change and development.....	8
Food security / agriculture.....	8
International Relations.....	9
EU institutional change.....	9
EU Common Foreign and Security Policy – The EU's role in the world.....	11
Conflict, peace-building, security and development (for all conflict and peace related items that are not explicitly CFSP related).....	12
EU enlargement / neighbourhood policy.....	13
Political dialogue – ACP-EU.....	13
Joint Africa-EU Strategy.....	13
African Union / NEPAD.....	13
Economic and Trade Cooperation.....	14
Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) negotiations.....	14
Aid for Trade / EPA development support.....	16
Monitoring EPA implementation.....	16
General economic and trade issues.....	16
Governance.....	18
ACP governance initiatives.....	18
Governance and development partners.....	18
EU-Africa governance dialogue.....	19
Civil society.....	19
Decentralisation and local governance.....	19
Knowledge Management and Communication.....	20
Capacity development.....	20
Knowledge management.....	20
Research for development.....	20
Monitoring, evaluation and learning in international cooperation.....	21
Communication for development.....	21

No. 24 - 15 January 2010

Dear Reader,

The European Commissioner-Designates hearings were of course the focus of EU news this week. The [Weekly Compass-Extended Version](#) provides links to the recorded hearings, summaries and the most relevant analysis. And you can click [here](#) to access my own personal notes, which are focused on the areas of particular interest to the ACP, from the High Representative/Vice-President's and Development Commissioner-Designate's hearings.

The [Weekly Compass-Extended Version](#) also includes the regular information monitored this week on trade, aid, international relations and governance and several potentially interesting upcoming meetings in these areas.

All the best,

Melissa

Melissa Julian
mj@ecdpm.org,

Services

Manage your [subscriptions](#) |

More [about ECDPM](#)

Check our [Event Calendar](#)

[Click to visit the InfoCentre](#) web page

Visit our programme home pages:

- [Development Policy and International Relations](#)
- [Economic and Trade Cooperation](#)
- [Governance](#)

Editor's Choice

Putting Politics in the Picture. Translating governance and political economy analysis into action for development

To maximise the benefits from aid and minimise the risk of doing harm, donors need to take into account the partner country's political and economic realities. To do this, a number of donors have decided to invest more energy in governance and political economy analysis. In a contribution to capacity4dev.eu, EuropeAid's interactive platform that supports the European Commission's efforts to make technical cooperation more effective, ECDPM's Jan Vanheukelom outlines donors' efforts to develop models for the systematic analysis of power and its impact on policy change and reform processes. The added-value of this analysis is already proving itself, particularly at the sector level. Donors are making informed shifts in their approaches to support areas, and more often processes, where support is more effective. The article also provides references for three recent how-to publications on political economy analysis. Click here to read the full article.

<http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/putting-politics-picture>

Other Policy News Highlights

New opportunity for countries to apply for EU GSP+ scheme

The European Commission invites developing countries to submit requests to be granted additional preferences under the "Generalised Tariff Preferences Special Incentive Arrangement for Sustainable Development and Good Governance" (or GSP+ in short). The deadline for submission of requests is 30 April. Preferences will apply from 1 July 2010. Click here for more information.

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2009/november/tradoc_145451.pdf

Call for papers on Africa's peace and security infrastructure

The Addis Ababa-based Institute for Security Studies invites policy-makers, academics, practitioners and policy researchers to submit abstracts, and subsequently papers, which assess a broad range of issues relating to the African Union's Peace and Security Council. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 29 January. Papers will be due on 19 March. Authors will present their papers at an Expert Roundtable on 29-30 March. Click here for more information.

http://www.issafrica.org/index.php?link_id=3994&slink_id=9403&link_type=12&slink_type=12&tmpl_id=3

EC told to improve aid implementation and focus on results

An EU Court of Auditors report concludes that the European Commission's decision to implement EU assistance through the United Nations is not based on sufficient evidence that this approach is more efficient and effective than other ways of delivering aid. Click here to read the report.

<http://eca.europa.eu/portal/pls/portal/docs/1/3640294.PDF>

Networks of Influence? Developing Countries in a Networked Global Order

Little attention has been paid to the role of developing countries in the construction of informal inter-government networks and to the implications for these countries of the shift to an increasingly networked world order. This book edited by Leonardo Martinez-Diaz and Ngaire Woods enters the debate with an exploration of whether these trends will leave weaker states better or worse off. Click here to read the introduction and order the book.

http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=PGxI_R9jA5YC&dq=Networks+of+Influence+%3F+Developing+countries+in+a+Networked+Global+Order&printsec=frontcover&source=bl&ots=Z5v2tN5vKn&sig=1afWhDRIO6ZE-22qXm80KH8nCLU&hl=en&ei=zstOS5-2lo-80gTju420Cg&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=1&ved=0CAcQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=&f=false

Click here to read Duncan Green of Oxfam International's short summary of the book:

<http://www.oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/?p=1720>

The MDGs and Beyond: Pro-Poor Policy in a Changing World

Recent global crises have changed the context within which the debate on the Millennium Development Goals is taking place, with growing calls for a new development paradigm. This issue of UNDP's *Poverty in Focus* reviews the experience so far and examines what can be done to accelerate progress up to the 2015 deadline and beyond.

<http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCPovertyInFocus19.pdf>

Bridging regional policy and practice in West Africa

According to disgruntled truck drivers across eight West African countries, it is virtually impossible to drive from Cotonou (Benin) to Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) without paying a small fortune in bribes. The interviews were conducted by West Africa Trade Hub consultants as part of a study exploring economic integration in the region.

Click here to read more. http://www.watradehub.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1489

Click here for more on the Improved Road Transport Governance Initiative.

http://www.watradehub.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=38&Itemid=53

Off the track

Dynamic Planning for Counter-Insurgency in Afghanistan

This slide says it all about how complex development can be

http://msnbcmedia.msn.com/i/MSNBC/Components/Photo/_new/Afghanistan_Dynamic_Planning.pdf

Development Policy

International external assistance

EU external assistance

The Spanish EU presidency: Opportunities in development finance. Eurodad. 8 January 2010.

The start of 2010 sees Spain take the EU presidency for the second time since it joined the EU in 1986. As presiding country, Spain is in a key position to push for stronger deals on development finance. Addressing issues such as aid, capital flight, the Lisbon Treaty and why development money should not be channelled through International Financial Institutions, Eurodad's director Nuria Molina speaks in a video interview about Spain's responsibilities over the next six months. Watch the interview here:

<http://www.webershandwick.eu/presidency/videos/230>

International development and aid effectiveness

Networks of Influence? Developing Countries in a Networked Global Order

Little attention has been paid to the role of developing countries in the construction of informal inter-government networks and to the implications for these countries of the shift to an increasingly networked world order. This book edited by Leonardo Martinez-Diaz and Ngaire Woods enters the debate with an exploration of whether these trends will leave weaker states better or worse off. Click here to read the introduction and order the book.

http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=PGxI_R9jA5YC&dq=Networks+of+Influence+%3F+Developing+countries+in+a+Networked+Global+Order&printsec=frontcover&source=bl&ots=Z5v2tN5vKn&sig=1afWhDRIO6ZE-22qXm80KH8nCLU&hl=en&ei=zstOS5-2lo-80gTju420Cg&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=1&ved=0CAcQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=&f=false

Click here to read Duncan Green of Oxfam International's short summary of the book:

<http://www.oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/?p=1720>

The MDGs and Beyond: Pro-Poor Policy in a Changing World

Recent global crises have changed the context within which the debate on the Millennium Development Goals is taking place, with growing calls for a new development paradigm. This issue of UNDP's *Poverty in Focus* reviews the experience so far and examines what can be done to accelerate progress up to the 2015 deadline and beyond.

<http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCPovertyInFocus19.pdf>

Millenium Development Goals Dossier. A comprehensive look at the MDGs in 2010. EADI.

Much has changed since the Millennium Declaration in 2000. The global economic crisis itself marks the end of a relatively benign period for development cooperation of buoyant aid budgets in the OECD-countries ("the North") and strong commitments to public expenditures on social sectors in the South, reasonable economic growth in many developing countries and a consensus on policy parameters and instruments in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). With the 2015 deadline for achieving the MDGs approaching, the development stakeholders recognise the need for a better understanding of who is doing what and which approaches produce the best results.

EU assistance implemented through United Nations organisation. Decision-making and monitoring. EU Court of Auditors Report. 13 January 2010.

The aid implemented by the European Commission through United Nations organisations amounted to over 1 billion euro in 2008. The European Court of Auditors has examined whether decisions to channel aid through the UN have been the result of a transparent and objective selection process and whether monitoring arrangements provide adequate information on the achievement of objectives and the robustness of financial procedures. The European Parliament in its discharge decisions has questioned why the Commission channels funds through the UN, and encouraged more direct management by the Commission. Click here for the summary:

[http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=ECA/10/5&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en)

[reference=ECA/10/5&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=ECA/10/5&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en)

Want to help write this year's Human Development Report? From Poverty to Power by Duncan Green. 13 January 2010.

2010 marks two decades years since the first Human Development Report was published by the UN Development Program in 1990. Besides subsequently spawning huge numbers of useful HDR1990 national and thematic reports, the global HDRs have become some of the most influential of annual development analyses, for many years providing an invaluable intellectual counterweight to some of the excesses and errors of the Washington Consensus, which was at its zenith when that first HDR was published. The 2010 Report, *Rethinking Human Development*, will contain a conceptual restatement of human development. One of the contributors, Sabina Alkire

of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) has drafted a 1.5 page discussion and definition of Human Development and is calling for feedback and suggestions for improvement by the end of January.

Please respond to Sabina.alkire@qeh.ox.ac.uk www.oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/?p=1691

[How to reform the British Foreign Office. Mark Malloch-Brown in the FT. 13 January 2009.](#)

The former Foreign Office minister and ex-deputy secretary-general of the United Nations, writes that like it or not, we are all multilateralists now and that raises the most fundamental issue: is the modern Foreign Office equipped to act in this new forum? The Treasury has been oblivious to the fact that diplomacy is people, buildings (some admittedly, but usefully, very grand) and travel. Unlike health or defence, there is almost no programme – no health service or helicopters. So when Britain's interests are so global, the budget for our international representation has been steadily cut, as has our ability to contribute to key multilateral tasks such as UN peacekeeping, the low-cost alternative to go-it-alone missions.

www.ft.com/cms/s/0/5d9031d6-0079-11df-b50b-00144feabdc0,s01=1.html

[Top 5 reasons why Failed state is a failed concept. William Easterly. 13 January 2010.](#)

[Analysing the economics and politics of state-business relations in Africa and India. Research for Development. 12 January 2010.](#)

The first results from a major international project investigating state-business relations across India and a range of countries in sub-Saharan Africa are published by the DFID-funded Research Programme Consortium on Improving Institutions for Pro-Poor Growth (IPPG). The findings, which range from a new index that compares the effectiveness of state-business relations in Indian states, to a study of institutional weakness in post-apartheid South Africa, share the aim of identifying the political and economic factors affecting the relations between states and businesses and which shape the institutions (both formal and informal) which govern them.

www.research4development.info/news.asp?ArticleID=50556

[The ethics of aid. Kenyan author Binyavanga Wainaina via Chris Blattman's blog. 10 January 2010.](#)

"A lot of people arrive in Africa to assume that it's a blank empty space and their goodwill and desire and guilt will fix it. And that to me is not any different from the first people who arrived and colonized us. This power, this power to help, is just about as dangerous as hard power, because very often it arrives with a kind of zeal that is assuming 'I will do it. I will solve it for you. I will fix it for you,' and it rides roughshod over your own best efforts." That is Kenyan author Binyavanga Wainaina speaking to Krista Tippett on the Ethics of Aid. The podcast and transcript are here.

[Markets and aid in Beyond Planning: Markets and Networks for Better Aid. Owen Barder's blog. 8 January 2010.](#)

In response to a critical analysis of his book from Oxfam International's Duncan Green, Barder defends himself in arguing that he is in favour of choice AND voice. He says that "a large part of the paper, especially when talking about networks, is precisely about how citizens can have more voice, and I talk explicitly about citizens links through new social media. But there are huge problems to overcome in achieving this, because the "intended beneficiaries" are geographically and politically remote from decision-makers in aid agencies, which means their voice is dimly heard, if at all." The aid industry has almost entirely evaded the reform of public services over the last decade. There is no measurement of results; no distinction between purchaser and provider; no customer choice. Presumably the lack of reform is partly because the shortcomings of the industry are felt by people with no political power or voice in the political systems of donor countries. www.owen.org/blog/3008

[Testing the Government in Rio. Development Ideas Jamboree Blog. 5 January 2010.](#)

In December the GDS project co-hosted a roundtable discussion in Rio. Brazil is one of the 'emerging' economies often referred to as a part of the BRICs and has a reputation for bold progressive leftist politics following the election of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in 2002, a founding member of the National Workers Party. This combination of macro-level growth and socialist negotiation we felt should provide fertile ground for alternative takes on the main development narratives. Development of a moral economy was an overwhelming concern. Low carbon growth was another concern, though it was more often described as environmental conservation. As the discussion wore on, it became increasingly evident that there are few spaces to have a critical discussion about Lula's policies both within and outside of Brazil. There was precious little reference to learning from other countries. How refreshing it was to discuss race and its role in social development. Report available soon

[The Triple Crisis and the Global Aid Architecture. UNU-WIDER. January 2010.](#)

The global economy is passing through a period of profound change. The immediate concern is with the financial crisis, originating in the North. The South is affected via reduced demand and lower prices for their exports, reduced private financial flows, and falling remittances. This is the first crisis. Simultaneously, climate change remains unchecked, with the growth in greenhouse gas emissions exceeding previous estimates. This is the second crisis. Finally, malnutrition and hunger are on the rise, propelled by the recent inflation in global food prices. This constitutes the third crisis. These three crises interact to undermine the prosperity of present and future generations. Each has implications for international aid and underline the need for concerted action.

Why aid isn't working and how it should be changed? Danish Institute for International Studies. December 2009. Everyone knows that aid is not working as intended, and that something must change. The current international aid debate is characterized by dichotomies and over-simplified generalizations. In order to push the debate forward and identify solutions we must first reframe the aid debate. The most important factors undermining aid's effectiveness need to retake center stage in the debate. These include: what is economic development and the role of aid in achieving it; the politics of aid relationships in aid dependent countries and how they generate perverse incentives; and the everyday practices and bureaucratic routines of aid agencies and how they diminish the impact of aid. Based on a reassessment of why aid is working, and on assessment that reforms inspired by the Paris Declaration have largely failed, the paper concludes with a different approach to changing the way donor countries think about aid and the way bilateral and multilateral agencies give aid.

http://www.diis.dk/graphics/Publications/WP2009/WP2009-34_Reframing_the_aid_debate.pdf

Policy advice in development cooperation: a distinct type of policy advice. German Development Institute. 2009.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/ANES-7YUGCJ?Open&nav=expand:Publikationen;active:Publikationen%5CANES-7YUGCJ](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7YUGCJ?Open&nav=expand:Publikationen;active:Publikationen%5CANES-7YUGCJ)

International division of labour: towards a criteria-led process? German Development Institute. 2009.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/ANES-7Y5DNU?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7Y5DNU](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7Y5DNU?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7Y5DNU)

China and the EU's engagement in Africa: setting the stage for cooperation, competition or conflict? German Development Institute. 2009.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/ANES-7WYDQ2?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7WYDQ2](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7WYDQ2?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7WYDQ2)

EU development effectiveness

EU Presidency Economic and Financial Affairs Council priorities. Strengthening the external dimension of the EU: G-20 and Climate Change. Taxation and the fight against fraud. 8 January 2010.

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/10/st05/st05036.en10.pdf>

EC told to improve aid implementation and focus on results

An EU Court of Auditors report concludes that the European Commission's decision to implement EU assistance through the United Nations is not based on sufficient evidence that this approach is more efficient and effective than other ways of delivering aid. Click here to read the report.

<http://eca.europa.eu/portal/pls/portal/docs/1/3640294.PDF>

Revision of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, European Parliament Development Committee Report. 17 December 2009.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+REPORT+A7-2009-0086+0+DOC+PDF+V0//EN>

The Future of European Development Cooperation: Seeking Global Solutions or Retracing a Niche by 2020? German Development Institute. 2009.

http://www.diis.dk/graphics/Publications/WP2009/WP2009-20_Future_European_Development_Cooperation_web.pdf

A better link between security and development in the European Union? The European Community's Instrument for Stability. German Development Institute. 2009.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/ANES-7WTFL6?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7WTFL6](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7WTFL6?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7WTFL6)

Financing for development

EU Coordination, Complementarity and Coherence (3Cs) and division of labour

Migration and development

Migrants in Europe as Development Actors. Between hope and vulnerability. European Social Watch Report 2009. The European Union has the responsibility to ensure respect for the human rights of migrants, not only within its own borders but also in countries with which there are agreements relating to migrants. An end should be put to any form of degrading treatment in the course of a repatriation procedure. European governments need to make all possible efforts to avoid and address migrant workers' exploitation. Any failure by Europe to implement its approach to migrants in accordance with its values as set out in the Treaty and legal obligations undermines its legitimacy. In part the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families by the European Union and its Member States would be a positive step in the right direction. So too would be their endorsement of the Revised European Social Charter with its provisions for migrant workers and their families. <http://www.socialwatch.eu/wcm/home.html>

Climate change and development

EU trade Commissioner-Designate rejects carbon border tariffs. EurActiv.com. 13 January 2010.

The European Union should not impose border tariffs on goods from countries that fail to cut back their climate-damaging emissions, the EU's trade commissioner-designate said. "I don't think that's the right approach myself," Karel de Gucht told members of the European Parliament, which will vote whether to approve the European Commission line-up on 26 January. "It's an approach that will run into many practical problems."

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-environment/eu-trade-chief-designate-rejects-carbon-border-tariffs/article-188796>

Carbon tariffs resurface in Copenhagen aftermath. EurActiv.com. 8 January 2010.

The idea of a carbon tax at the EU's borders is gaining momentum after the Copenhagen climate talks, with French President Nicolas Sarkozy leading calls for a tariff on imports from China and other nations with less stringent environmental protection rules. The European Commission is due to present its analysis of the outcome of the negotiations at an informal environment ministers' meeting on 15-17 January to assist the bloc in formulating its strategy for moving forward. But the timing is difficult as the commissioners-designate will not attend their hearings at the Parliament until next week.

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-environment/carbon-tariffs-resurface-copenhagen-aftermath/article-188645>

EU wants reform of UN climate talks. European Voice. 8 January 2010.

Structure of UN talks needs changing and US needs to be 'much more' engaged, EU presidency says. The Spanish EU presidency said today that the United Nations must reform the way it conducts climate negotiations, if it is to avoid a repeat of last month's disappointment at Copenhagen. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, Spain's foreign minister, said that the "way it [Copenhagen] was discussed, prepared, was not appropriate for a successful outcome". <http://www.europeavoice.com/article/2010/01/eu-wants-reform-of-un-climate-talks/66825.aspx>

EU Presidency Economic and Financial Affairs Council priorities. Strengthening the external dimension of the EU: G-20 and Climate Change. Taxation and the fight against fraud. 8 January 2010.

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/10/st05/st05036.en10.pdf>

Food security / agriculture

Bulletin de veille Souveraineté Alimentaire. Inter-réseaux Développement rural. 14 janvier 2010.

<http://www.inter-reseaux.org/bulletin-de-veille/article/bulletin-de-veille-souverainete-4128>

Foreign land purchases for agriculture: what impact on sustainable development? UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. January 2010.

Private investors and governments have recently stepped up foreign investment in farmland in the form of purchases or long-term lease of large tracks of arable land, notably in Africa. This brief examines the implications of this trend for sustainable development.

http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_pdfs/publications/ib/no8.pdf

Climate, agriculture and food security: A strategy for change. Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). FARA Secretariat. January 2010.

The Challenge Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), which will launch in early 2010, unites the world's best researchers in agricultural science, climate science and earth system science to address the climate change–food security problem. The transformative research programme provides a framework for these communities to work together and, by doing so, to go beyond their traditional boundaries and open up new and unique possibilities in the search for solutions. The report is organized around the six themes of the CCAFS science plan to emphasize the importance of this new strategic initiative and to show how this new Challenge Program builds on, and complements, the work already done by the centres and the other Challenge Programs. <http://farastaff.blogspot.com/2010/01/climate-agriculture-and-food-security.html>

Agricultural policies in Sub-Saharan Africa: understanding CAADP and APRM policy processes. German Development Institute. 2009.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/ANES-7X8J53?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7X8J53](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7X8J53?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7X8J53)

International Relations

EU institutional change

Melissa Julian's notes of hearings of High Representative/Vice President and Development Commissioner-Designate's hearings

<http://drop.io/melissajulian3/asset/ep-hearings-notes-doc>

Pressure mounts on Bulgaria to withdraw its EU nominee. Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats in the European Parliament. 14 January

2010. http://www.socialistsanddemocrats.eu/gpes/public/detail.htm?id=133560§ion=NER&category=NEWS&startpos=0&topicid=-1&request_locale=EN

Two would-be commissioners looking wobbly after their hearings in the European Parliament – the Lithuanian Algirdas Semeta and Bulgaria's Rumiana Jeleva. EU Observer. 13 January 2010.

<http://blogs.euobserver.com/mahony/2010/01/13/trading-insults-in-the-ep/>

See also: <http://www.europeanvoice.com/article/imported/politics-play-into-rating-for-new-commission/66850.aspx>
<http://blogs.euobserver.com/mahony/2010/01/13/trading-insults-in-the-ep/>

MEP doubts over Bulgarian European Commissioner-designate for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, Rumiana Jeleva. BBC. 13 January 2010.

Ms Jeleva failed to convince some MEPs about her suitability. Bulgaria's candidate for a post in the new European Commission is under pressure to dispel concerns about her past ownership of a consultancy firm. Euro MPs have asked Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso and the European Parliament's legal service to look into the matter further. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8456561.stm>

Commissioner-designate for Trade Karel De Gucht. European Parliament Hearing. 12 January 2010.

Click here for De Gucht written replies to questions:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/hearings/static/commissioners/answers/de_gucht_replies_en.pdf

Click here for introductory statement:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/multimedia/eplive/cont/20100112MLT67138/media_20100112MLT67138.mp3

Click here for full hearing: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/wps-europarl-internet/frd/vod/search-other-events?language=en>

European Voice coverage: <http://www.europeanvoice.com/article/2010/01/de-gucht-gives-strong-performance/66841.aspx>
<http://tinyurl.com/y8qdgsq>

Commissioner for Development-Designate Andris Piebalgs. Summary of European Parliament hearing. European Parliament. 11 January 2009.

Click here for his written replies to questions: http://ec.europa.eu/development/pdf/piebalgs_replies_en.pdf

Click here to listen to his opening statement:

[http://javascript:SipadeDocWindow2\('/multimedia/eplive/cont/20100111MLT67115/media_20100111MLT67115.asf](http://javascript:SipadeDocWindow2('/multimedia/eplive/cont/20100111MLT67115/media_20100111MLT67115.asf)

Click here to watch the hearing in full: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/wps-europarl-internet/frd/vod/player?eventCode=20100111-1800->

[SPECIAL&language=en&byLeftMenu=researchotherevents&category=SPECIAL&format=wmv](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/wps-europarl-internet/frd/vod/player?eventCode=20100111-1800-SPECIAL&language=en&byLeftMenu=researchotherevents&category=SPECIAL&format=wmv)

For audio recording of the hearing:

<ftp://ftpeps01.europarl.eu.int/epavradio/hearings/20100111%20Piebalgs/20100111%20Piebalgs%20hearings%20EN.mp3>

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/008-66989-008-01-02-901-20100108IPR66988-08-01-2010-2010-false/default_en.htm

European Commission Parliamentary hearings. Piebalgs wins applause. European Voice. 12 January 2010.

Latvian commissioner-designate picks his way through a minefield in parliamentary hearing. The commissioner stepped delicately through the potential minefield of how development would fit into the EU's new foreign policy architecture, insisting that there would be "no real battles" with the EU's new foreign policy supremo, Catherine Ashton. There were few surprises, although a firm declaration in favour of a Tobin tax on currency trading was a rare instance of a commissioner-designate putting his head above the parapet.

www.europeanvoice.com/article/2010/01/piebalgs-wins-applause/66839.aspx

EU High Representative Common Foreign and Security Policy-European Commission Vice-President Catherine Ashton European Parliament hearing. European Parliament. 11 January 2010.

Click here for Ashton's opening statement:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/multimedia/eplive/cont/20100111MLT67082/media_20100111MLT67082.mp3
and

http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/ashton/docs/ashton_speech_hearing-ep.pdf

Click here for Ashton's written replies to questions:

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/hearings/static/commissioners/answers/ashton_replies_en.pdf

Click here for full hearing: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/wps-europarl-internet/frd/vod/player?eventCode=20100111-1531->

[SPECIAL&language=en&byLeftMenu=researchotherevents&category=SPECIAL&format=wmv](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/wps-europarl-internet/frd/vod/player?eventCode=20100111-1531-SPECIAL&language=en&byLeftMenu=researchotherevents&category=SPECIAL&format=wmv)

EU Council Secretariat report of the meeting: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/fr/10/st05/st05256.fr10.pdf>

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=IM-PRESS&reference=20100108IPR66978&language=EN>

European Commission Parliamentary hearings. Ashton gives underwhelming performance. European Voice. 11 January 2010.

Parliamentary hearing fails to tease out specific answers from new foreign policy chief.

Ashton under fire at EU confirmation hearing. FT. 11 January 2010.

Lady Ashton, nominated as EU foreign policy chief, has been accused by European parliament members in a confirmation hearing of lacking vision, knowledge and judgment.

www.ft.com/cms/s/0/3f05759c-fede-11de-a677-00144feab49a.html?nclick_check=1

Wise men discuss EU's 2020 strategy. EurActiv.com. 6 January 2010.

Spanish Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero hosted a meeting with prominent EU 'wise men' in Madrid on 5 January to discuss Europe's economic and social strategy for the next decade. The European Council of 14 December 2007 decided to establish a "reflection group" of prominent personalities, also called 'wise men', to identify the key issues that the EU is likely to face in the future and how these might be addressed. The Spanish Presidency aims to have the strategy adopted at a 17-18 June meeting of EU heads of state and government at the latest. <http://www.euractiv.com/en/priorities/wise-men-discuss-eu-2020-strategy/article-188597>

Conséquences de l'entrée en vigueur du traité de Lisbonne sur l'accord de Cotonou. 21 December 2010.

Still confidential

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/servlet/driver?>

[page=Result&typ=Advanced&cmsid=639&fc=REGAISFR&srm=25&md=100](http://register.consilium.europa.eu/servlet/driver?page=Result&typ=Advanced&cmsid=639&fc=REGAISFR&srm=25&md=100) <=EN&ff_DOCKEY="ST17734/09OR
I"

The Future of European Development Cooperation: Seeking Global Solutions or Retracing a Niche by 2020? German Development Institute. 2009.

http://www.diis.dk/graphics/Publications/WP2009/WP200920_Future_European_Development_Cooperation_web.pdf

The reorganisation of EU foreign relations: what role for development policies within the European institutional setup? German Development Institute. 2009.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/ANES-7YUHGCV?Open&nav=expand:Publikationen;active:Publikationen%5CANES-7YUHGCV](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7YUHGCV?Open&nav=expand:Publikationen;active:Publikationen%5CANES-7YUHGCV)

EU Common Foreign and Security Policy – The EU's role in the world**How to reform the British Foreign Office. Mark Malloch-Brown in the FT. 13 January 2009.**

The former Foreign Office minister and ex-deputy secretary-general of the United Nations, writes that like it or not, we are all multilateralists now and that raises the most fundamental issue: is the modern Foreign Office equipped to act in this new forum? The Treasury has been oblivious to the fact that diplomacy is people, buildings (some admittedly, but usefully, very grand) and travel. Unlike health or defence, there is almost no programme – no health service or helicopters. So when Britain's interests are so global, the budget for our international representation has been steadily cut, as has our ability to contribute to key multilateral tasks such as UN peacekeeping, the low-cost alternative to go-it-alone missions.

www.ft.com/cms/s/0/5d9031d6-0079-11df-b50b-00144feabdc0,s01=1.html

A better link between security and development in the European Union? The European Community's Instrument for Stability. German Development Institute. 2009.

Conflict, peace-building, security and development (for all conflict and peace related items that are not explicitly CFSP related)

Call for papers on Africa's peace and security infrastructure

The Addis Ababa-based Institute for Security Studies invites policy-makers, academics, practitioners and policy researchers to submit abstracts, and subsequently papers, which assess a broad range of issues relating to the African Union's Peace and Security Council. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 29 January. Papers will be due on 19 March. Authors will present their papers at an Expert Roundtable on 29-30 March. Click here for more information.

http://www.issafrica.org/index.php?link_id=3994&slink_id=9403&link_type=12&slink_type=12&tmpl_id=3

Sudan needs more funds for referendum. Sudan Assessment and Evaluation Commission. 14 January 2010. Sudan needs more cash and support from donor countries if its national elections and a southern referendum on independence are to take place safely, the body monitoring the north-south peace deal said.

<http://www.aec-sudan.org/press.release.2010-01-13.html>

Overcoming fragility in Africa – Forging a new European approach. European Report on Development. Final Report. 13 January 2010.

The first ever European Report on Development (ERD). A reassessment of the EU development policy towards the Sub-Saharan Africa fragile countries is in order. That is the aim of the 2009 European Report on Development. It analyses the costs and characteristics of fragility, the capacity of fragile countries to cope with negative shocks such as the 2008-09 financial crisis and the EU's current engagement with fragile countries as well as the potential for EU development policy to assist national stakeholders in enhancing resilience. ECDPM staff attended a number of ERD events and ECDPM inputted into the ERD process by the production of a background paper on "EU policies to address fragility in sub-Saharan Africa" by Fernanda Faria and Andrew Sherriff which was significantly utilised in chapter 8 of the report. This ECPDM background paper can be found here:

<http://erd.eui.eu/BackgroundPapers/ERD-Background-Paper-Faria-Sherriff.pdf>

Top 5 reasons why Failed state is a failed concept. William Easterly. 13 January 2010.

<http://aidwatchers.com/2010/01/top-5-reasons-why-“failed-state”-is-a-failed-concept/>

EU Discussion paper to restructure the Annual Report on the implementation of the EU Programme on the Prevention of Violent Conflict in 2010. 11 January 2010.

Confidential.

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/servlet/driver?>

[page=Result&typ=Advanced&cmsid=639&fc=REGAISEN&srm=25&md=100 <=EN&ff_DOCKEY="ST5202/10ORI"](http://register.consilium.europa.eu/servlet/driver?page=Result&typ=Advanced&cmsid=639&fc=REGAISEN&srm=25&md=100 <=EN&ff_DOCKEY=)

Promoting development through the reduction and prevention of armed violence. United Nations, via Eldis. 2009.

The report examines different aspects of the relationship between armed violence and development. It places particular emphasis on tackling the risks and effects of armed violence and underdevelopment. This includes implementing existing conventions and agreements associated with armed violence and development; improving the effectiveness of armed violence prevention and reduction policies through investment in the production, analysis and use of evidence; strengthening capacities to diagnose, articulate strategies and implement programmes; and developing measurable goals, targets and indicators for armed violence prevention and reduction.

www.eldis.org/go/display&type=Document&id=45307

EU enlargement / neighbourhood policy

2008 Annual Report on the Implementation of the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance. Commission Staff Working Document. 13 January 2010.

For communication itself, click here: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/10/st05/st05271.en10.pdf>
<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/10/st05/st05271-ad01.en10.pdf>

Political dialogue – ACP-EU

Joint Africa-EU Strategy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

For Better, For Worse, For Richer, For Poorer. The EU in AFRICA 2010. okra eXpress. London. 10 February.
The third in the series of the EU AFRICA Events project managed and hosted by okra eXpress since the December 2007 Lisbon Declaration - EU AFRICA Summit by heads of state and government of both continents.
<http://www.okraexpress.com/africa-eubusiness%26developmentlondonevent>

Together We Stand, Together We Fall. The EU in Africa. okra eXpress. Brussels. 24 February 2010.
The EU in AFRICA BRUSSELS 2010 Event will be the third in the series of EU in AFRICA Events project managed and hosted by okra eXpress since the December 2007 Lisbon Declaration - EU AFRICA Summit by the heads of state and government of both continents. <http://www.okraexpress.com/eu-africapartnership>

African Union / NEPAD

Call for Papers. The AU Peace and Security Council. A Five Year Appraisal (2004-2009). For ISS Expert Roundtable and Monograph. Addis. 29-30 March 2010.

The Institute for Security Studies through its Addis Ababa-based African Conflict Prevention Programme invites policy-makers, academics, practitioners, policy researchers to submit abstracts, and subsequently papers, which will assess a broad range of issues relating to the AU Peace and Security Council, with specific reference to its first five years of operation. Abstracts should be submitted by Friday 29th January and the papers will be due on 19th March 2010. http://www.issafrica.org/index.php?link_id=3994&slink_id=9403&link_type=12&slink_type=12&tmpl_id=3

Developing the African Economic Outlook 2010. African Economic Outlook. 11 January 2010.

The 2010 African Economic Outlook (AEO) will have as its special focus, public resource mobilization and aid. A key part of the study will be to take stock of taxation policy and administration across the African continent with the aim of identifying structural problems, key political issues and best practices. The final product— a comprehensive chapter in the 2010 AEO—will be based primarily upon on-the-ground country investigations and expert opinion collected during December's meeting on taxation in Africa.

<http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/news-events/article/developing-the-african-economic-outlook-2010-47/>

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) negotiations**Intégration : un corridor Ouagadougou-Bamako-Dakar en gestation. Ouestafnews. 14 janvier 2010.**

Les ministres burkinabé, malien et sénégalais en charge des transports ont adopté le 12 janvier 2010 à Ouagadougou une déclaration politique pour la mise en œuvre du corridor Ouagadougou–Bamako–Dakar destiné à « l'intégration des infrastructures ferroviaires, routières et fluviales » des trois pays.

http://www.ouestaf.com/Integration-un-corridor-Ouagadougou-Bamako-Dakar-en-gestation_a2730.html

EU pressured SACU, says SA Trade Minister. The Namibian, Windhoek via Tralac. 13 January 2010.

The Southern African Customs Union (SACU) may suffer damage after the European Union (EU) put pressure on three of its members to sign the controversial interim Economic Partnership Agreement, South African Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies has said in an interview.

http://www.tralac.org/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=80286&cat_id=1026

Commencement of Fully Fledged East African Community. Statement by EAC Director General. 13 January 2010.

<http://www.eac.int/component/content/353.html?task=view>

SADC's Free Trade Area slow to pick up. Walta Information Centre, Addis Ababa via Tralac. 12 January 2010.

Members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) are avoiding the implementation of some frameworks of the Free Trade Area (FTA), a grand intra-regional trade liberalisation programme which, despite its broad ambitions, is progressing at a snail's pace.

http://www.tralac.org/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=cause_dir_news_item&cause_id=1694&news_id=80217&cat_id=1026

Cameroon requests for delay for entry into force of interim EPA under discussion. AfriSCOOP. 12 January 2010.

Negotiations between the EC and the Cameroon government are continuing with regard to Cameroon's request made at the end of last year to delay the entry into force of their signed interim EPA Agreement with the EU until the broader regional agreement was signed and rules of origin defined. There are concerns that if the delay is granted, it could mean that Cameroon may have to revert to the EU's Generalised System of Preferences trade regime and therefore lose trade preferences on some of its exports to the EU.

<http://www.afriscoop.net/journal/spip.php?breve1304>

EAC Secretary General outlines strategic direction for 2010 . African Press Organization. 11 January 2010.

The Secretary General of the East African Community, Ambassador Juma Mwapachu has outlined strategic areas that will dominate the Community agenda in 2010. At a New Year staff meeting convened 7 January 2010, Amb. Mwapachu indicated the EAC would be targeting greater cooperation in defence matters, implementation of the Common Market, and making progress on the Monetary Union and the Political Federation. The revival of negotiations for the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) as well plans for the EAC's first ever summit on Food Security and Climate Change also feature prominently, Amb. Mwapachu told the meeting, which took place at the EAC Secretariat headquarters in Arusha. <http://tinyurl.com/yao3dx3>

Fiji's place at the centre of the Pacific under threat. Roman Grynberg, former PIFS Director of Economic Governance, Island News. 10 January 2010.

Grynberg writes: Two important developments have occurred in the last few months in trade in the Pacific that will change the future of the region. Probably the worst and most damaging has been the refusal by the Fiji Government to grant a work permit exemption to my successor at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Chakriya Bowman, as Director of Economic Governance i.e. trade and economic policy. A counter point to the very sad saga of Bowman's visa has been the appointment of Professor Chris Noonan as Pacific Islands Chief Trade Advisor. http://www.islandsbusiness.com/islands_business/index_dynamic/containerNameToReplace=MiddleMiddle/focusModuleID=18980/overrideSkinName=issueArticle-full.tpl

Cedeao. Le Sénégalais Abdoul Aziz Sow candidat à la succession de Mohamed Ibn Chambas. Ouestaf news. 2 janvier 2010.

Le Sénégal est à la recherche de soutiens pour présenter l'ancien ministre Abdoul Aziz Sow à la succession du ghanéen Mohamed Ibn Chambas à la présidence de la Commission de la Communauté économique des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (Cedeao).

http://www.ouestaf.com/Cedeao-le-Senegalais-Abdoul-Aziz-Sow-candidat-a-la-succession-de-Mohamed-Ibn-Chambas_a2718.html

Challenges to regional integration in West Africa identified. Improved Road Transport Governance initiative. West Africa Trade Hub. January 2010.

A group interview in September, 18 disgruntled truck drivers in Cotonou, Benin, vented their frustrations to two Trade Hub consultants: driving freely from Cotonou to Ouagadougou was impossible without harassment, they said. They sometimes spend three days at borders where customs officials hold up paper work when they refuse to pay bribes; meanwhile, their clients in importing countries wait impatiently to receive the goods. The truckers' experiences were echoed in interviews in eight countries conducted by the Trade Hub to determine how well West Africa is economically integrated. The unfortunate answer is: not very well. The interviews are part of a study of the gaps between what regional policies say on paper and how they are actually implemented in ECOWAS Member States. http://www.watradehub.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1489

See also: http://www.watradehub.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1462

Click here for the full report: <http://www.watradehub.com/images/stories/downloads/Trade%20Hub%20Reports/9th%20IRTG%20Report.pdf>

The East Africa Community and Regional Integration in East and the Horn of Africa. Grappling with the Challenges and Grabbing the Opportunities for Sustainable Development.

<http://www.iag-agi.org/spip/article262.html>

Bridging regional policy and practice in West Africa

According to disgruntled truck drivers across eight West African countries, it is virtually impossible to drive from Cotonou (Benin) to Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) without paying a small fortune in bribes. The interviews were conducted by West Africa Trade Hub consultants as part of a study exploring economic integration in the region. Click here to read more. http://www.watradehub.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1489

Click here for more on the Improved Road Transport Governance Initiative.

http://www.watradehub.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=38&Itemid=53

UEMOA Conseil des Ministres Statutaire. Conclusions. UEMOA Communiqué de Presse. 29 décembre 2009.

http://www.uemoa.int/actualite/2009/CM29122009/COMMUNIQUE_DE_PRESSE_CM29122009.pdf

Linking EU trade and development policies: lessons from the ACP-EU trade negotiations on economic partnership agreements. German Development Institute. 2009.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/ANES-7YUFTE?Open&nav=expand:Publikationen;active:Publikationen%5CANES-7YUFTE](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7YUFTE?Open&nav=expand:Publikationen;active:Publikationen%5CANES-7YUFTE)

Aid for Trade / EPA development support

Monitoring EPA implementation

Côte d'Ivoire. Société de conserverie de thon et pêche et froid fonctionnent encore. Abidjan.net. 12 janvier 2010. Société de conserveries de côte d'Ivoire (Scodi) et Pêche et froid de Côte d'Ivoire (Pfici), en chômage technique depuis le 5 décembre dernier. Ces deux structures, spécialisées dans la conserverie du thon ont rouvert leurs portes hier. la Côte d'Ivoire, dans le cadre de l'Accord de partenariat économique (Ape), avec l'Union européenne, le gouvernement a pris d'importantes mesures. A savoir, la prise en compte budgétaire dûe par l'Etat aux entreprises franches de transformation des produits halieutiques, du déclenchement du mécanisme de compensation dans le cadre de l'Accord de partenariat économique (Ape) et décidé de l'ouverture immédiate et sans délai des entreprises, mettant ainsi fin au chômage technique et par conséquent permettant la reprise du travail, ce lundi 11 janvier. <http://news.abidjan.net/h/352799.html?n=352799>

The Caribbean Office of Trade Negotiations. The Year 2009 in Review. 22 December 2009.

At the end of the first quarter of 2009, the CARICOM Heads of Government took a decision to incorporate the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM) into the CARICOM Secretariat as a Specialized Department. Under the new name of Office of Trade Negotiations (OTN), the restyled CRNM was in operation leading the negotiations with Canada by the close of 2009. The incorporation involved new institutional relationships between the OTN and the wider Community Organs. As a Department of the Secretariat, the OTN reports to the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) which gives it guidance, and defines its negotiating mandate as authorized by the CARICOM Heads of Government. It reports through the Secretary-General of CARICOM. http://www.crnmm.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=455:special-otn-update-the-office-of-trade-negotiations-the-year-2009-in-review&catid=59:rnmm-updates&Itemid=128

General economic and trade issues

Upcoming Events

The 11th Annual Global Development Conference Blog. 16-18 January 2010.

A timely opportunity for discussion over many of the implicit and explicit questions that surround the future shape of regional and economic integration. Effective research and policy development must begin in earnest around these issues. <http://gdnetcomms.wordpress.com/>

China's increasing engagement in Africa in the aftermath of the financial crisis. African Development Bank Seminar. Tunis. 25-26 March 2010.

The seminar is aimed at generating policy-oriented research on the impact of the rising strategic and economic role of China on Africa's development prospects and its economic and political governance. A selected number of papers will appear in a special issue of the African Development Review, which will be edited by Dr. Ibrahim Elbadawi, Director; Macroeconomic Research Department, Dubai Economic Council. This seminar is financially supported by the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID).

<http://www.afdb.org/en/news-events/article/seminar-on-chinas-increasing-engagement-in-africa-in-the-aftermath-of-the-financial-crisis-5531/>

World Bank Institute-African Institute for Economic Development and Planning Course on Preferential Trade Agreements for Development: Issues and Implications. Senegal. 12-16 April 2010.

Application deadline is 28 February 2010. The objective of the Course on Preferential Trade Agreements for Development, jointly organized by the World Bank Institute and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) is to convey some of the most recent thinking on regional trade integration, to increase awareness and offer a forum to discuss in detail the main economic implications of regional trade agreements for Western and Central Africa, and in particular what is the impact of negotiating on some the new issues covered by them. It also aims at providing participating policy makers and analysts with the appropriate knowledge and tools to analyze (and design) such agreements and ensure that regional agreements help maximize the benefits from more open trade for developing countries. [http://info.worldbank.org/etools/wbi_learning/activity.cfm?](http://info.worldbank.org/etools/wbi_learning/activity.cfm?sch_id=GCR10-00-043)

[sch_id=GCR10-00-043](http://info.worldbank.org/etools/wbi_learning/activity.cfm?sch_id=GCR10-00-043)

Other News

Africa's Counter-Cyclical Policy to the Crisis. African Development Bank. January 2010.

While the severe global recession seems to be bottoming out and the global economic outlook is turning cautiously optimistic, the negative impact of the crisis on many African countries continues to deepen. The crisis has hit Africa with a lag, interrupting at best, and ending at worst, the impressive growth record of the last ten years. The crisis has also already started to erode the hard-won improvements in macroeconomic positions. Even though most African countries have managed to avoid recession in 2009, the speed of the continent's recovery and longer-term prospects remain uncertain. [http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/library_detail.php?](http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/library_detail.php?doc_language=en&library_detail_id=5206)

[doc_language=en&library_detail_id=5206](http://www.acp-eu-trade.org/library/library_detail.php?doc_language=en&library_detail_id=5206)

Regional Trade-FDI-Poverty alleviation linkages: some analytical and empirical explorations. German Development Institute. 2009.

[http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/\(ynDK_contentByKey\)/ANES-7XPK8V?](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7XPK8V?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7XPK8V)
[Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7XPK8V](http://www.die-gdi.de/CMS-Homepage/openwebcms3_e.nsf/(ynDK_contentByKey)/ANES-7XPK8V?Open&nav=expand:Publications;active:Publications%5CANES-7XPK8V)

A new possibility for countries to apply for GSP+. Information Notice for countries wishing to apply for the EU scheme of generalised tariff preferences for the period from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2011.

January 2010. There is a possibility to submit by 30 April 2010 a request to be granted the GSP+ as from 1 July 2010. This Notice provides procedural guidance and instructions for GSP beneficiary countries. At the end of 2008, Nigeria and Gabon, applied to the EU for entry into the EU GSP+ scheme of trade preferences, but were refused. For these two countries, GSP+ would mean a significant improvement on their current trade relation with the EU, and as such an interesting (at least temporary) alternative for the EPA.

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2009/november/tradoc_145451.pdf

See also: <http://ec.europa.eu/trade/wider-agenda/development/generalised-system-of-preferences/>

See also: <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45201>

Bridges Weekly Trade News Digest. ICTSD. 13 January 2010. Contents: * Preference Erosion List Marks 'New Era' in WTO Farm Talks * US-China Disputes Round-Up * Trade Facilitation Draft Text Holds Promise for Developing Countries * In Brief * Incoming EU Trade Commissioner 'Confident' in Doha Outcome * US Senate Makes Progress in Filling Key Trade Posts * Chile Joins the OECD
<http://ictsd.org/news/bridgesweekly/?volume=14>

African Development Bank Publishes an Analysis on Africa's Response to the Crisis. 12 January 2010. The African Development Bank just published, in the first 2010 edition of the Journal of Globalization and Development, an important article titled "Africa: Africa's Counter-Cyclical Policy Responses to the Crisis".
<http://www.afdb.org/en/news-events/article/afdb-publishes-an-analysis-on-africas-response-to-the-crisis-5529/>

Nobel Laureate Stiglitz Underscores Role of Development Banks. African Development Bank. 11 January 2010. The Nobel Laureate and Columbia University Professor, Joseph Stiglitz, argues that a major lesson from the financial crisis that erupted in 2007-2008 is that state has a crucial role to play in economic development, both in preventing crises and implementing adequate measures to avoid an amplifier effect turning them into depression.
<http://www.afdb.org/en/news-events/article/nobel-laureate-stiglitz-underscores-role-of-development-banks-5527/>
See also: <http://www.afdb.org/en/news-events/article/joseph-stiglitz-one-of-the-main-lessons-from-the-financial-crisis-is-that-the-state-must-play-a-key-role-in-sustaining-economic-development-5524/>

Developing the African Economic Outlook 2010. African Economic Outlook. 11 January 2010. The 2010 African Economic Outlook (AEO) will have as its special focus, public resource mobilization and aid. A key part of the study will be to take stock of taxation policy and administration across the African continent with the aim of identifying structural problems, key political issues and best practices. The final product— a comprehensive chapter in the 2010 AEO—will be based primarily upon on-the-ground country investigations and expert opinion collected during December's meeting on taxation in Africa.
<http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/news-events/article/developing-the-african-economic-outlook-2010-47/>

A Modern Trade Policy for the European Union. A Report to the New European Commission and Parliament from the EU Trade Policy Study Group. ECIPE. January 2010.
<http://www.ecipe.org/tpsg/trade-policy-study-group>

Governance

ACP governance initiatives

Governance and development partners

Putting Politics in the Picture. Translating governance and political economy analysis into action for development

To maximise the benefits from aid and minimise the risk of doing harm, donors need to take into account the partner country's political and economic realities. To do this, a number of donors have decided to invest more

energy in governance and political economy analysis. In a contribution to capacity4dev.eu, EuropeAid's interactive platform that supports the European Commission's efforts to make technical cooperation more effective, ECDPM's Jan Vanheukelom outlines donors' efforts to develop models for the systematic analysis of power and its impact on policy change and reform processes. The added-value of this analysis is already proving itself, particularly at the sector level. Donors are making informed shifts in their approaches to support areas, and more often processes, where support is more effective. The article also provides references for three recent how-to publications on political economy analysis. Click here to read the full article.

<http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/putting-politics-picture>

Freedom in the World 2010: Global Erosion of Freedom. Freedom House. 12 January 2010.

For the fourth consecutive year, global declines in freedom outweighed gains in 2009, as measured by Freedom House's annual survey of political rights and civil liberties, Freedom in the World 2010. This represents the longest continuous period of decline for global freedom in the nearly 40-year history of the report.

<http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=505>

EU Council Secretariat-Commission non-paper. Guidance for conducting article 8 political dialogue with ACP countries. 12 January 2010.

Unfortunately, only the title of this document was de-classified. The entire document is blacked out as classified.

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st17/st17384-ex01.en09.pdf>

Analysing the economics and politics of state-business relations in Africa and India. Research for Development. 12 January 2010.

The first results from a major international project investigating state-business relations across India and a range of countries in sub-Saharan Africa are published by the DFID-funded Research Programme Consortium on Improving Institutions for Pro-Poor Growth (IPPG). The findings, which range from a new index that compares the effectiveness of state-business relations in Indian states, to a study of institutional weakness in post-apartheid South Africa, share the aim of identifying the political and economic factors affecting the relations between states and businesses and which shape the institutions (both formal and informal) which govern them.

<http://www.research4development.info/news.asp?ArticleID=50556>

OECD Partnership for Democratic Governance. Activity Report 2009

The PDG is mandated to help developing countries with capacity gaps – with a particular focus on states in post-conflict and fragile situations – to strengthen their institutions of political and administrative governance and core policy functions while simultaneously supporting service delivery to people.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/43/7/44299014.pdf>

EU-Africa governance dialogue

Civil society

Decentralisation and local governance

Knowledge Management and Communication

Capacity development

Upcoming Events

Capacity is Development Knowledge Fair seeks experiences on policies, investments and programs that have proven successful in driving human and institutional capacity development in diverse settings around the world

They invite you to submit an entry by Friday, 29 January, 2010. There is a special interest in gathering stories from three priority focal areas: • Sub-National Capacity Development: Local Solutions, National Strengths • Capacity Challenges in Post-conflict and Transitional Situations • Fostering the Rise and Resilience of Middle-Income Countries The top 5 finalists will be awarded an expense paid trip to personally showcase their work at the 'Capacity is Development' global event in Marrakech, Morocco, March 17th – 19th, 2010

http://www.impactalliance.org/ev_en.php?ID=48371_201&ID2=DO_COMMUNITY

Capacity is Development. UNDP Annual Event. Morocco. 17-19 March 2010

Amidst financial and ecological crises, food shortages and conflicts, capable institutions are needed now more than ever to deliver against 21st century development challenges. UNDP, co-host of the 'Capacity is Development' Global Event, works with governments to identify, assess and strengthen local and national capacities. This conference will bring leaders, thinkers and practitioners together to discuss and learn from the successes and failures in policy choices, investment decisions and institutional reforms for capacity development. For more information, please contact cdg.globalevent@undp.org

<http://www.capacityisdevelopment.org/>

Knowledge management

Research for development

Making Science of Influencing. Assessing the Impact of Development Research. Institute of Development Studies. September 2009.

This paper considers the impact and influence of development research from a plurality of perspectives. Interest in the impact/influence of research projects aggregates upwards to support the overall case for (often public) funding of development research (in areas that are likely to play a major role in the next few years in changing the climate for public expenditure in light of the global financial crisis).

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/go/idspublication/making-science-of-influencing-assessing-the-impact-of-development-research>

Monitoring, evaluation and learning in international cooperation

Communication for development

Publisher The **Weekly Compass** is produced by ECDPM (www.ecdpm.org) with financial resources provided by our core funder, the government of the Netherlands, and other financial partners - Ireland, Sweden, Finland, Belgium, Luxemburg, Portugal, Switzerland and the UK.

If you received this e-newsletter from a colleague and would like to subscribe, you can do it on [ECDPM website](http://www.ecdpm.org). If you no longer wish to receive Weekly Compass, you can unsubscribe on [ECDPM website](http://www.ecdpm.org). We encourage our readers to circulate this newsletter to interested colleagues.

Editor Melissa Julian, e-mail: mj@ecdpm.org Call or SMS on mobile +32 (0)47 328 11 65 - Fax +32 (0)2 380 31 55 Visit [Melissa's Profile](#)

Disclaimer This newsletter has been created with great care though it may contain links to websites which are created and maintained by other organisations and which have information that is not complete or accurate. The contents of this message may express personal views which are not the views of ECDPM unless specifically stated. Reproduction is authorised provided that the source is acknowledged. However we are not liable for the subsequent use of the information.

The information contained in this e-mail is intended for the person to whom it is addressed and may include confidential and/or privileged information. If you have received this e-mail in error please contact the sender immediately via info@ecdpm.org.