

Weekly Compass Extended Version

Topics monitored

These topics are monitored, but some sections may be empty if there was no news this week.

For archives: http://delicious.com/cotonou_online/policy_news

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No. 21 - 11 December 2009

Dear Reader,

By the time this arrives in your in-box, EU leaders should have reached an agreement, after much external protestations and internal discussions, on the amount of financial support they will pledge to provide to developing countries to help tackle global warming and the emissions cuts they will offer in the ongoing and tense Copenhagen climate summit. Earlier this week, EU Foreign Ministers adopted conclusions on climate change and security as well as on human rights and democratisation in third countries, on the Horn of Africa and on ratification of the revised ACP-EU Partnership (Cotonou) Agreement. There were several interesting reports issued this week on the ACP-EU Economic Partnership Negotiations, including one examining legal issues in relation to WTO rules and one from the French Parliament. Several interesting Aid for Trade initiatives were also announced. ECDPM published its workplan for 2010 and we have a vacancy for a research assistant. Click here to read the details on all this and much more in the [Weekly Compass-Extended Version](#).

All the best,

Melissa

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Editor's Pick

Independent African monitoring report aimed at enhancing public engagement on peace and security in Africa presented to European Union officials

The African Union's (AU) Peace and Security Protocol encourages non-governmental organisations to participate in efforts aimed at promoting peace, security and stability in Africa and feed information into the official decision-making processes of the AU's Peace and Security Council (PSC). The Addis Ababa-based Institute for Security Studies (ISS) recently launched a monthly Peace and Security Council Report which seeks to provide independent, publicly available and informative analysis on the work of the PSC with a view to increasing capacities to be able to effectively engage with the PSC's work. Peace and security issues in Africa are also of increasing relevance to Europe as recognised in the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and EU-Africa Partnership on Peace and Security as well as in Europe's support for the African Peace and Security Architecture. To gain access to African perspectives on peace and security, ECDPM and ISS organised a launch event for the report on 25 November in Brussels for key stakeholders. Click [here](#) for the ISS Peace and Security Council Report, a video of ISS's Tim Murithi's introductory statement to the meeting and a report of the meeting.

Other Policy News Highlights

The 2010 European Report on Development will focus on the issues of inequality, social protection and safety nets

Against the backdrop of the food, fuel, financial and economic crises, poverty and social inequality may well sharpen, increasing the need for effective social protection mechanisms. The European Commission (EC) and the six Member States supporting the European Report on Development (ERD) initiative, therefore, decided to focus the 2010 edition of the ERD on the issues of inequality, social protection and safety nets. The ERD 2010 will follow a similar participatory and consultative process to the 2009 edition. Click [here](#) and [here](#) for more details.

Adoption of European Union implementation plan on situations of fragility and conflict planned now for 2010

Two action plans, originally to have been completed this year, were requested in October 2007 in European Union (EU) Council Conclusions on Situations of Fragility and Conclusions on Development and Security. After having undertaken two sets of country case studies, the EC's Directorate General for Development (responsible for situations of fragility) and the Directorate General for External Relations (responsible for security and development) decided to produce instead one joint action plan according to Aprovev. The draft plan is now in inter-service consultation in the EC and should be adopted under the Spanish EU Presidency in the spring of 2010. Click [here](#) for more information (see December 2009 newsletter to be posted today on this page).

Implications of the Global Crisis for the ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements

The financial crisis, though having its origin in developed countries, has generated a global recession that has severe consequences for developing countries, including in Africa, in terms of their prospects for economic growth and development. With more pessimistic growth expectations, most African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) governments, in particular in Africa, will be facing serious budgetary constraints and forced to make difficult choices for the future of their economies. In this context, ECDPM's Sanoussi Bilal asks in The Broker's Redeveloping Finance Blog if it is not worth asking what role Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) can play or should not play. Knowing that the situation of African economies vary from country to country, it is unlikely that a one-size-fits-all or a tailored-made approach would be suitable, however broadly two opposite options can be identified he argues. Click [here](#) to read the article.

European Commission says tariffs on Kenyan exports could be re-introduced or increased if EPA is not signed

In a press release issued following an EU experts and East African Community (EAC) private sector representatives meeting on the region's EPA ahead of next week's negotiations, the EC reports that executives of EAC business organisations voiced their concerns and expectations on several key issues including trade in goods in agri-food products, industrial products, services and investment. The press release states that failure to finalise the EPA process could lead to putting non-Least Developed Countries such as Kenya on the Generalised System of Preferences list. This would de facto mean re-introduction or an increase in tariffs on some key Kenyan export products. Click [here](#) for more details.

EC and EU Member States to report jointly on Aid for Trade implementation

The German Technical Cooperation Office reports that the EC plans to circulate a questionnaire on Aid for Trade (AfT) to EC Delegations as part of the External Assistance Management Report due to be produced in January 2010. The questionnaire aims to provide EC Delegations with a tool to facilitate discussions with EU Member States' field offices on AfT matters in the partner country/region in question with a view to advancing together the policy lines embedded in the EU AfT Strategy. The replies provided by the EC Delegations to this questionnaire are to be prepared jointly with EU Member States. Click [here](#) for details.

Partnership for Democratic Governance. Contracting Out Government Functions and Services. Emerging Lessons from Post-Conflict and Fragile Situations. OECD, African Development Bank.

The ability to deliver essential public services and government functions is a prerequisite for well-functioning, legitimate states. It is also a necessity if states are to meet the most basic needs of their citizens while maintaining security and stability, bringing in foreign direct investment, pursuing poverty reduction objectives and strengthening governance. The second volume of the Partnership for Democratic Governance Series investigates whether 'contracting out' core government functions and services has been conducive to capacity development. Click [here](#) to read the study.

NEPAD launches Capacity Development Framework

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) has prepared a Capacity Development Strategic Framework which may evolve into a common reference for donors supporting capacity development on the continent. The framework, scheduled to be presented for endorsement at the African Union Summit in February 2010, has been prepared in a consultative process over the last three years across the continent. Click [here](#) for the details.

ECDPM posts the latest news on international relations, development, economic, trade and governance policies daily on its website.

Click [here](#) to access the full list of all the news we've collected this week. A convenient "Topics" feature also allows you to quickly scan your specific areas of interest.

ECDPM Workplan 2010-2011

http://www.ecdpm.org/Web_ECDPM/Web/Content/Navigation.nsf/index2?readform&http://www.ecdpm.org/Web_ECDPM/Web/Content/Content.nsf/0/D46C1E01BDE5A864C1257687002FABC9?OpenDocument

VACANCY: ECDPM is looking for a Research Assistant for the Development Policy & International Relations Programme. December 2009.

Job vacancy announcement for Research Assistant (EU-Africa Relations) for the Development Policy & International Relations programme. The European Center for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) is looking for a dynamic and entrepreneurial individual for a 6 to 12 month assignment to execute activities that will maximize the impact of the Center's dialogue, networking and capacity development activities in the context of ACP-EU cooperation. Your expertise will allow you to assist in the research and execution of activities of the centre's Development Policy & International Relations Programme. Language requirements: Fluent in French and English (speaking and writing) or fluent in one and a good working knowledge of the second.

[http://www.ecdpm.org/Web_ECDPM/Web/Content/Download.nsf/0/23CDB4B58393DCF5C1257682002B034F/\\$FILE/Job-announcement-Research-assistant-to-DPIR.pdf](http://www.ecdpm.org/Web_ECDPM/Web/Content/Download.nsf/0/23CDB4B58393DCF5C1257682002B034F/$FILE/Job-announcement-Research-assistant-to-DPIR.pdf)

Off the track

Lessons in Distributed Leadership from the Obama Campaign

Barack Obama's presidential campaign owed its victory not to a single charismatic candidate, but to the efforts of a disciplined and motivated organisation. A recent Massachusetts Institute of Technology lecture featured Marshall Ganz, a key activist in the Obama election campaign, who described that leaders recruit, motivate and develop others, constructing a community around common interests, and building capacity from within the community. Such distributed leadership draws from and resonates with emerging theories of complex adaptive leadership. Click [here](#) to read more.

Development Policy

International external assistance

[La Gambie signe un accord d'appui budgétaire avec l'UE, la BM et la BAD. Afrique Avenir. 10 décembre 2009.](#)

La Banque africaine de développement (BAD), l'Union européenne (UE) et la Banque mondiale (BM) ont signé un protocole d'entente avec le gouvernement de la Gambie dans le cadre du Programme d'appui budgétaire général (GBSP), annonçant un communiqué rendu public mercredi à Banjul, la capitale.

<http://tinyurl.com/yh3votp>

[EU Tax and Development Conference. 9 December 2009.](#)

http://ec.europa.eu/development/services/events/tax_development/index.cfm

[EU Commissioner for Development speech to EU Conference on Tax and Development to fight against Poverty. 9 December 2009.](#)

<http://tinyurl.com/ykux4oj>

[France At Copenhagen, Taxing All Financial Transactions Will Fund Developing Countries. Gov Monitor. 8 December 2009.](#)

France is pushing for a political agreement at the climate conference in Copenhagen to include a tax on financial transactions to help developing countries, Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner says a very small tax — 0.005

percent on financial transactions — would help developing countries fight poverty, promote education and health, and meet the costs of combatting climate change.

http://thegovmonitor.com/world_news/international/france-at-copenhagen-taxing-all-financial-transactions-will-fund-developing-countries-18227.html

EU external assistance

French support development aid despite crisis and want more information on results. AFD Barometer. Agence Française de Développement. 16 November 2009.

The fourth AFD-IFOP poll on the French population's attitude to development aid has revealed that French people consider their country's public development aid spending to be justified. Six out of ten believe that France plays an important role in fighting poverty in the international arena and should continue to develop its own aid policy within a European framework (76%). www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/lang/en/home/Presse/Communique/pid/45001

ACP-EU Energy Facility. Call for Proposals and Procurement Notices. 30 November 2009.

<http://tinyurl.com/yl52dxo>

International development and aid effectiveness

Aid effectiveness through the recipient lens. Overseas Development Institute. November 2009.

The Paris and Accra commitments are insufficient to ensure donors improve the development impact of their aid, according to this Briefing Paper. It highlights key findings from in-person interviews with mid-range and senior politicians, and senior government officials in Ethiopia, Sierra Leone and Zambia. In addition, it draws upon findings from previous ODI research on stakeholder perceptions and the messages emerging from partner country consultations preceding the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2008. This exclusive, and unfiltered, focus on the perspectives of recipients highlights the opinions of a group of stakeholders that is often under-represented in the international arena. It finds that greater understanding of the terms 'predictability', 'transparency' and 'mutual respect' is needed, and proposes a more imaginative agenda, coupled with intelligent and purposeful donor action, as part of the solution.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?>

[utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=2746&title=aid-effectiveness-recipient-lens](http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=2746&title=aid-effectiveness-recipient-lens)

Ownership and the donor-recipient relationship. How can African governments regain control of the aid process? Danish Institute for International Studies via Eldis. 2009.

In the last three decades, changes in the global economy have led to debt and balance of payments crises in many African countries. They desperately needed foreign exchange which they could only get from the World Bank and the IMF. These institutions used this opportunity to expand their influence over the recipients' national policies. This paper discusses country ownership which is a central issue of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. It looks at the contradictory and competing usages of the term - ownership as commitment and ownership as control. NGOs prefer a concept of democratic ownership including the domestic process through which policies are decided with the aim being to minimize foreign influence over country policy making.

www.eldis.org/go/display&type=Document&id=45542

International Aid Transparency Initiative. Conference. Official Report and Presentations. 20-21 October 2009.

The conference provided an important opportunity to hear feedback from stakeholders on the IATI proposals on the information to be published and the code of conduct. This will help to ensure that the proposals are realistic to implement and meet the key priorities expressed by partner countries and civil society organisations. Agreement on what is published under IATI is expected to be reached in the coming months.

<http://aidtransparency.net/progress/>

See also: International Aid Transparency Initiative-First annual conference-Key Points-ECDPM Informal Note of the Meeting. 20-21 October 2009: <http://drop.io/melissajulian/asset/international-aid-transparency-initiative-first-annual-conference-key-points-ecdpm-informal-note-of-the-mtg-20-211009-doc>

EU development effectiveness**Video interview with European Parliament Development Committee Chairperson Eva Joly. 10 December 2009.**

She discusses corruption, good governance, development aid (amounts, effectiveness), climate change and China's role in Africa.

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/public/story_page/008-66079-341-12-50-901-20091207STO66064-2009-07-12-2009/default_en.htm

UK DFID Evaluation Annual Report 2009. 9 December 2009.

A summary of DFID's evaluation activities, findings and recommendations.

www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/Evaluation-Annual-Report-2009/

France snubs Britain on farm spending talks. FT. 7 December 2009.

France risked a fresh rift with the British government on Monday after declining to invite it to a high-level agriculture meeting aimed at building a coalition to protect European Union farm spending. Bruno Le Maire, France's agriculture minister, invited counterparts from 21 EU states inclined to support a strong and well-funded common agricultural policy to the conference in Paris on Thursday. Britain, a staunch advocate of a radical scaling back of CAP, was omitted from the list, as were Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands and Malta.

www.ft.com/cms/s/0/a7425bf4-e36b-11de-8d36-00144feab49a.html

The 2010 European Report on Development will focus on the issues of inequality, social protection and safety nets. December 2009.

Against the backdrop of the food, fuel, financial and economic crises – which followed hot on one another's heels – poverty and social inequality may well sharpen, increasing the need for effective social protection mechanisms. After extensive debate and expert consultation, the European Commission and the six Member States supporting the ERD initiative have decided to focus the 2010 edition of the ERD on the issues of inequality, social protection and safety nets. The ERD 2010 will follow a similar participatory and consultative process to the 2009 edition.

erd.eui.eu/newsletter/091207/erd_eng_v3.html See also: <http://erd.eui.eu/?p=1593>

EU Foreign Affairs Council conclusions on human rights, democratisation, climate change, Latin America, Horn of Africa, Cotonou Review,. 8 December 2009.

- Human rights and democratisation in third countries - Council conclusions – Relations with Latin America - Council conclusions – Climate change and security - Council conclusions – Horn of Africa - Council conclusions – Ratification of the revised Cotonou Agreement.. <http://tinyurl.com/yl4ylms>
Financing for development

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

Migration and development

Climate change and development

EU summit struggles to raise climate aid cash. EurActive. 11 December 2009.

European nations are set to pledge around six billion euros to help poor nations tackle global warming at a summit in Brussels today (11 December), but the funding will be provided on a voluntary basis as a result of worrying debt problems in countries like Greece.

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/climate-change/eu-summit-struggles-raise-climate-aid-cash/article-188241>

See also: <http://www.europeanvoice.com/article/2009/12/eu-still-undecided-on-climate-aid/66698.aspx>

Push for EU to offer 30% emissions cut in Copenhagen. European Voice. 10 December 2009.

The UK is leading a group of EU countries that want the Union to offer a 30% cut in greenhouse gas emissions at the Copenhagen summit on climate change. The UK is pushing for the EU to increase its offer to cut emissions to 30% from 20% to put pressure on developed and developing countries to make ambitious commitments to cut greenhouse gases. <http://tinyurl.com/ycyfoxd>

Documents leaked at the UN climate summit reveal divisions between rich and developing nations over the shape of a possible new deal. BBC. 9 December 2009.

news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8402502.stm

A major split between developing countries has emerged at the UN climate talks in Copenhagen. BBC. 9 December 2009.

Small island states and poor African nations vulnerable to climate impacts laid out demands for a legally-binding deal tougher than the Kyoto Protocol. This was opposed by richer developing states such as China, which fear tougher action would curb their growth. Tuvalu demanded - and got - a suspension of negotiations until the issue could be resolved. After talks resumed in the afternoon, the Tuvalu delegation walked out when it appeared that the issue might be sidelined. They are supported by other members of the Association of Small Island States and some African countries. Fast-growing economies such as China, India and South Africa oppose the lower target of 350ppm because they feel that meeting it would retard economic development. Here, they also opposed Tuvalu's call for a new legally-binding protocol to run alongside the existing Kyoto Protocol, arguing that the existing convention and Kyoto agreement are tough enough. news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8403745.stm

Copenhagen Update. Copenhagen Curtain Raiser. The Perfect Storm. ICTSD. 7 December 2009.

<http://ictsd.org/i/global-platform/bridges-copenhagen-updates/bridges-copenhagen-updates-english/64652/>

EU Presidency denies Oxfam claims that EU aims to raid aid budgets for climate deal. Reuters. 6 December 2009.

Anti-poverty campaign group Oxfam accused European politicians on Sunday of planning to "cannibalise" existing development aid budgets and repackage them as part of a deal to fight climate change. Oxfam said it had found evidence that exposed "undercover accounting" in some rich nations' pledges to help poor nations to tackle the climate threat. But Sweden, holder of the rotating European Union presidency, denied the charges made the day before a UN summit starts in Copenhagen on negotiating a new global deal to combat climate-warming emissions. "What is new and additional money is not always clear cut, but many countries, my own included, have foreseen and planned for Copenhagen, and the money is already in state budgets," Sweden's chief climate negotiator Anders Turesson told Reuters. http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report_eu-aims-to-raid-aid-budgets-for-climate-deal-oxfam_1320833

Africa seeking \$40 bln/yr in climate aid. Reuters. 8 December 2009.

Rich nations at the Copenhagen climate summit should commit \$40 billion a year in new money to help Africa tackle the consequences of global warming, the president of the African Development Bank (AfDB) said on Monday. <http://tinyurl.com/yzblcx3>

Africa could be a major contributor to efforts to curb climate change. Jean-Michel Severino of the Agence Française de Développement in European Voice. 8 December 2009.

Africa is central to the global environmental crisis in two important ways. First, Africa would be the first victim of major climate disturbance – with side-effects on the whole planet. The economic, social, migratory, and security consequences of such vulnerability on the rest of the world cannot be ignored, as Africa will be home to more than two billion inhabitants in 2050. Second, Africa is one of the important actors in the global environmental crisis. Because of its vast natural heritage, the continent contains some of the most potent solutions to climate change. www.europeanvoice.com/article/2009/12/rendezvous-with-africa-on-climate/66634.aspx

EU Foreign Affairs Council conclusions on human rights, democratisation, climate change, Latin America, Horn of Africa, Cotonou Review,. 8 December 2009.

- Human rights and democratisation in third countries - Council conclusions – Relations with Latin America - Council conclusions – Climate change and security - Council conclusions – Horn of Africa - Council conclusions – Ratification of the revised Cotonou Agreement.. <http://tinyurl.com/yl4ylms>

Draft Copenhagen climate change agreement - the 'Danish text'. The Guardian. 8 December 2009.

A draft Copenhagen climate agreement prepared by the hosts Denmark that was leaked to the Guardian. www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/dec/08/copenhagen-climate-change%20here

EU General Affairs Council adopts Council work programme and sustainable development strategy. 7 December 2009.

The Council took note of the presentation, by the Spanish, Belgian and Hungarian delegations, of a draft 18-month programme for the Council, prepared by the three future presidencies. The Council also took note of a report from the presidency on the 2009 review of the EU's sustainable development strategy. Direct link to Council work programme: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st16/st16771.en09.pdf> Direct link to Sustainable Development Strategy: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st16/st16818.en09.pdf> <http://tinyurl.com/yjdmz3m>

Deal on carbon cuts draws closer. FT. 6 December 2009.

The world is 'within closing distance' of agreeing cuts in greenhouse gases that would satisfy scientific demands, according to a new analysis. www.ft.com/cms/s/0/8e197ef2-e2a6-11de-b028-00144feab49a.html

Hopes increase for a credible climate deal. FT. 6 December 2009.

A credible deal is seen to be more likely because the leaders of almost all the world's big economies and emitters are now planning to attend the summit on the final day, when any agreement would be reached.

www.ft.com/cms/s/0/959ca084-e29a-11de-b028-00144feab49a.html

EU and ACP-countries coordinate strategies on the eve of the Copenhagen Summit. Swedish Presidency of the European Union. 4 December 2009.

On Friday 4 December, with only a few days left to the COP-15 in Copenhagen (7-18 December), representatives of the Swedish Presidency and the European Commission held consultations with the Ambassadors to Brussels of the 78 countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (the ACP countries). This was the most recent in a series of such meetings held during the Swedish Presidency, and the last one before the Copenhagen Conference.

<http://tinyurl.com/yac9jpm>

What are donors doing to help developing countries address climate change? OECD. 4 December 2009.

In the lead-up to COP15, there have been renewed calls for developed countries to assist developing countries' efforts to reduce their greenhouse gases emissions. OECD data show that members of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) provided USD 3.8 billion in bilateral official development assistance (ODA) in 2007 to help developing countries reduce their own emissions. This represents about 4 percent of total bilateral ODA that year. The largest donors were Japan (USD 1.3 billion), Germany (USD 0.8 billion) and France (USD 0.5 billion). This funding contributes to sustainable development and greenhouse gas reduction in developing countries' energy, transport, water and forestry sectors.

www.oecd.org/document/20/0,3343,en_2649_34487_44221716_1_1_1_1,00.html

Delivering for the poor in Copenhagen. Overseas Development Institute. December 2009.

Thousands will descend on Copenhagen in the coming days, for a conference that will have a huge impact on the world's poor and their struggle to secure a decent and sustainable future. ODI researchers have prepared a series of papers looking at some of the issues to be addressed.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/odi-on/details.asp?>

[utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=1906&title=unfccc-cop-copenhagen-2009](http://www.odi.org.uk/odi-on/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=1906&title=unfccc-cop-copenhagen-2009)

Food security / agriculture

From Global Food Crisis to Local Food Insecurity in the context of the new EC policy on Food security. CTA. Live web broadcast. 9 December 2009.

CTA in partnership with the European Commission-DG Development and EuropeAid, the EU Presidency, the ACP Secretariat, Euforic, IPS Europe and Concord organizes bimonthly Development Briefings in Brussels to raise awareness on key rural development issues with the development community based in Brussels. The next Brussels Development Briefing will be held on 9th December and will discuss "From Global Food Crisis to Local Food Insecurity" in the context of the new EC policy on Food security to be released. The Internet Live service (English and French languages) is free and requires simply the use of a connection to Internet. Click on this link:

<http://scic.ec.europa.eu/str/index.php?sessionno=401> <http://tinyurl.com/yzd9rty>

Why is there so little irrigation in Africa? Africa Can End Poverty World Bank Blog. 7 December 2009.

There is considerable evidence that Africa is the continent that will be hit the first, most and worst by climate change. Agricultural productivity, already among the world's lowest, could in several African countries fall by 50 percent in 10 years because of higher and more variable temperatures, which in turn could lead to faster desertification, rising sea levels, and more frequent droughts, floods and typhoons. One reason why African agriculture is particularly vulnerable is that only 7 percent of cultivable land is irrigated—the rest is dependent on rainfall. Yet irrigated land can have yields that are five times those of rainfed land. So why is there so little irrigation in Africa? Presumably, because political and administrative costs lead the total costs to exceed the benefits of irrigation. blogs.worldbank.org/africacan/climate-change-as-a-development-opportunity

Promoting Sustainable Land Management through Trade. Examining Linkages between Trade, Livelihoods and Sustainable Land Management in Degraded Areas. Global Mechanisms-ICTSD. December 2009.

The workshop "Linking Aid for Trade and agriculture to achieve sustainable development and poverty reduction" held in Kampala, Uganda, on 10-11 November, was a milestone towards bridging the gap between trade and agriculture in developing countries, especially in relation to staple food production. It was organized by the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (GM). The workshop aimed to identify Aid for Trade priorities to be developed and reflected on the update of the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study of Uganda. The positive experience of Uganda will set the agenda for the GM and Geneva-based trade organisations to underscore the nexus between trade and agriculture at the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development's Annual General Assembly to be held in Rome on 26-27 January 2010. Click here for the accompanying study. http://news.global-mechanism.org/u/nrd.php?p=97TahLpcSV_2614_164224_303_70

International Relations**EU institutional change****Implementing Lisbon: the EU Presidency's other (rotating) half. European Policy Centre. 10 December 2009.**

The Lisbon Treaty, in force since 1 December, still left many grey areas to be clarified, one of the more tricky ones being the function of the six-monthly rotating EU Presidency in the next institutional architecture, say Antonio Missiroli and Janis Emmanouilidis in this Policy Brief. It is clear that EU Member States still expect to play a major role in the European Council and even in foreign policy, so the authors outline a number of roles the (residual but resilient) rotating Presidency could play both internally and externally without undermining the new bodies and figures created by Lisbon. www.epc.eu/en/pb.asp?TYP=TEWN&LV=187&see=y&t=30&PG=TEWN/EN/detailpub&l=12&AI=997

[TYP=TEWN&LV=187&see=y&t=30&PG=TEWN/EN/detailpub&l=12&AI=997](http://www.epc.eu/en/pb.asp?TYP=TEWN&LV=187&see=y&t=30&PG=TEWN/EN/detailpub&l=12&AI=997)

European External Action Service blueprint to EU leaders in time for the March 2010 summit. European Voice. 10 December 2009. <http://tinyurl.com/yzd9rty>**EU General Affairs Council adopts Council work programme and sustainable development strategy. 7 December 2009.**

The Council took note of the presentation, by the Spanish, Belgian and Hungarian delegations, of a draft 18-month programme for the Council, prepared by the three future presidencies. The Council also took note of a report from the presidency on the 2009 review of the EU's sustainable development strategy. Direct link to Council work programme: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st16/st16771.en09.pdf> Direct link to Sustainable

Development Strategy: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st16/st16818.en09.pdf>
<http://tinyurl.com/yjdmz3m>

EU fails to agree accord on foreign policy. FT 6 December 2009.

A clash over control of European Union foreign policy pits countries that want to promote the authority of Lady Ashton against nations such as France and Spain determined to defend the role of national governments in external relations. www.ft.com/cms/s/0/209eda66-e28d-11de-b028-00144feab49a.html

Enacting the Lisbon Treaty for Common Security and Defense Policy: Setting up the European External Action Service. ISIS Europe's European Security Review Newsletter. December 2009.

The International Security Information Service Europe's newsletter includes a proposed organigramme of the EEAS. www.isis-europe.org/pdf/2009_esr_80_esr47-dec09.pdf

EU Common Foreign and Security Policy – The EU's role in the world

Enacting the Lisbon Treaty for Common Security and Defense Policy: Setting up the European External Action Service. ISIS Europe's European Security Review Newsletter. December 2009.

The International Security Information Service Europe's newsletter includes a proposed organigramme of the EEAS. www.isis-europe.org/pdf/2009_esr_80_esr47-dec09.pdf

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

EU Implementation plan on situations of fragility and conflict will not be finalised before the end of 2009.

EU News. Aprodev et al. December 2009.

The process of preparation and adoption of an EU Implementation plan on situations of fragility and conflict will not be finalised before the end of 2009 as it was originally foreseen. The document that is now in the inter-service consultation in the EC will combine the two separate action plans that were requested in the October 2007 Council conclusions on Situations of Fragility on one hand and on Development and Security on the other. After having undertaken two sets of country case studies (with two different methodologies), DG Development (responsible for situations of fragility) and DG Relex (responsible for Security and Development) finally decided to produce one common action plan. The (joint) action plan will most probably be adopted under the Spanish presidency in spring 2010. This information is from Aprodev's EU News newsletter for December 2009 (to be published on this website in the coming days). www.aprodev.net/main/EU-news-new.htm

Second Swedish-Dutch Conference on Gender Equality: Women in War Zones. The Hague. 3 December 2009.

See also the speech by State Secretary Joakim Stymne:

http://www.se2009.eu/en/meetings_news/2009/12/9/adress_by_joakim_stymne_at_conference_women_in_warzones
<http://tinyurl.com/y85vu7g>

EU enlargement / neighbourhood policy

Eastern Partnership implementation well on track. First. Eastern Partnership Foreign Ministers meeting. 8 December 2009.

The first Meeting of Foreign Ministers in the framework of the Eastern Partnership on 8 December 2009 in Brussels will gather foreign ministers of 27 Member States, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, as well as EU institutions. The European Commission will be represented by Commissioner for Trade and European Neighbourhood Policy, Benita Ferrero-Waldner. While taking note of the progress made on both the bilateral and the multilateral tracks of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) ministers are expected to endorse the Work Programmes for 2010 elaborated by the multilateral platforms. Bilateral work on further deepening of relations is advancing well with 2010 likely to see negotiations with five EaP partner countries on association agreements. <http://tinyurl.com/yk4kdzm>

Political dialogue – ACP-EU

ACP communique following the opening of consultations between the European Union and the Republic of Niger under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement. ACP Group of States. 9 December 2009.

In the light of these positive developments in the political situation in Niger, which must be encouraged and supported, the ACP Group is making an urgent appeal to the European Union to suspend the urgent measures it has adopted in its cooperation with the Republic of Niger which, in the context described above, could prove counter productive. The ACP Group also calls on the European Union to support and assist the mediation process initiated by ECOWAS and entrusted to H. E. Mr. Abdulsalami Abubakar.

www.acpsec.org/en/nigerconsultation/niger_consultation09.html

[EC Proposal for a Council Decision repealing earlier Decision and concerning the follow-up to the consultation procedure with Mauritania under Article 96 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement. 9 December 2009.](http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st17/st17369.en09.pdf)

Opening of Consultations with the Republic of Niger under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement Conclusions of the European Union. 8 December 2009.

<http://tinyurl.com/ycyle2f>

Joint Africa-EU Strategy

Europafrica Bulletin. Issue 31. December 2009.

The Europafrica bulletin will give you an up-date on the implementation process of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. europafrica.net/2007/12/08/europafrica-bulletin-issue-31-december-2009/

African Union / NEPAD

NEPAD Launches Capacity Development Framework. CAPACITY4DEV. 10 December 2009.

The New Partnership for Africa's Development, NEPAD, has prepared a Capacity Development Strategic Framework which may evolve into a common reference for donors supporting capacity development on the continent. capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/nepad-launches-capacity-development-framework

European Investment Bank and IMF agree to intensify cooperation in capacity building and expand technical assistance in Africa. 10 December 2009.

<http://www.eib.org/about/press/2009/2009-249-european-investment-bank-and-imf-agree-to-intensify-cooperation-in-capacity-building-and-expand-technical-assistance-in-africa.htm?lang=en>

See also: [http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=BEI/09/249&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en)

[reference=BEI/09/249&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=BEI/09/249&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en)

The AUC, ECA and key partners call for an institutionalized development dialogue. ECA press release. 3 December 2009.

Senior officials from the capitals of development partners and policy makers of the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) concluded the first AUC-ECA Strategic Partnership Dialogue Forum 2nd December 2009 in Addis Ababa, after two days of intense discussions on how to up-scale and rationalize support to the emerging development priorities of Africa. The outcome document adopted by this Forum, which was co-hosted by AUC and ECA from 1-2 December 2009, stresses the need to establish a permanent policy and organizational development dialogue.

www.uneca.org/eca_resources/news/2009/091203development-dialogue.html

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) negotiations

Le sommet de la Communauté économique et monétaire de l'Afrique centrale (CEMAC), annoncé pour le 14 décembre à Bangui, a été reporté à janvier 2010. africueeducation.com. 10 décembre 2009.

www.africueeducation.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1257&Itemid=9

Tariffs to be imposed on Kenyan if it does not sign EPA. EU experts and EAC private sector representatives discuss EU-EAC Economic Partnership Agreement ahead of next week's negotiations. 8 December 2009.

Executives of EAC business organizations voiced their concerns and expectations on issues such as trade in goods in agri-food products (covering, inter alia, fisheries and horticulture) and industrial products (such as textiles and clothing), along with services and investment, technical issues such as rules of origin, trade facilitation, sanitary and phyto-sanitary standards, geographical indications, and the right to operate in Europe for self-employed business persons, among others. Failure to finalize the EPA process could lead to putting non-Least Developed Countries such as Kenya on the GSP (Generalized System of Preferences) list says the EC. This would de facto mean re-introduction or increase in tariffs on some of key Kenya's export products. The seminar will be followed by additional analysis of the needs of the private sector in the EAC region and by a follow-up event to be organized by "ProInvest" in the EAC region in the second quarter of 2010.

<http://drop.io/melissajulian3/asset/epas-eac-private-sector-meeting-01-021209-doc>

EU treaty implications for trade unclear. EUobserver. 8 December 2009.

The defining message emanating from a meeting of trade experts on 8 December was one of uncertainty regarding Lisbon Treaty changes to the EU's external commercial policy. "Lisbon gives us a signpost but doesn't tell us exactly which way to go," said Roderick Abbott, a senior trade advisor with the European Centre for International Political Economy, a Brussels-based think-tank, which hosted the commerce debate. Forty new fields

will now be decided by the EU's "co-decision" legislative procedure - now renamed the "ordinary legislative procedure" - that gives equal weight to the parliament and the council of ministers representing member states. Parliament will be required to give its consent to all international trade agreements. euobserver.com/9/29119/?rk=1

COMESA, EAC and SADC to have a first-ever One Stop Border Post. COMESA press release. 10 December 2009.

The COMESA, EAC and SADC will have their first-ever One Stop Border Post (OSBP) facility that will increase the region's trade and reduce cross border delays by up to 50%. A joint press conference by COMESA, UK's Department for International Development (DFID), Japanese International Development Agency (JICA) and the government of Zambia has revealed. In an attempt to scale down the long delays of clearing goods at the Zambia-Zimbabwe border post, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC) and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), together with governments of Zambia and Zimbabwe recently embarked on a joint exercise to establish a One-Stop Border Post at Chirundu on the Zambia-Zimbabwe border. <http://tinyurl.com/yj3ku9g>

East African Community. Go for Bigger Regional Market, Council Chairperson Urges Business Community. EAC. 7 December 2009.

The Chairperson of the EAC Council of Ministers and Minister of the East African Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Dr. Diodorus Kamala opened a Trade, Business and Investment Forum on 7 December urging the business community in the region to vie for the bigger EAC market rather than concentrating on internal markets which are limited and at times not economically viable. Hon. Dr. Kamala, who was leading a high powered Business Mission to the EAC Partner States from 29th November to 7th December 2009, told the Forum that EAC market must be nurtured first and foremost by the private sector and in line with this, all the respective governments in the Partner States have created the enabling environment for the private sector to flourish and hence they (private sector) should take the opportunity now to expand their businesses. "The governments have played their parts and it is now you, as the engine of growth, to reciprocate". www.eac.int/component/content/347.html?task=view

EC says East African Business Council Should Join EPA Trade Talks. allAfrica.com. 7 December 2009

The private sector in East Africa should join trade negotiations between the European Commission and East African Community through the regional secretariat. European Union Delegation to Tanzania Head of Economics, Governance and Regional Integration, Stefan Schleuning told 'Daily News' in Dar es Salaam over the weekend that the private sector through East African Business Council (EABC) should be participating in economic partnership agreement negotiations. "The EABC shares the same premises with East African Community and should be able to participate in EPA negotiations," said Mr Schleuning. The EABC which is an apex body grouping private sector national associations from all five member states, has an ad hoc status at the EAC secretariat. The EABC Executive Director, Mr Charles Mbogori, said earlier last week that there has been little progress in EPA negotiations between the EC and EAC because the private sector has been sidelined. allafrica.com/stories/200912071677.html

Chirundu, Zambia - Zimbabwe Border Post Opening. East African Community Secretary General Speech. 5 December 2009.

Statement by Amb. Juma V. Mwapachu, Secretary General of the East African Community and Chairperson of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Task Force During the Official Launch of the Chirundu One Stop Border Post. www.eac.int/component/content/346.html?task=view

See also: <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/One-stop-border-post-opens/>

Kenya Exports to EU Face Taxes if country does not sign EPA. allAfrica.com. 5 December 2009.

The European Union has for the first time indicated that the failure by the East African Community to sign a new trade agreement will lead to introduction of taxes on Kenyan exports to Europe. A statement released by the EU Delegation in Nairobi on December 3 said that failure to finalise the EPA process could lead to putting non-Least Developed Countries such as Kenya on the Generalised System of Preferences list. "This would de facto mean re-introduction or increase in tariffs on a number of some of key Kenya's export products," the statement said.

allafrica.com/stories/200912071148.html

Rapport d'information déposé par la commission des affaires européennes sur les accords de partenariat économique entre l'Union européenne et les pays d'Afrique, des Caraïbes et du Pacifique, L'Assemblée nationale de la France. 2 décembre 2009.

www.assemblee-nationale.fr/13/europe/rap-info/i2133.asp

Fiji and PNG oppose the use of EDF10 to fund OCTA under PACER Plus. PACNEWS. 2 December 2009.

Fiji and Papua New Guinea (PNG) have opposed any attempt by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) to use European Development Fund (EDF10) for the Office of the Chief Trade Advisor (OCTA).

[http://pina.com.fj/index.php?](http://pina.com.fj/index.php?p=pacnews&m=read&o=9911696354b158ad10827b973f7684&PHPSESSID=afe2693a5e10e8f207d8da71da622241)

[p=pacnews&m=read&o=9911696354b158ad10827b973f7684&PHPSESSID=afe2693a5e10e8f207d8da71da622241](http://pina.com.fj/index.php?p=pacnews&m=read&o=9911696354b158ad10827b973f7684&PHPSESSID=afe2693a5e10e8f207d8da71da622241)

Legal and Systemic Contested issues in Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and WTO Rules: Which Way Now? ICTSD. December 2009.

This issue paper written by Dr Cosmas Milton Obote O'chieng provides a legal analysis of some systemic issues regarding the relationship between the WTO and EPAs. Some of these issues include the following: * The application of the Most Favourable Nation Clause, Article XXIV of GATT and its relationship with EPAs, * The effects of the "standstill" clause on bound or applied tariff rates applied to ACP countries by WTO members, * The political and legal effects of the "Non-Execution Clause" in EPAs; * The articulation of the dispute settlement mechanisms of EPAs and their interactions with the WTO one. The paper concludes with a series of legal recommendations that could be useful to all stakeholders in understanding the stakes involved in the EPA negotiations.

www.ictsd.org/i/publications/61869/

Environmental Issues in Economic Partnership Agreements. Implications for Developing Countries. ICTSD. December 2009.

This issue paper written by Mrs. Beatrice Dove-Edwin exhaustively reviews all rules related to trade and environment in several of the already signed EPAs. The aim of the paper is to enable ACP countries to understand how trade policy related to the environment has been introduced in EPAs, and how those policies might impact sustainable development in ACP countries. The paper starts by presenting the current European approach on trade and environment in those agreements. More specifically, it addresses the current state of negotiations, analyses precise proposals made, and explores some of the implications of introducing environmental issues in the EPAs. www.ictsd.org/i/publications/61864/

Interim Agreement with a view to an Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and SADC EPA States. Signature and provisional application. EU Council Decision of 5 May 2009. EU Official Journal. 4 December 2009. eur-lex.europa.eu/JOHtml.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:319:SOM:EN:HTML**Uganda. Ensuring the protection of agriculture and small scale farmers in the EPA negotiations; a case of a Special Safeguard Mechanism. Participatory Ecological Land Use Management. June 2009.**

www.eed.de/fix/files/doc/Pelum_EPAs_SSM_2009_eng.pdf

Aid for Trade / EPA development support

European Investment Bank to provide technical assistance for West African electricity network. EIB. 10 December 2009.

<http://www.eib.org/projects/press/2009/2009-250-european-investment-bank-to-provide-technical-assistance-for-west-african-electricity-network.htm>

In-country EU Donors to report jointly on Aid for Trade implementation. Also, OECD on binding constraints to trade expansion: Aid for Trade objectives and diagnostic Tools. GTZ Trade Newsletter, Issue No. 74, December 2009.

The European Commission is set to circulate by end of 2009 a questionnaire on Aid for Trade related aspects to EC Delegations as part of the External Assistance Management Report of January 2010. The questionnaire aims to provide EC Delegations and EU Member States field offices with a tool to facilitate a discussion on Aid for Trade matters in the partner country in question with a view to advancing together the policy lines embedded in the EU AFT Strategy. It allows collecting important feedback from the field on how the Aid for Trade agenda is progressing at country/regional level. The reply provided by the EC Delegations to this questionnaire will be prepared jointly with EU Member States providing bilateral Aid for Trade to, and that are present in, the respective Partner Country. Both EC Delegations as well as EU Members States will provide their field offices with further details on this new process in due time. <http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/newsbox/message/13242>

International Trade Centre Strategic Plan 2010-2013

www.intracen.org/docman/JAG_14443.pdf

Aid for Trade Statistical Queries. OECD.

The Aid for Trade Statistical Queries page offers an easy access to statistics to measure Aid for Trade flows. Users can extract and download the latest Aid for Trade statistics from 2002 onwards (i.e. volume, origin, and aid categories for over 150 developing countries and territories, including project-level information) reported to the OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS).

www.oecd.org/document/21/0,3343,en_2649_34665_43230357_1_1_1_1,00.html

Access to Training and Equipment keys to business success between West Africa and European Union. EC Press Release. 10 December 2009.

During a workshop of three hours held in Bamako, Mali on 8 December 2009, business leaders from across the region highlighted that access to relevant technical training and access to equipment were the solution to creating business growth in West Africa and to increasing business with the European Union. This workshop was a joint initiative of the Employers Group of European Economic & Social Committee (EESC) and the Centre for the Development of Enterprises (CDE). <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=CES/09/160&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

[reference=CES/09/160&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en](http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=CES/09/160&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en)

Foreign direct investment to emerging markets and developing countries in 2008 amounted to \$730bn or about 43 per cent of global FDI receipts. FT. 8 December 2009.

If trends from the first half of 2009 continue, FDI to emerging markets and developing countries, which are sometimes referred to as “the South”, is on track to exceed direct investment in the mature markets of “the North”. About 40 per cent of world exports in 2008 came from emerging and developing economies. Half of these exports went to other countries in the South. A high-level United Nations conference held this month in Nairobi demonstrated that South-South co-operation – through aid, trade, technical assistance and investment – can play a prominent role as we work to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

www.ft.com/cms/s/0/b05b3322-e448-11de-bed0-00144feab49a.html

French aid for trade. Support Trade for Development. Agence Française de Développement. December 2009.

Developing trade is a key lever for economic growth and poverty reduction, and in times of economic crises when protectionist tendencies find a new appeal, support to foster trade must remain high on the agenda. This booklet, illustrated with concrete examples, presents the French strategy on Aid for Trade, prepared and implemented by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Employment and AFD.

<http://tinyurl.com/yaor4ww>

Monitoring EPA implementation**General economic and trade issues****Upcoming Events**

For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news

Regional and Global Integration: Quo Vadis? 11th Annual Global Development Conference. Global Development Network. 16-18 January 2010.

The Global Development Conference in Prague (January 16-18, 2010) will focus on globalization and regional integration in the context of the recent economic crisis. While the economic and political consequences of the crisis will undoubtedly cast a deep shadow on the economies of developing countries, it is also likely to hasten the structural shift in global economic power from the Western countries to the emerging economies. Will political pressures to push back globalization now come from the West? And how can developing countries counter it? Is a new variant of globalization likely to emerge from this crisis, and if so, what will its contours be?

www.gdnet.org/cms.php?id=gdnet_eleventh_annual_conf_feature

Policy Dialogue on Promoting Access to Regional and International Markets for Agricultural Commodities in Africa. Nairobi. 18 – 20 February 2010.

The workshop is being organized by the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) in collaboration with a number of other partners (TBC). The purpose of the Regional Policy Dialogue in Eastern and Southern Africa is to contribute towards peoples' awareness about policy issues affecting regional and international agricultural trade, promote dialogue among policymakers and key stakeholders on these issues, and to catalyze a consensus-building process toward trade enhancing policies with a view to building up broad-based support for such policies. The workshop will provide open space for public discussion on important agricultural trade policy issues such as subsidies, tariff and non-tariff barriers, and food safety and quality assurance.

farastaff.blogspot.com/2009/12/announcement-policy-dialogue-on.html

Other news

Speech by Minister for Trade Ewa Björling at the European Parliament International Trade Committee. 10 December 2009.

http://www.se2009.eu/en/meetings_news/2009/12/10/speech_by_minister_for_trade_ewa_bjorling_at_the_european_parliament_international_trade_committee

Euromed Trade Ministerial Conference Conclusions. 9 December 2009.

Ministers stressed their support to the commitment taken at the G-20 summits to avoid any new protectionist measures, which are counter-productive to the current economic and financial challenges. Ministers reiterated the importance of remaining committed to a common regulatory framework based on transparency and predictability across the Euro-Mediterranean region in order to encourage trade and economic growth. Ministers stressed the importance of strengthening the dialogue amongst Southern Mediterranean countries on common economic stimulation initiatives in the Euro-Mediterranean region and the essential role played by the Union for the Mediterranean in promoting regional integration and fostering open trade and investment conditions.

<http://tinyurl.com/yztjdb7> See also: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/1890&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

For Global Finance, Global Regulation. Gordon Brown and Nicolas Sarkozy. Wall Street Journal (US). 9 December 2009.

Just ahead of the EU Summit, the UK Prime Minister and French President maintain that stable, open and competitive European financial markets are essential to global growth. They recognise the importance to Europe of ensuring that we have globally competitive financial services, and the importance of developing world-class financial centers such as London and Paris. But the way global financial institutions have operated raises fundamental questions that we must—and can only—address globally they say. They call for Europe to take the lead to ensure better regulation and supervision as the means by which the risk to the taxpayer can be reduced for the longer term. Proposals that deserve consideration include taxes on financial transactions and 2009 bank bonuses. online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704240504574585894254931438.html

Implications of the Global Crisis for the ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements. ECDPM's Sanoussi Bilal in The Broker's Redeveloping Finance Blog. 7 December 2009.

The financial crisis, though having its origin in developed countries, has generated a global recession that has severe consequences for developing countries, including in Africa, in terms of their prospects for economic growth and development. With more pessimistic growth expectations, most African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) governments, in particular in Africa, will be facing serious budgetary constraints and forced to make difficult choices for the future of their economies. In this context, it is worth asking what role EPAs can play, or should not play? Knowing that the situation of African economies vary from country to country, it is unlikely that a one-size-fits-all or a tailored-made approach would be suitable, however broadly two opposite options can be identified.

<http://www.thebrokeronline.eu/en/regulars/blogs/Redeveloping-finance/Implications-of-the-Global-Crisis-for-the-ACP-EU-Economic-Partnership-Agreements-EPAs>

European Competitiveness Report 2009. 1 December 2009.

This link it to Volum 1. For Volume 2 on Migration, skills and productivity:

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st17/st17185-ad01.en09.pdf> For Volume 3 on ICT, regulation and productivity: <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st17/st17185-ad02.en09.pdf>

register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/09/st17/st17185.en09.pdf

Domestic demand, net exports and Africa's growth. Africa Can End Poverty World Bank Blog. 22 November 2009.

At the recent Africa Economic Conference, UN under-secretary general and executive secretary of UNECA, Abdoulie Janneh, said "[Africa's] previous growth, while benefiting from improved macroeconomic management, was largely dependent on commodity exports and resources flows from outside the continent." Analysis done for the IMF's Regional Economic Outlook tells a somewhat different story. Decomposing Africa's GDP growth into its two components, growth in domestic demand and growth in net exports (exports minus imports), they find that the lion's share was due to domestic demand changes, and only a small portion to changes in net exports. One reason for the latter could be that, as export earnings surged, African countries imported a lot, leaving the change in net exports (and hence their contribution to GDP growth) quite small. blogs.worldbank.org/africacan/domestic-demand-net-exports-and-africa-s-growth

The Seventh Session of the WTO Ministerial. Background papers on key issues. Overseas Development Institute. December 2009.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial took place last week. In advance, ODI released a set of papers and blogs on some of the key issues discussed. It also hosted three ODI-hosted side events looking at many of the same issues.

[http://www.odi.org.uk/odi-on/details.asp?](http://www.odi.org.uk/odi-on/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=2094&title=seventh-session-wto-ministerial)

[utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=2094&title=seventh-session-wto-ministerial](http://www.odi.org.uk/odi-on/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=2094&title=seventh-session-wto-ministerial)

Governance**ACP governance initiatives****African Union Meeting on the African governance architecture. Nairobi. Programme and Information Note. Via the African Governance Institute. 10-12 December 2009.**

In accordance with its mandate and its fields of activity, as defined in the strategic plan of the Commission of the African Union for the 2009-2012 period, the Department of Political Affairs of the African Union Commission, organizes from 10 to 12 December 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya, a meeting on governance. This meeting is part of the follow-up to the recommendations of a previous process of actors on governance in Africa, held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in March 2009. See Programme and Information Note here. www.iag-agi.org/spip/article251.html

New Committee Told African Civil Society Essential for Good Governance. ECA Press Release. 9 December 2009.

Political inclusiveness is a core component of good governance, and the addition of people represented by civil society and private sector organizations is key to ensuring this, the head of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa's (ECA) governance division said. "The challenge is how to crowd in non-state actors in the governance agenda, through which they can mobilize the people for effective governance," said Mr. Adballa Hamdok, director of the Governance and Public Administration Division.

www.uneca.org/eca_resources/Press_Releases/2009_pressreleases/pressrelease7709.html

African Governance Institute. December 2009 Newsletter.

www.iag-agi.org/spip/IMG/pdf/english_newspaper.pdf

Measuring and Monitoring Progress towards Good Governance. The African Governance Report II. United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. December 2009.

A biannual publication, which assesses and monitors progress towards good governance in African countries. This Second African Governance Report (AGR-II) tracks governance in 32 African countries, up from the 27 studied in AGR in 2005. Based on desk research and interviews with experts, overall, there are no dramatic movements in governance indicators, with marginal improvements in the rule of law and civil society and media independence, a slight deterioration in fighting corruption and political party freedom, and no change in independence of the electoral process or political representation. www.uneca.org/agr/

Governance and development partners**Partnership for Democratic Governance. Contracting Out Government Functions and Services. Emerging Lessons from Post-Conflict and Fragile Situations. OECD, African Development Bank. 11 December 2009.**

The ability to deliver essential public services and government functions is a prerequisite for well-functioning, legitimate states. It is also a necessity if states are to meet the most basic needs of their citizens while maintaining security and stability, bringing in foreign direct investment, pursuing poverty reduction objectives and strengthening governance. The second volume of the Partnership for Democratic Governance Series investigates whether 'contracting out' core government functions and services has been conducive to capacity development. Each case study discusses the evidence and emerging lessons of contracting out in fragile and post-conflict situations.

www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?CID=&LANG=EN&SF1=DI&ST1=5KSF09SV5WBX

EU Foreign Affairs Council conclusions on human rights, democratisation, climate change, Latin America, Horn of Africa, Cotonou Review,. 8 December 2009.

- Human rights and democratisation in third countries - Council conclusions – Relations with Latin America - Council conclusions – Climate change and security - Council conclusions – Horn of Africa - Council conclusions – Ratification of the revised Cotonou Agreement.. <http://tinyurl.com/yl4ylms>

Lessons in Distributed Leadership from the Obama Campaign. Aid on the Edge of Chaos. 4 December 2009.

The Obama presidential campaign owed its victory not to a single charismatic candidate, but to the efforts of a disciplined and motivated organisation. A recent MIT lecture featured Marshall Ganz, veteran of the 1960s civil rights movement and key activist in the Obama election campaign, who described that leaders "recruit, motivate and develop others, constructing a community around common interests, and building capacity from within the community". Such "distributed leadership" draws from and resonates with emerging theories of complex adaptive leadership. From this perspective, leadership is not about a person, but is rather an interactive dynamic, within which any particular person will participate as leader or a follower at different times and for different purposes. Leadership is not limited to a formal managerial role, but rather emerges in the systemic interactions between diverse actors. <http://tinyurl.com/yfljcs2>

How to Fix Afghanistan with People. Clare Lockhart's Plan for Afghanistan. Esquire. 1 December 2009.

Four Ways to Fix Afghanistan Without Guns Once before, Clare Lockhart was charged with rebuilding Afghanistan. Now, as the US administration sends her — and 30,000 troops — back there, she has a new plan. 1. Keep Foreign Bureaucracies Out 2. Instead, Give Locals Responsibility 3. Work Within the Local Framework 4. The Cheapest Solution Is Rarely the Best Read more: <http://www.esquire.com/features/best-and-brightest-2009/clare-lockhart-1209#ixzz0Z6vrz7Md> www.esquire.com/features/best-and-brightest-2009/clare-lockhart-1209

Political economy, water and the MDGs. Overseas Development Institute. November 2009.

Water resource management is critical for the achievement of many of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Too often, the political economy issues that determine whether or not water resources are managed effectively are overlooked. Drawing on research from the Lake Victoria region, this Opinion argues for a greater

focus on political economy issues in the drive to reach the MDGs that relate to water.

[http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?](http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=3298&title=political-economy-water-millennium-development-goals-mdgs)

[utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=3298&title=political-economy-water-millennium-development-goals-mdgs](http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=3298&title=political-economy-water-millennium-development-goals-mdgs)

Understanding and operationalising empowerment. Overseas Development Institute. November 2009.

This paper presents an overview of the different definitions of and conceptual approaches to empowerment. It was produced for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) following publication of an independent evaluation of SDC's application of empowerment approaches in its development programming.

[http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?](http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=4525&title=empowerment-understanding-operationalising-working-paper)

[utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=4525&title=empowerment-understanding-operationalising-working-paper](http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=4525&title=empowerment-understanding-operationalising-working-paper)

Attitudes of Europeans towards Corruption. Eurobarometer. November 2009.

One of the core aims of the European Union is to offer its citizens the benefits of freedom, security and justice without internal borders. To this end the European Union has developed a comprehensive policy on fighting corruption, including a number of acts to support this work. This summary report tracks how perceptions and opinions about corruption have changed in the intervening year and includes the results of several new questions. It presents the most important findings at EU level and highlights only the most significant national variations.

ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_325_en.pdf

The Institute for State Effectiveness. Clare Lockhart, CEO.

The Institute for State Effectiveness (ISE) uses a citizen-centered perspective to rethink the fundamentals of the relationship between citizens, the state and the market in the context of globalization. Stability and prosperity in our interdependent world demand a new global compact to ensure that the billions of people currently excluded become stakeholders in the emerging political and economic order. Clare Lockhart, CEO.

www.effektivestates.org/index.htm

EU-Africa governance dialogue**Civil society****Decentralisation and local governance****Aid, growth and decentralization. What effect does decentralisation have on aid effectiveness? C. Lessmann and G. Markwardt via Eldis. 2009.**

Several national and international development agencies consider decentralization initiatives as a main part of their anti-poverty programs. This paper examines whether the federal structure of aid-receiving countries matters

in explaining aid effectiveness. Following the decentralization theorem, the devolution of powers should increase aid effectiveness, since local decision-makers are better informed about local needs. At the same time, decentralization has reverse effects, e.g., through coordination problems, excessive regulation, administrative costs and local capture. Using panel data for up to 59 countries covering the period from 1966 to 1997, the study finds that aid is less effective or even harmful in decentralized countries. The main findings are that foreign aid has no significant impact on growth, decentralization has a significant positive impact on growth, and that aid is more effective in centralized countries. Furthermore, they show that decentralized countries receive more development

assistance, although the results cast doubt on the appropriateness of decentralization as part of development programs. www.eldis.org/go/display&type=Document&id=45546

Knowledge Management and Communication

Capacity development

Knowledge management

Communities of practice. Linking knowledge, policy and practice. Overseas Development Institute. November 2009.

The knowledge gained by research is often trapped at the point of origin, caught in the language of research, or simply isolated from those who actually apply that knowledge – the practitioners in the field. Likewise, tacit knowledge from the field rarely reaches the researchers or those making decisions. More effective bridges between knowledge, policy and practice are needed, with communities of practice (CoPs) well positioned to do just that. This paper describes the basic characteristics of CoPs and provides a rationale for their growing importance in international development. It also suggests some ways in which CoPs can be supported by development agencies, research institutes and donors to strengthen the linkages between knowledge, policy and practice.

[http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?](http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=1129&title=communities-practice-bridge-research-policy)

[utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=1129&title=communities-practice-bridge-research-policy](http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/details.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=091207&id=1129&title=communities-practice-bridge-research-policy)

Research for development

Monitoring, evaluation and learning in international cooperation

Communication for development

ACP rural development: Why Media matters. CTA Report. 12 October 2009.

The Report prepared for the Briefing on “ACP rural development: why Media matters?”, held on 12th October 2009, is now available online. The report give a summary of discussions as well as resources and references related to the subject. <http://tinyurl.com/yjxj5bb>

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