

Weekly Compass

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New at ECDPM

Development Policy and International Relations

What will become of pro-poor policymaking after 2015? Brussels.

A High Level Policy Forum organised on 23 June 2009 by a network of European agencies including UK DFID (United Kingdom Department for International Development), ActionAid, DSA (Development Studies Association), EADI (European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes) and IDS (Institute of Development Studies, Sussex) explored, among other issues: the impact on poverty reduction of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) paradigm; the major global processes shaping development up to 2015 and beyond; and how to continue to promote pro-poor policy amid such changes. ECDPM's Marc Levy reports that participants called for the MDG-Plus agenda to ensure a better recognition of the underlying power dynamics that hamper poverty reduction, especially in fragile states; and the need to scale up Official Development Assistance (ODA) and improve linkages between the MDGs and other international issues. They also called for the provision of improved statistics and the involvement of non-state actors. [Click here](#) to read more. [Click here](#) to read the latest UN MDG Report (2009), published on 6 July 2009.

Conclusion of Cotonou Partnership Agreement mid-term review in sight.

The EU-ACP Cotonou Partnership Agreement is gathering pace. Here is the agenda to the conclusion of the Agreement, with alternative finalisation dates set for December 2009 or February 2010.

- 28 May 2009: official launch of the negotiations
- Mid-June 2009: 1st meeting ACP committee of ambassadors-EC for initial discussions
- Mid-July 2009: 2nd meeting of ACP ambassadors- EC to discuss progress
- Early November 2009: 3rd meeting of ACP ambassadors- EC to discuss progress and prepare the agenda for the ministerial meeting December 2009:
- December 2009 Ministerial meeting to conclude the negotiations
- Early February 2010: Possible meeting in case the negotiations are not concluded by December. This meeting could conclude the negotiations for a May/ June 2010 signing of the agreement. ECDPM's Geert Laporte made a presentation to the European Union's Economic and Social Committee on 19 May 2009 setting out the reasons behind the review and its process. [Click here](#) to view his presentation. [Click here](#) to see the EC Notification letter of areas to revise in the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

Governance

Home-grown lessons for good governance in Africa. SAIIA. June 2009.

Strategies for Effective Policy Advocacy: Home-grown lessons for good governance in Africa. SAIIA is a recently published paper co-authored by ECDPM's SAIIA-seconded Faten Aggad, is based on a research project carried out as part of the Governance and African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Programme of the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA). The study attempts to distil lessons learned by a handful of African civil society coalitions on the dynamics of demanding improved governance of governments that are often averse to governance reform. Broaching a subject starved of compelling material, the report creates an accessible set of lessons from civil society activists, academics, diplomats, representatives of donor agencies and civil society experts that have played leading roles in the few — but notable — episodes of civil society-led policy reform. [Click here](#) to read more.

All-Centre

No. 4, 17 July 2009

Dear,

A major lesson I learned as we were coming to grips with all these new "high-tech" web tools as we were upgrading this e-alert is that the tools are in fact VERY low-tech! (they're embarrassingly easy to use!). And a lot of people are already using them to improve communication and dialogue between key stakeholders on specific ACP-EU cooperation issues. And the potential to build on this and increase the positive impact of our work is huge! I'm convinced that this is not some fad that's going to fade away – this is the new way to communicate directly to other key stakeholders and to wider audiences.

So let me share with you what I think is the best first web tool to start using – Bloglines. It takes one minute to set up informs you (as little or as often as you want) when the websites you're interested in have been updated. I find this 2 minute video the easiest explanation of Bloglines and how to use it. [Click here](#).

All the best,

Melissa
mj@ecdpm.org

Extended version in PDF

Find the extended version of this newsletter online

Off the track

Can the media do Development? Katine Project offers platform for local Ugandan voices. Eldis. 1 July 2009

The Katine Project is a joint rural development initiative between The Guardian Newspaper and the African NGO Amref in Katine, northeastern Uganda. Started in October 2007, it is a 3 year initiative that focuses on interventions in Health, Education, Water, Livelihoods and Governance. Though other media companies have partnered with development organisations in the past, none have done so for such a duration or provided the same breadth and depth of coverage: the Guardian Katine website is dedicated solely to

New temporary visiting address for the ECDPM Maastricht office.

As of 13th July 2009, ECDPM's Maastricht office has been temporarily relocated to a new building whilst necessary renovations to our existing building take place. The refurbishment is expected to take approximately two years. [Click here](#) for directions.

ECDPM Annual Report 2008

ECDPM's latest annual report, covering the period 2008/9 is now available. Focusing on the theme, "Linking Policy and Practice," the report highlights ECDPM's contribution to a broad range of policy processes at a time of rapid global change. These include the Centre's work on Economic Partnership Agreements, aid for trade, policy coherence for development; aid effectiveness, and the upcoming revision of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement. [Click here](#) to read more.

Visit also our Programme home pages

Development Policy and International Relations programme - Economic and Trade Cooperation programme - Governance programme

Policy News

Development Policy and International Relations

UK Government launches latest White Paper on International Development. ODI. 6 July 2009.

Set against the backdrop of a crowded domestic and international policy agenda, and released just before the Parliamentary recess, some might say there could not be a worse time for a White Paper on development to make its mark. The other view is that the moment is critical: that with the effects of the financial crisis and recession taking hold, and a public sense that the UK has troubles enough without focusing its attention abroad, this is a time to re-commit boldly to global poverty eradication. The acid test for this White Paper is how well it walks the line between promoting international development because it is the right thing to do, and supporting it because it is in the national self-interest. Development observers indicate that most of their attention at the moment is focussed not on this government White Paper, however, but instead on the development plans of the likely incoming Conservative Party Government. On 15 July 2009, The UK Conservative Party unveiled its "One World Conservatism" international development policy proposals that will be implemented if they win the upcoming general election. The UK Conservative Party leader David Cameron reaffirmed the commitment to get aid spending up to UN target of 0.7% of Gross National Product by 2013 making development one of only two areas of spending, with health, that will be ringfenced from budget cuts. The proposal, however, would also cut off aid to by up to a third the number of countries that receive assistance currently and calls for pursuing a private sector-led approach to development. Andrew Mitchell, the shadow international development secretary, promised a "root and branch review" of every area of the UK Department for International Development (DfID) activities. Conservatives would keep DfID as an independent department. The government's aid programme could be scaled up in future years. [Click here](#) to read more:

[Click here](#) and [here](#) for press reports .

[Click here](#) for more on the UK Conservative Party's "One World Conservatism" international development policy proposals.

A critical analysis of the results of the G8 Summit and the relation of the G8 to the other Gs. Aid and Debt blog. Eldis. 14 July 2009.

The report criticises EU Member States for not fulfilling their ODA commitments to meet the MDGs. Most are looking to the G20 in September in Pittsburgh for real guidance as a more appropriate, and inclusive, meeting ground but some commentators are declaring that the pool needs to be widened still. "It is time to (go) beyond the G20 to a new programme of action and a democratic forum in which to debate the future of our world," asserts John Hilary. "We need a radical plan for the global economy drawn up and backed by the full membership of the United Nations. Neither the G8 nor G20, but the G192." [Click here](#) to read more.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Aid for Trade Global Review 2009. WTO. 6 July 2009.

The Second Global Review provides an opportunity to give added impetus to the ambitious mandate on Aid for Trade, agreed at the WTO's Hong Kong Ministerial Conference in 2005, which aims to help developing countries, and the least developed in particular, to build the supply-side capacity and infrastructure they need to take advantage of trade opening and to connect with the global economy. [Click here](#) to read more.

Governance

reporting on developments in Katine, local news from Uganda as well as offering a platform for the local community to represent themselves through the blogs, the audio and video content. It is hoped that the website will contribute transparency and accountability, but also aims to show a more balanced Africa - not just the negative. [Click here](#) to read more.

Services

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ECDPM websites

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acp-eu-trade.org
europafira.net
capacity.org

Sharing information with stakeholders



Visit the InfoCentre

European NGO lobbies incoming EU Presidency on democratisation. 14 July 2009.

The international NGO, IDEA, presented its report, "Democracy in Development - Global consultations on the EU's role in democracy building" to the Swedish EU Presidency in Stockholm on 14 July 2009. "With the Presidency's focus on democracy building and development, a key part of the Swedish-sponsored project was to gather information about how the EU is perceived by its partners in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, South and South-East Asia and the Arab world. The report finds that although the EU is seen as a source of inspiration and a good partner to work with, it is not always consistent within itself. The IDEA team has produced, in consultation with partners in the five regions, a set of policy recommendations that aim to address that discrepancy. [Click here](#) to read the report.

EC consults civil society: but no major change in democracy and human rights strategy. Brussels, 9 July 2009.

EuropeAid recently organised a consultation meeting on the second Strategy Paper of the 2007-2013 EU programme, the European Partnership for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR). Currently in draft form, the paper will provide the basis for EC multi-annual programming and annual action programmes for the period 2011-2013. The Commission identified specific changes in the new strategy as including: a stronger emphasis on difficult countries as opposed to difficult situations; a higher number of countries eligible for increased support; greater decentralization of decision-making to EC delegations; a greater focus on linkages between thematic and geographical instruments; and more clarity on EC human rights priorities and their link to political dialogue. The Commission noted, however, that it does not plan to provide details on the draft EIDHR strategy ahead of its publication and while written civil society submissions are welcome, only minor changes would be made at this stage since the EC considered it premature to undertake an evaluation of the programme. [Click here](#) for more on the European Partnership for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) (and where the report of the consultation will be posted). [Click here](#) for more information on ECDPM governance-related activities: [Click here](#) for more on the European Partnership for Democracy [Click here](#) for more on the OECD Network on Governance.

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