

Weekly Compass

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New at ECDPM

Development Policy and International Relations

Europafrica Bulletin. 29 July 2009. ECDPM

This monthly e-alert provides the latest news and resources on the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) and beyond. Included in the latest issue is a summary of a recent high-level workshop, organised by the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), Addis Ababa office, on peace and security threats and responses in Africa to the year 2030. ECDPM outlined the nature and consequences for EU support of African Peace and Security Architecture looking forward to 2030 and raised the issue of how EU support can genuinely build and enhance endogenous African capacity in sustainable peace and security on the African continent and improve the impact of enhanced dialogue under the JAES.

The Europafrica Bulletin also includes updates on Africa-EU dialogue processes; recent institutional developments relating to the African Union; and an overview of upcoming Africa-EU events. [Click here](#) to read more.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Global Financial and Economic Crisis: Analysis of and Implications for ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs). ECDPM /SAIIA/ODI. July 2009.

Commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), this study was carried by Sanoussi Bilal (ECDPM), Peter Draper (SAIIA) and Dirk Willem te Velde (ODI). The report explores the impacts of the current global recession for developing countries, highlighting, among other effects: the continued decline of trade and investment flows, lower remittances, lower and more volatile commodity prices, and an increase in poverty and malnutrition for the most vulnerable people. It explores a range of strategies to address these impacts, including the creation of effective regional markets and building in greater flexibility in the ongoing EPA negotiations to adequately address the short and medium terms adjustment needs of African ACP countries and regions. [Click here](#) to read more.

Report of an informal expert workshop on contentious issues in the EPA negotiations. Brussels. 8-9 July 2009.

At this workshop convened by ECDPM, a small group of ACP and EU experts shared their perspectives on two interrelated issues at the heart of current ACP-EU trade relations. These are the contentious issues in negotiations towards Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and regional mechanisms for the delivery of development support to accompany trade liberalisation. For a summary of the workshop outcome, please [click here](#).

Trade Negotiations Insights. Vol. 8. No. 6. July/August 2009. ECDPM-ICTSD. (this issue will be posted at this website on 4 August 2009.)

Articles include:

- The EC-SADC EPA: The Moment of Truth for Regional Integration (Aurelie Walker)
- Editorial & News and publications
- In brief
- The Future of the Southern African Customs Union (Peter Draper et Nkululeko Khumalo)
- TNI Talks to Daniel Moroka, Botswana's Minister of Trade and Industry
- Tracing the Special and Differential Treatment principle through the CARIFORUM EPA (Alisa DiCaprio and Silke Trommer)
- Protected Geographical Indications for ACP Countries: A Solution or a Mirage? (Vincent Fautrel et al.)
- Stimulating an Island Nation: The Logic behind Mauritius' Additional Stimulus (Raj Makoond)
- The Efficacy of the Stimulus Package (Ahmed Parker)
- WTO Roundup
- EPA Negotiations update

No. 6, 31 July 2009

Dear,

As I take off for some (much needed!) vacation, ECDPM colleagues, partners and other key stakeholders are still in meetings and will continue in their preparations for what promises to be a busy autumn in ACP-EU relations. Some major global and EU reforms will be considered, and possibly agreed, in economic and trade cooperation, development policy and international relations and in the area of governance, which will determine future ACP-EU relations and the overall role of development cooperation within a newly emerging arena of external relations.

ECDPM will be continuing its research, facilitation and information dissemination work in these policy processes. I'll use the Weekly Compass to inform you on activities. But we are not trying to raise our profile for the sake of it, but to improve debates on these important issues. So, please, send me your comments and suggestions on how to do that via whatever form is easiest for you – e-mail, sms, facebook, twitter or a phone call.

I look forward to speaking again on 4 September. In the meantime, have a nice, well deserved, relaxing summer break with your loved ones.

Melissa
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Off the track

Web 2.0 tools and governance. A story with surprising twists and turns. World Bank Blog. July 2009.

A recent blog World Bank blog post titled: "140 characters is a novel when you're being shot at," reflects on how ordinary citizens facing unprecedented political, socio-economic, and environmental crises are appropriating information tools in remarkable new ways. From the recent "Twitter revolution" in Iran, to less familiar, but no less remarkable achievements of ordinary people in Africa and Asia using simple mobile phones to highlight their problems, the article looks at how and why social networking tools have become so important for improved governance. The blog cautions, however, that in the rush to celebrate Web 2.0 tools, one should not underestimate the risks: not only with regard to security and privacy concerns, but the growing proliferation of inaccurate, malicious and even harmful information in social networks. This "trust" factor, the blog argues, could potentially be the single biggest challenge that Web 2.0 will have to overcome. [Click](#)

-Calendar and resources
[Click here](#) on 4 August 2009 to read the July/August issue of TNI.

Kick off Meeting NETRIS, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania, 22 -24 June 2009.

ECDPM is one of the associates of NETRIS aiming to strengthen regional integration studies in the ACP countries. The specific purpose of NETRIS is to establish and coordinate a network of ACP Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) working within the field of (comparative) regional integration. The overall objectives of the network are to strengthen the research and training capacities of the partners in the field of regional integration studies, to stimulate mutual learning, shared practices and collective dissemination, and encourage policy relevant research. ECDPM's Aurelie Walker contributed to this meeting. [Click here](#) to read more.

Governance

Governance Assessments. Do We Need More of Them? Capacity4Dev. 14 July 2009.

Donors face strong incentives to undertake their own assessments of the governance situation in partner countries, with various objectives responding to different needs. While it remains unlikely that donors will develop a single, unifying assessment tool in the short-term, there is ample scope for greater cooperation to match tools and purposes in more innovative ways. In a bid to enhance the effectiveness of governance assessments and generate greater harmony between donors, the OECD DAC has developed ways to improve the effectiveness of donors' assessment practices. [Click here](#) to read more.

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Policy News

Development Policy and International Relations

2009-10 a key defining moment in reform of EU institutions and international relations

EU institutions are undertaking thorough reviews of all aid instruments and their programming in 2009/10. This review is taking place at 3 levels:

1. Finance: with the mid-term review of the Community multiannual financial framework 2007-2013 also known as the 'Financial Perspectives'. The process of revising the EU's complex financial regulations, often cited as a key reason for delays in delivering EU external relations support, started in June 2009 and is due to be completed in January 2010. The financial regulation for the ACP-EU cooperation's financial instrument, the European Development Fund (EDF), is normally harmonised with the adopted EU Budget financial regulation.
2. Policy/legislation: with the mid-term review of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement and review of the legal basis of the instruments established in 2007 under the EU's multiannual budgetary framework (including the EU's development cooperation instrument);
3. Strategy: with the review of the multi-annual strategies of the geographic and thematic programmes governed by the EU budget and EDF instruments, as well as the country strategy papers. It is at that this third level, also referred to as the programming of aid, that changes having a direct impact on aid delivery and participation of civil society will probably occur. It is therefore significant that while the EC has indicated it would welcome civil society input, it has provided little additional guidance on the nature of such input.

European Commission launches reflection on strategic objectives and budget for sustainable development. EC Communication. 24 July 2009.

The paper, "Mainstreaming sustainable development into EU policies: 2009 Review of the European Union Strategy for Sustainable Development" launches a reflection on how one of these instruments - the EU Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS) - should evolve in the future and how it could be better aligned with other cross-cutting EU strategies. The Communication particularly stresses the need to find greater synergy with the Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs, which will be reviewed in 2010. The progress report will now be handed to EU leaders, who are expected to review priorities and provide orientation for the future strategy later this year. In the parallel discussions on revisions to the EU's 2000 Lisbon Strategy, 'green growth' and environmental sustainability are likely to feature high among the strategy's new priorities. The process continues through the EU legislative procedure up to the EU summit in March 2010, which will adopt

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main policy orientations for Lisbon post-2010. A broad network of civil society organisations and other groups recently formed an umbrella lobby group, the Spring Alliance, to try and influence this debate. [Click here](#) to read more.

For background information and analysis, see EurActive's exhaustive coverage of the current Reviews of EU Sustainable Development and Lisbon strategies. 28 July 2009 at the following pages:

[Click here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#).

EU Ministers launch debate on funding for climate change. EurActiv. 27 July 2009.

This critical debate, which will culminate at the highest level at the Copenhagen Climate Change Summit in December 2009, will likely spark controversy both between EU Member States and within national governments.

In Germany, for example, an internal power struggle appears to be taking place between key ministries over the governance of future climate funds. EU Environment and Energy Ministers meeting informally in July 2009

discussed an EU Presidency-EC draft document which calls for the immediate mobilisation of \$1-2 billion to fund climate adaptation in low-income, vulnerable countries. The report suggests that adaptation would be funded by Official Development Assistance (ODA) in the short term, and draw from a mixture of development aid and additional sources in the longer term. Critics of the proposal call for additional funding on top of existing ODA to be provided to meet climate goals. Last month, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown proposed a \$100 billion annual climate fund by 2020, capping the share of development aid at 10% of this total. Similarly, the Netherlands and Denmark support the idea that climate funding should not be part of the existing 0.7% ODA commitments.

[Click here](#) to read more. See also EU Presidency link, [click here](#).

Economic and Trade Cooperation

EPA Negotiations Coordination Meeting. Gaborone, Botswana. Aide memoire. 22-23 July 2009.

The main objectives of the workshop were to bring together the chief advisers and negotiators to compare the concessions their negotiating groups have obtained during the negotiations for full EPAs as well as on the resolution of the contentious issues. The ultimate objective of the exercise is to enhance information exchange and expand the room for manoeuvre for African negotiators. The meeting aims also at strengthening co-ordination among key policymakers and stakeholders, including the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the African Union Commission, and African Trade Ministers. ECDPM's Dan Lui participated in this meeting. [Click here](#) to read more.

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