

Weekly Compass

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Editor's Pick

Strengthening EU development cooperation under the Lisbon Treaty

The expected introduction of the European Union's (EU) Lisbon Treaty in 2010 will fundamentally alter how EU external action is conducted. This presents both risks and opportunities for EU development cooperation. The general expectation of EU Member States' Senior Officials attending an informal meeting on this issue, hosted by ECDPM on 16 September 2009, was that progress in EU integration and a stronger EU profile in the world would strengthen EU development cooperation and improve policy coherence for development. This would also help to ensure better cooperation with partner countries in the South. But there were varying assessments on how these aspirations might best be achieved. Click [here](#) to read the full report of the meeting. The ECDPM background document prepared for the meeting is also available by clicking [here](#).

ECDPM seeks your views on policy priorities for 2010

ECDPM is currently preparing its annual paper on the challenges for European Union-African Caribbean and Pacific (EU-ACP) development cooperation for the year ahead. We are interested in your views on the policy priorities for your country/region for 2010 and particularly how the EU can support these. We would appreciate it if you could please take five minutes to respond to this anonymous survey by 23 October 2009 (you can also reply in French). Click [here](#) to access the survey.

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Policy News

A comment on Shaping Europe's international role. Dieter Frisch on Europe's International Role. Broker blog. 29 September 2009.

Dieter Frisch, Former Director General for Development at the European Commission and current member of the Board of ECDPM, writes that there is one point where more clarity would be welcome: the role of the future Development Commissioner and the development services reporting to him. He writes: "I want to make it clear that I am not in favour of an autonomous development policy - the authors call it "silo mentality" - , but that I consider development policy as an integral part of EU's External Action, complementary, on an equal footing, with the other dimensions of External Action: Foreign and Security Policy, Trade, Humanitarian Aid... None of these policies should be instrumentalised by others; but they should mutually and

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Dear,

Our focus this week is on the expected entry into force of the EU Lisbon Treaty and challenges for European development cooperation in 2010. We also look at how budget support is delivered and include an article on whether ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements are to be or not to be. We also highlight articles on governance/trade and climate/trade inter-linkages. Governance perspectives and how development leads to democracy is also featured. Finally, summaries and analysis from the G20 Summit, especially in relation to climate change, and aid effectiveness priorities are included. And we provide a list of the next set of upcoming meetings in key policy processes. I hope you find the information provided useful in your work. Please do inform me if you'd like to include anything in next week's issue.

All the best,

Melissa
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Off the track

Can Development Prevent Conflict? Integrated Area-Based Development in the Western Balkans. Conflict, Security & Development. September 2009.

The article discusses the strengths and limitations of the area-based development approach (ABD) in contributing to conflict prevention and linking reconstruction and development drawing on two ABD programmes in Serbia. It argues that although ABD is often effective in responding to complex conflict characteristics on sub-national levels, under its current

coherently support each other. The new institutional architecture for EU's External Action which will be put in place with the Lisbon Treaty offers a unique opportunity to tidy up what many consider as an organisational mess in the area of development policy." Click [here](#) to read more.

To contribute to or follow discussions on Europe's International Role Broker blog click [here](#).

Perspectives on Budget Support: Why and how we are delivering. ECDPM. September 2009.

The second contribution to the Discussion Platform in which donors and key developing partners are invited to present their views on the use of budget support. Lux-Development was the first to contribute (March 2009) to this platform, which ECDPM launched in order to contribute to the debate on aid and development effectiveness, and the related discussions on the choice and mix of aid modalities. Although donors remain free to choose their preferred aid modality, they also have committed to progressively use partner country systems. Some donors have opted for budget support as the best modality to fit this purpose. Others disagree. And in general, there are varying degrees of reluctance to shift to this aid modality in a meaningful way. This contribution clearly argues why "Germany stands behind and promotes budget support as an aid modality". Click [here](#) to read more.

EPAs, to be or not to be? ECDPM. 1 October 2009.

This week's ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Economic Development held an exchange of views on the current state of play on the Economic Partnership Agreement negotiations. ECDPM's San Bilal made a presentation based on the background paper: "EPAs, to be or not to be " Click [here](#) for San Bilal's presentation. Click [here](#) for more information on the JPA meeting.

Governance Perspectives. Governance and African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Programme at the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA). Monthly update. September 2009.

Governance Perspectives aims to contribute to a robust and informed debate on the nature of Africa's governance challenges and successes. We hope to keep civil society groups, researchers, governments and development partners informed about issues relating to governance, accountability and democracy. Each month, Governance Perspectives will feature SAIIA Occasional Papers as well as opinion articles, and links to interesting, relevant new material. Click [here](#) to read the update.

How Development Leads to Democracy. What We Know About Modernization. Foreign Affairs. March/April 2009.

In this article, Ronald Inglehart and Christian Welzel argue that democratic institutions tend to emerge only when certain social and cultural conditions exist. But economic development and modernization push those conditions in the right direction and make democracy increasingly likely. Click [here](#) to read the article.

conceptualisation, it responds ineffectively to the full complexity of issues related to conflict and development on multiple levels.

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