

Newsletter N° 37 - December 2014

The ACP Local Government Platform e-Newsletter is an electronic newsletter produced every three months by the ACP Local Government Platform (ACP-LG Platform). The editor of this e-Newsletter invites readers to make comments & contribute news on local government issues from their organisations, local authorities & countries. All former editions of the newsletter are available on the Platform website: www.acplgp.net (go to 'News', then 'Platform Newsletters'). For those who want to know about the Platform and its history, please visit the Platform website www.acplgp.net (go to 'The ACP-LG Platform', then 'Background', 'Establishment of the Platform' and 'Future orientation'). The Newsletter N 23 is a special edition to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Platform.

EC calls for proposals: open / foreseen

Various EC calls for proposals open/foreseen for some programmes of interest to local authorities can be seen at <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>

• Non-State Actors and Local Authorities thematic programme (NSA & LA)

Countries	Deadline	Budget* (EURO)	Reference
Kenya	10/02/2015	2.000.000	EuropeAid/150001/DD/ACT/KE
Fiji	open	1.900.000	EuropeAid/136491/DD/ACT/FJ
Eritrea	open	250.000	EuropeAid/131033/L/ACT/ER

• EIDHR: European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Niger	10/02/2015	600.000	EuropeAid/136342/DD/ACT/NE
Uganda	17/02/2015	1.000.000	EuropeAid/150000/DD/ACT/UG
Ghana	13/02/2015	1.000.000	EuropeAid/136452/DD/ACT/GH
Solomon Islands	09/02/2015	600.000	EuropeAid/136499/DD/ACT/SB
African Union	02/02/2015	1.500.000	EuropeAid/136394/DD/OPR/OUA
Gambia	02/02/2015	1.000.000	EuropeAid/136488/DD/ACT/GM
All countries	12/03/2015	15.000.000	EuropeAid/136316/DH/ACT/Multi
Sudan	15/01/2015	2.000.000	EuropeAid/136435/DD/ACT/SD

• Food Security

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Cote d'Ivoire	16/02/2015	2.000.000	EuropeAid/136517/ID/ACT/CI
Madagascar	open	1.700.000	EuropeAid/134180/M/ACT/MG

• Various fields in ACP countries

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Malawi	02/02/2015	6.300.000	EuropeAid/136459/DD/ACT/MW
Mozambique	30/01/2015	3.000.000	EuropeAid/136497/ID/ACT/MZ
Swaziland	28/02/2015	1.250.000	EuropeAid/136100/ID/ACT/SZ
Mauritius	open	56.000.000 (MUR)	EuropeAid/134113/M/ACT/MU
All ACP	open	7.000.000	EuropeAid/130741/D/ACT/Multi

News from the EU

4th Assises of Decentralised Cooperation: Brussels, 1 & 2 June 2015

Brussels, 25/11/2014. The Committee of the Regions (CoR) and the EC jointly organised the 2nd preparatory meeting for the 4th Assises of Decentralised Cooperation. The 4th Assises will take place in Brussels on 1-2 June 2015. They will be structured as follows: 5 round tables & 6 associated seminars + long discussion period + time for informal discussion. The Assises will be organised in three phases: i) opening session; ii) round tables; and iii) plenary session.

Provisional timetable

December 2014: Launch of the process of preparation of presentation documents for the round tables & associated seminars

January 2015: Finalisation of presentation documents

January/February 2015: Identification of speakers, rapporteurs and moderators

End February 2015: Finalisation of list of invited partners

Early March 2015: Invitation letters to be sent to third-country partners

March 2015: Working session with partners in charge of seminars

Early May 2015: Finalisation of the programme of the Assises

1 & 2 June 2015: 4th Assises of Decentralised Cooperation

For each round table and associated seminar a partnership between at least one EU partner and one third-country partner will be set up.

Topics

As regards the topics of the 4th Assises, the Committee of the Regions received about 40 proposals which show the great interest of local authorities in the Assises. These topics have been regrouped into more general topics to be discussed around five round tables and six associated seminars. They are:

Round tables

- Local and regional authorities (LRA) in the post-2015 development agenda framework
- Energy and territories, contribution to COP21
- Urban development and decentralised cooperation
- Experience network, exchanges and sharing in support of decentralised cooperation
- EU new approach in its support to local authorities

Associated seminars

- Development education and international citizenship
- Decentralised cooperation in support of fair trade
- Territory and governance
- Regional integration and international cooperation
- LRA facing mobility, migration and development
- Decentralised cooperation to achieve international targets for biodiversity

Those local elected authorities interested in contributing to the round tables and associated seminars are invited to send an email to LRD4DEV@cor.europa.eu

Invitation procedure of third-party partners

December 2014/January 2015: Proposition from third-party partners (through a form available on the website)

End February 2015: Finalisation of list of invited partners

Early March 2015: Invitation letters to be sent to third-country partners

Stands to present the practice of decentralised cooperation of LRA and their associations can be envisaged. Given the limited number of available stands, those interested should inform the organisers at LRD4DEV@cor.europa.eu

For further information: <http://lra4dev.cor.europa.eu/portal/Pages/4th-Assises-of-decentralised-cooperation.aspx>

Neven Mimica, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development

Neven Mimica, from Croatia, the designated Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development outlined his top 3 priorities during his hearing of 29 September 2014 in front of Development Committee of the European Parliament.

The post-2015 framework is of course his first priority. In his written response to the Parliament, Mimica outlined his wish for an ambitious, universal and transformational post-2015 framework. During the hearing he stated his goal for a comprehensive European approach; ensuring coherence amongst the Commissioners. Furthermore, he noted the important link between climate and development, stating that he *“supports ambitious targets on climate and energy. These challenges are closely interconnected. Sustainable development and poverty eradication go hand in hand.”*

Mimica would hope that the number of goals (as suggested in the Open Working Group document) could be reduced as the new framework should be more focused and he would like to reinforce the goal on governance that must also include human rights as well as the goal 17 on means of implementation and global partnership. Financing for Development conference of July 2015 was unfortunately not mentioned as another important process of 2015.

His second priority will be the future of EU-Africa relations and the post-Cotonou Framework. Mimica intends to negotiate a post-Cotonou framework and to strengthen the EU's strategic partnership with Africa. He sees the launch of a broad public consultation as an important start to EU reflections on the future of the EU-ACP/Africa partnership. He stated: *“it cannot be a simple continuation of the past”*, a sentiment echoed among Member States and in the ACP's own reflection process. *“The scale of the consultation we engage in must reflect the scale of the initiative we are undertaking. I will engage into a broad and in-depth public consultation in 2015 on the scope and the priorities of the successor agreement”*, he said.

Throughout his hearing Mimica emphasised the importance of the EU building partnerships in development and changing its role from *“a payer to a player”*. *“Development policy aims for a partnership based on mutual interests. When fragile states collapse, or when terrorism expands in Africa, it is a direct threat to Europe. When trade flows increase and business environments improve, it is an opportunity for Europe as well.”*

The third priority is policy coherence for development: *“Greater coherence between our internal and external policies is therefore a must. And the cooperation we offer our partners can and must extend far beyond pure aid to include science, health, education, gender and youth issues, labour mobility and much more.”*

Mimica presented himself as the *“commissioner of coordination and coherent policies”* and not of subordination. During his hearing, for example, he said that he will be *“the guardian to make sure that EU-US trade and investment (TTIP) negotiations and agreement will not have a negative impact on developing countries.”* In the area of agriculture, in his written responses, Mimica stated that *“investments in smallholder agriculture have proven to yield outstanding results in poverty reduction. I would therefore prioritise actions which enhance smallholder farmers' incomes and increase the resilience of rural communities”*. *“Large-scale investments in land should not jeopardise secure land tenure and land user rights, which are prerequisites for food security and agricultural sector's sustainability, and crucial in reducing poverty, especially for women and indigenous groups. If confirmed, I would carry out actions that secure these rights, in the context of local customs and traditions”*.

His overall concept of including **private sector into development** is not to make a commercial exercise that assists EU big companies but rather to develop resources of developing countries to do more with small enterprises, like fishermen, there. During his hearing Mimica referred at multiple occasions to good governance, fight against corruption and the importance of domestic resource mobilisation including through the fight against illicit flows. In these domains, Mimica's approach seems to rely heavily on dialogue, capacity building and technical assistance and less on the necessity to establish regulatory frameworks and binding commitments at EU and international levels (i.e. on the issue of conflict minerals). However, on money laundering and public registries, his short answer would be *“yes, I am in favour of having this as public and comprehensive as possible.”*

On migration and development, his concept is clearly that the Official development assistance (ODA) should not be directly focused on building the walls in Europe but dismantling the walls between countries of origin for inclusive societies there. No financial assistance to prevention of illegal flows but rather working together in coordinated way with migration and admission policy of EU in order to build facilities for legal migration.

Source: Aprovev Newsletter October 2014

The European Commission adopted its 2015 work programme.

It says the EU needs an effective common foreign policy with better mechanisms to anticipate events and to swiftly identify common responses to common challenges, and common actions to seize opportunities. The coherent and joined-up use of all instruments available to the Union, including its common foreign and security policy and the systematic external projection of internal policies will be indispensable to further the EU's policy objectives on the global scene. With 2015 being the European Year for Development, the Commission will continue its work on the post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals and will launch reflections on its future relations with developing countries (post-Cotonou).

http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/work-programme/index_en.htm

2015 will be the first ever European Year focused on external affairs.

The European Year for Development 2015 under the motto "Our world, our dignity, our future" will be a unique opportunity to inform EU citizens how EU support helps to make a difference in developing countries and to show that development aid is also about them, that it also has a positive impact on their lives, considering the increasingly interdependent world we live in. The year will be launched in Riga, Latvia on 9 January in the margins of the opening of the Presidency of the European Council. A press conference will take place and will be broadcast. <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/eyd2015/dashboard>

News from the ACP-EU

Ambassador Gomes: New Secretary General of ACP Group 2015-2020

Ambassador Dr Patrick I. Gomes of Guyana has been appointed as the new Secretary General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States. Dr Gomes' appointment took place on 11 December 2014 during the 100th session of the ACP Council of Ministers in Brussels, making him the ninth Secretary General since the inception of the organisation in 1975. "I accept with great honour this appointment on behalf of Guyana, the Caribbean and the entire ACP family. I do so with much modesty and strong commitment to serve the ACP Group to the best of my ability and to tirelessly achieve the objectives of the Georgetown Agreement, and to ensure tangible benefits to the people of our member states," he said in his acceptance speech. "Our solidarity and unity must take more account of the dynamic changes in our regions and ensure complementarity and coherence... With a promise of strategic and focused action, let us together rejuvenate, reposition and reinvent this unique and great organisation, the ACP Group of States."

Source: CTA Newsletter N 428

Trade: EPA negotiations are coming to an end

After more than 12 years, Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations are coming to an end. The West African (10 July 2014), the SADC (15 July 2014), Cameroon (22 July 2014) and East African Community (16 October 2014) EPA negotiations have been concluded and signed.

They are now processed for legal scrubbing and then subject to ratification in the African EPA countries parliaments. The Commission is presenting the final EPA deal as a generous EU offer of duty free and quota free market access with '*unprecedented flexibilities and great deal of asymmetry in the commitments and obligations*'. This assessment is and remains contested by a variety of social and economic groups including churches in African EPA countries. They raise concerns about compromising regional integration and drastic financial revenue losses from tariff elimination commitments of about 80 percent average but up to 90 percent for individual countries (e.g. Togo). They call the EPAs an unfair deal because existing flexibilities and asymmetries do weigh too little in view of the unlevelled playing field, which makes economic development through fair competition hardly possible, creating '*trade diversion benefiting Europe and discouraging the production and consumption of local products*'. African civil society and farmer groups as well as parliamentarians charge their governments of having succumbed to EU pressure, selling their people's economic development aspirations to short term gains and political interests. Campaigns are launched in many African countries to influence parliamentary debates on ratification. The European Parliament will also have to give its consent, but all major political groups including EPP, S&D and ALDE have already signalled their assent whatever the shortcomings of the EPA deals. For more information see, for example: <http://ecdpm.org/great-insights/economic-partnership-agreements-beyond/>

Source: Aprovev Newsletter October 2014

Caribbean and Europe generate dynamic cooperation

European Cooperation Day was commemorated in the Caribbean under the theme of "Sharing borders to grow closer". The special day, commemorated on Thursday 25 September 2014, was marked by highlighting special projects across the French overseas territories in the Caribbean. The Regional Council of Guadeloupe, as the management authority of the INTERREG IV Caribbean European regional cooperation programme, organised the commemoration in the Caribbean in collaboration with the Regional Councils of Martinique, French Guiana and the Saint Martin local authority.

Events centred on highlighting projects supported by the INTERREG IV Caribbean programme, which aims to enhance collaboration and to promote the development of future projects in the 2014-2020 programme period. This year, the INTERREG IV Caribbean programme honoured the island nation of Dominica by welcoming its ministers of energy and agriculture and helping boost its electricity generation. Under the "Geothermal I" project, financed under the INTERREG III B phase, the Regional Council of Guadeloupe consolidated its cooperation with Dominica to promote and develop renewable energy. Dominica will move towards energy independence thanks to a 40MW power plant which will generate sufficient energy for export to Guadeloupe and Martinique via an underwater cable.

With Guadeloupe's experience at the Bouillante site, the Dominica cooperation positions the Regional Council of Guadeloupe as a "pole of excellence" for geothermal energy and contributes to the development of renewable energy usage across the Caribbean. A similar project sets up a regional water cycle observatory to evaluate, monitor and better manage water resources to better understand regional hydrometeorological phenomena and the evolution of the environment.

Source: eturbonews.com & CTA Newsletter 419

News from the ACP

Influencing change, building capacities to strengthen local governance: EALGA trains ALGAPL mayors in Arusha

In September EALGA carried out a training programme for a group of mayors from Somalia. The beneficiaries came from the Puntland state of Somalia under their umbrella body, the Association of Local Government Authorities of Puntland - ALGAPL. This was the second time EALGA was conducting training of local government practitioners from Somalia. The first was in November 2013 when a group of mayors under the umbrella body of ALGASL was trained in Arusha. The training was conducted at Impala Hotel, Arusha from 31st August to 7th September 2014.

While addressing the assembled mayors during the opening ceremony, the Deputy Mayor of Arusha City, His Worship Prosper Msofi who officiated as chief guest thanked UN-HABITAT and EALGA for organising the event and choosing Arusha to host it. The training covered core areas of public expenditure management, local revenue collection, development of urban regulatory frameworks, waste management best practices, road drainage development and maintenance, and renovation/construction of urban markets and their maintenance.

Source: EALGA Newsletter October 2014

10 August 2014: the African Day of Decentralisation and Local development

On the 10th August 2014 was organised the first commemoration of the African Day of Decentralisation and Local Development. While recognising the achievements that Decentralisation has made across the African Continent, the African Union at its 20th Ordinary session held in January 2013 declared the 10th of August of every year as the African Day of Decentralisation and Local Development.

In principle the celebration should provide an opportunity for all decentralisation stakeholders to:

- Carry out a critical appraisal of the decentralisation process in a particular member state
- Review the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder and examine how each has performed in their respective roles
- Re-examine the appreciation of the principles of decentralisation and local government by all stakeholders
- Analyse how decentralisation should be designed and operated to spur local economic development throughout the continent, and
- Develop consensus on the appropriate financing mechanisms to ensure better local service delivery and development

Source: EALGA Newsletter October 2014

IRI conducts an East Africa local governance workshop in Nairobi

The Intentional Republic institute (IRI) in cooperation with East Africa Local Governments Association (EALGA) held the East Africa Local Governance workshop in Nairobi Kenya at Southern Sun hotel. From 27th - 30th July 2014.

The workshop brought together local government associations, local government practitioners and civil societies from Partner states of East Africa Community (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi). The workshop focus was on service delivery, cooperation among local governments associations and civil societies, capacity building and performance in local governance sector and the position and role of local governments in regional integration.

During the three day duration of the workshop best practices, networks were exchanged between the local governments associations and civil societies from East Africa region. Participants agreed that East Africa Local Government Associations have to provide a coordinating role regarding all regional key issues in local governance including capacity building to members, and EALGA needed to exhibit a broader profile as a platform for exchange of knowledge on local government within the region. Furthermore, members agreed that there is need to strengthen the regional body, for it to be fully functioning and able to provide service to members.

Source: EALGA Newsletter October 2014

Reading

Study on capitalisation of European experiences on decentralised cooperation

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/images/4/45/CD_final_report_EN_april2013.pdf

Series: Quick Guides for Policy Makers on Housing the Poor in African Cities

<http://unhabitat.org/series/quick-guides-for-policy-makers-on-housing-the-poor-in-african-cities/>

Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Thematic Programme CSO-LA for the period 2014-2020

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/images/2/2b/CSO_LA_MIP_CSO_LA_2014_2020_EN.pdf

CSO-LA Annual Action Programme 2014

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/images/6/6a/Session4_AAP_2014.pdf

Final Evaluation of the 2007-2013 NSA-LA programme

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/images/a/a4/2014_09_30_Fiche_contradictoire_published.pdf

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/images/7/7e/NSA_LA_Final_Evaluation_Report_Volume_I.pdf

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/images/6/64/NSA_LA_Final_Evaluation_Report_Volume_II.pdf

Study on the Competencies, Financing and Actions Undertaken by Local and Regional Authorities in International Development

<http://cor.europa.eu/en/documentation/studies/Documents/Local-and-Regional-Authorities-in-International-Development/EN.pdf>

How Should Donors Give Foreign Aid: A Theoretical Comparison of Aid Modalities by the European Journal of Development Research. Conditionality, and the extent to which it should be associated with development aid, has been a major concern within the donor community over the past decades.

<http://www.palgrave-journals.com/ejdr/journal/v26/n5/full/ejdr201414a.html>

Africa Arisen: The Blue-Sky Continent 2014. Africa is blessed with a young and growing population, abundant resources, and large tracts of arable land, but it has many challenges, says KPMG

<https://www.kpmg.com/Africa/en/IssuesAndInsights/Articles-Publications/General-Industries-Publications/Documents/KPMG%20Africa%20Arisen.pdf>

Dossier: The future of ACP-EU relations post-2020. This dossier gives an overview of ECDPM publications and analytical resources from recent years - covering issues of relevance to the Cotonou Partnership Agreement and ACP-EU relations, including the reflections on the future of relations between the partners, but also the political, development and trade aspects of the relationship.

<http://ecdpm.org/dossiers/dossier-future-acp-eu-relations-post-2020/>

A Learning Curve in Capacity Development. What can we learn from past research on capacity development to make sure it is an effective tool in future development cooperation? ECDPM's Director, Paul Engel, shares some key messages ahead of the launch of a major new book on the topic. Firstly, stakeholders and their networks need to drive their own capacity development processes. Secondly, to strengthen capacity, you need to understand and respect the existing competencies and capabilities and development processes already in place. Thirdly, the challenge for those who aim to improve capacity is to understand how capacity develops endogenously within a particular context and then how to facilitate improvements to the process, its outcomes and the final impact. Finally, to create the space for stakeholder improvisation and out-of-the-box solutions, you often need to adapt rules of hierarchy and accountability.

<http://ecdpm.org/talking-points/learned-capacity-development-far/>

“Measuring and managing results in development cooperation: A review of challenges and practices among DAC members and observers” from the OECD says the application of results management approaches in international development has not been simple. Progress in meeting international commitments is uneven.

[http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC\(2014\)45/FINAL&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC(2014)45/FINAL&docLanguage=En)

Sven Biscop from Egmont looks at EU Foreign Policy between the revolution and the status quo. He says when a new High Representative takes office, an opportunity presents itself to take a look at existing EU external policies and assess whether these are still sufficient to safeguard Europe's interests in light of recent events.

http://www.egmontinstitute.be/publication_article/eu-foreign-policy-between-the-revolution-and-the-status-quo/

The Least Developed Countries Report 2014 from UNCTAD on ‘Growth with structural transformation: A post-2015 development agenda’ finds LDCs are trapped in a vicious circle of economic and human underdevelopment. It also notes economic growth is not enough, it must be accompanied by structural transformation and the creation of decent jobs in higher-productivity activities.

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=1067>

Drawing evidence from over 150 pieces of literature on international agreements, this paper from ODI proposes lessons for the design of the SDGs. The key message is that we should not let practicality blunt our ambition, but instead take time to make sure that global goals can be used for real problem solving around the world.

<http://www.odi.org/publications/8813-global-goals-international-agreements-lessons-design-sustainable-development-goals>

Africa's gross domestic product may expand by 50 percent to \$3.7 trillion by 2019, boosted by an emerging middle class and increased household demand, according to Deloitte.

<http://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/uk/Documents/consumer-business/the-deloitte-consumer-review-africa-a-21st-century-view.pdf>

Guide to EuropeAid funding instruments 2014-2020. This report aims to provide the reader with a comprehensive, up-to-date overview of the instruments and programmes (both thematic and geographic) used by the European Union (EU) in its development cooperation.

<http://www.concordeurope.org/publications/item/368-guide-to-europeaid-funding-instruments-2014-2020>

The Center For Global Development's new paper focuses on aid effectiveness. They discuss the nature of evidence on aid and why assessing its impact is so difficult. They review aid's impacts on economic growth and social development in general before focusing on conditions identified in the aid and growth literature under which aid is more likely to be effective.

http://www.cgdev.org/publication/1385-billion-question-when-does-foreign-aid-work-and-when-doesnt-it?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+cgdev%2Fpublications+%28Center+for+Global+Development+++Publications%29

This World Bank papers looks at how the World Bank could reach its goals of reducing global extreme poverty to 3 percent by 2030 and promoting shared prosperity defined as the income growth of the bottom 40 percent of the population within a country.

http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/11/13/000158349_20141113090851/Rendered/PDF/WPS7106.pdf

What can Africa Learn from China's Experience in Agricultural Development?

<http://www.tralac.org/images/docs/6676/background-paper-what-africa-can-learn-from-china-in-agriculture-development.pdf>

Afrodad, Eurodad, Latindadd, JSAPMDD and Third World Network Position Paper on what outcomes should be agreed at the development financing conference in Addis Ababa in July 2015.

<http://eurodad.org/Entries/view/1546294>

This ELDIS report describes and analyses how rising powers such as China, Brazil, India and South Africa are engaging with the African peace and security agenda as their economic engagement in Africa increases.

<http://www.eldis.org/go/display&type=Document&id=69627#.VJRFLd0M6>

A new Development Initiatives blog asks how can ODA contribute to all aspects of a broader and more ambitious post-2015 development agenda and what are the comparative advantages of ODA in the much broader agenda of a post-2015 development finance framework.

<http://devinit.org/future-oda-targeting-people-countries-end-poverty-2030/>

The number of Africans considered middle class now outstrips those living in poverty, according to the World Bank. However, according to an article by Africa in Fact, under the definition, one in three Africans belongs to the middle class, spending as little as \$2 per day – an assertion most Africans would find jarring. Whatever its size, they argue the middle class matters for democracy because it has the means and education to hold governments to account.

<http://gga.org/publications/africa-in-fact-november-2014-making-up-the-middle>

What lessons can be drawn from the development experience in China to accelerate the African integration agenda? This paper from Stellenbosch University argues that China's success today is largely due to the nurturing of a visionary and dedicated leadership system, and Africa needs to strengthen and broaden regional policy planning and coordination mechanisms.

[http://www.ccs.org.za/wp-](http://www.ccs.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/DP_Drawing_Lessons_for_African_Integration_Clayton_2014_Format.pdf)

[content/uploads/2014/10/DP_Drawing_Lessons_for_African_Integration_Clayton_2014_Format.pdf](http://www.ccs.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/DP_Drawing_Lessons_for_African_Integration_Clayton_2014_Format.pdf)

Taking the SDGs from 'main basis' to effective vision - what's the roadmap? There are four major hurdles to overcome if the 2015 United Nations General Assembly outcome is going to drive positive global change, says the Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

<http://www.odi.org/publications/8809-taking-sdgs-main-basis-effective-vision-whats-roadmap>

Development finance documents from the OECD: Total official support for development - An emerging concept in support of the post-2015 sustainable development goals; Achieving a better distribution of ODA -An Action Plan to meet the UN commitment of 0.15-0.20% of GNI as ODA to LDCs and; Treatment of market-like instruments in the statistical framework measuring and monitoring development finance post-2015.

[http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC\(2014\)48&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC(2014)48&docLanguage=En)

[http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC\(2014\)50&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC(2014)50&docLanguage=En)

[http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC\(2014\)49&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC(2014)49&docLanguage=En)

The Centre for Global Development looks at Europe beyond aid. They find that Europe's approach to development could be characterised as energetically tackling the symptoms of poor economic opportunities for developing countries by providing effective aid, while doing relatively little to tackle the underlying structural causes of poverty.

http://www.cgdev.org/sites/default/files/Europe_Beyond_Aid_Trade.pdf

The World Bank has published Africa's Pulse, showing economic growth in Sub Saharan Africa rising from 4.6% in 2014 to 5.2% in 2015-16. It also found public investment in infrastructure, increased agricultural production and a buoyant services sector are driving much of the growth in the region. However, the Ebola outbreak could impact the economies of the affected countries and, if uncontained, holds the risk of wider economic contagion.

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/region/afr/publication/africas-pulse-decades-of-sustained-growth-is-transforming-africas-economies>

The Financial Times has released its Special Report on the New Africa. From Senegal to Kenya and from Morocco to Mozambique, Africa is enjoying an era of economic promise that has survived war and famine, dictatorship and corruption.

http://www.ft.com/reports/new-africa?ftcamp=published_links%2Frss%2Fafrika%2Ffeed%2F%2Fproduct

The OECD released their Development Co-operation Report 2014: Mobilising Resources for Sustainable Development. It addresses important challenges for the international development community and provides practical guidance and recommendations on how to tackle them.

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/development-co-operation-report-20147721.htm>

African Development Report 2014: Regional Integration for Inclusive Growth

Africa's regional integration has been a key economic and political aspiration since the independence decade of the 1960s. This report comes from the African Development Bank, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. The African Development Report re-examines the imperative of regional integration for Africa's development.

http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Publications/ADR14_ENGLISH_web.pdf

Peace Directs report 'First in Practice' is a detailed study of models for locally led development projects, as part of the Local First initiative. Local First is an approach to international development assistance that looks first for the capacity within countries, before bringing in external expertise and resources. <http://www.peacedirect.org/local-first-in-practice>

For any request for information/comment/contribution to the ACPLGP e-Newsletter, please contact:

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