

Newsletter N° 42 - June 2016

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
Guyana	28/07/2016	1.450.000	EuropeAid/151731/DD/ACT/GY
Madagascar	04/07/2016	2.850.000	EuropeAid/152052/DD/ACT/MG
Gabon & Sao Tome & Principe	open	3.000.000	EuropeAid/151826/DD/ACT/Multi
Djibouti	open	950.000	EuropeAid/151187/DD/ACT/DJ

• EIDHR: European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Burkina Faso	01/08/2016	1.000.000	EuropeAid/152533/DD/ACT/BF
Congo Brazzaville	01/08/2016	1.350.000	EuropeAid/152553/DD/ACT/CG
Botswana	08/07/2016	340.000	EuropeAid/151464/DD/ACT/BW
Papua New Guinea	open	295.000	EuropeAid/131030/L/ACT/PG

• Food Security

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Madagascar	open	1.700.000	EuropeAid/134180/M/ACT/MG

• Various fields in ACP countries

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Chad	05/08/2016	14.000.000	EuropeAid/138110/ID/ACT/TD
Burkina Faso	02/08/2016	2.000.000	EuropeAid/152509/DD/ACT/BF
Namibia	25/07/2016	1.600.000	EuropeAid/151101/DD/ACT/NA
Senegal	21/07/2016	800.000	EuropeAid/138083/ID/ACT/SN
Somalia	open	33.000.000	EuropeAid/151963/DD/ACT/SO
Congo Brazzaville	20/07/2016	1.200.000	EuropeAid/138007/ID/ACT/CG
Mauritius	open	56.000.000 (MUR)	EuropeAid/134113/M/ACT/MU
All ACP	open	7.000.000	EuropeAid/130741/D/ACT/Multi

Should you need assistance in responding to an EC call for proposals let the ACP-LG Platform know by sending an email to platform@acplgp.net and we will be pleased to help you register in the PADOR system, find partners, check your proposal, etc. You are also encouraged to read the article "How to write a good project" on our website www.acplgp.net

News from the EU

1st Preparatory meeting for the 5th Assises of Decentralised Cooperation

The following information is in continuation of the special email previously sent to ACP-LG inviting them to propose topics for the 5th Assises.

On 25 April 2016 the Committee of the Regions (CoR) and the EC jointly organised the 1st preparatory meeting for the 5th Assises of Decentralised Cooperation which will take place in Brussels in March 2017. The aim of the meeting was to discuss lessons learnt from the previous edition, propose a new structure, introduce the indicative timetable and launch the process of identifying the main topics to be discussed during the 5th Assises. Attention was drawn to the EU's general support for the role of local and regional authorities (LRAs) in development, the priority given to decentralised cooperation and the territorial approach within local economic development. It was also pointed out that, due to the role of LRAs and the challenges this might represent for them, the main issues such as the implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs), the Paris agreement on climate change (COP21) and the refugee crisis would probably be among the priorities for the coming years.

Structure

The structure of the 5th Assises will be new though the timetable of 2 days is maintained: i) there will be a single thematic session during the morning of the first day which will concentrate on one of the topics of the Round Table; and ii) workshops will be held on the second day and concentrate on decentralised cooperation case studies and/or practical examples.

Day 1:

09.30-10.00 Opening session
10.30-12.30 Thematic session
15.00-17.30 Round tables

Day 2:

08.30-10.00 Workshops
10.30-12.30 Plenary session
15.00-17.00 Workshops

The idea of having stands was also put forward, particularly the option of having thematic stands related to the Round Table topics.

Round Table topics and organisation

While topic proposals remain absolutely open and based on LRAs' specific experiences and value added in cooperation for development, the following topics for the 5th Assises - including the most frequently quoted in the Eurobarometer survey - were mentioned during the discussion:

- Peace and security
- Health
- Education, water and sanitation
- Economic growth, employment & social inequality
- Democracy and human rights
- Food security and agriculture
- Urban dimension (following the Habitat III conference)
- Climate change and Global Covenant of Mayors
- Global role of LRAs
- European Neighbourhood Policy

As regards the organisation of the Round Tables, the exchanges highlighted the preference of having at least two partners to lead each Round Table, in close cooperation with the co-organisers. As with previous events, one partner should come from the EU and the second from a partner country. The Round Table leaders will coordinate with parties having manifested an interest in the subject to be discussed. The co-organisers will deal with their representatives and proposed moderators, with preference given to journalists. The latter could also be proposed by the co-leaders and will be invited to report on the Assises. There will be a maximum of 6 speakers per Round Table (RT).

Indicative timetable

1 July 2016	2 nd Preparatory meeting, selection of RT topics, identification of RT leaders, start drafting the background note for each RT
September 2016	Communication of the exact date of the 5 th Assises
20 September 2016	* Draft of background note for each RT * List of speakers and moderators
20 September 2016	Launch process to propose guests to be invited from third partner countries (elected representatives)
20 October 2016	Finalisation of background note
10 November 2016	Closing invitation list
November-December 2016	Letters to guests, practical conditions and visas
January 2017	Finalisation of list of speakers, moderators, RT rapporteurs
February 2017	Finalisation of detailed programme
March 2017	5 th Assises

Those local elected authorities interested in participating in the Assises and/or contributing to round tables & workshops are invited to send an email to LRD4DEV@cor.europa.eu with copy to platform@acplgp.net. If you experience any difficulties let the ACP-LG Platform know and we will be pleased to assist you.

For further information: <http://lra4dev.cor.europa.eu/portal/Pages/5th-Assises-of-Decentralised-Cooperation.aspx>

European Development Days 2016

Organised by the European Commission, the European Development Days (EDD) bring the development community together each year to share ideas and experiences in ways that inspire new partnerships and innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. The 10th edition of the EDD 2016 took place in Brussels on 15-16 June 2016 and focused on the implementation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 5 "P" which are at the core of sustainable development, notably: partnership, peace, prosperity, planet and people. A record number of more than 6.000 of development professionals from about 150 countries participated in this meeting which has become the main European forum on global development and international cooperation. Neven Mimica, Commissioner for International cooperation and Development, stated in this respect: "This tenth anniversary of the European Development Goals is focused on results: turning the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals from commitments into actions. This is Europe's open invitation to the world to reflect with us how our policies, partnerships and resources can best be put into use to support

global development, eradicate poverty once and for all, and shift our planet onto a sustainable, inclusive and prosperous path". The EDD 2016 programme included over 120 sessions, 67 stands, side events, a cultural exhibition, and much more. In particular: the EDD Village with various projects from around the world; special side events covering issues from resilience to the role of business in development; cultural programme - art, photography, music, and dance that speak to development today; and the Youth Agenda for younger delegates.

The ACP-LG Platform attended various sessions among which "Localising the SDGs - Partnership on the toolkit for implementation at the local level" - a lab-debate devoted to the essential role of local government in advancing the new 2030 Agenda at the local level. The session provided an opportunity to present the elaboration process of a toolkit for localising the SDGs - a joint initiative promoted by UNDP, UN-Habitat and the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments. Although SDGs are being discussed in great depth, there is a lack of clarity on how to implement them locally. Tangible experiences and tools are required. The online toolkit being developed will fill the gap by helping actors like local government implement the SDG process. The new toolkit will soon be live online at: www.localizingthesdgs.org.

Participants also discussed the role of local government within this new development architecture, raising awareness on the importance of promoting a broad partnership for localising the SDGs, as well as the need for a strong political commitment. Finally the session addressed the importance of the call for a revitalised Global Partnership in which local government and their associations, together with a variety of other governance stakeholders, have a strong role to play. Another issue raised during the session was how to implement SDGs locally through young people. As no SDG is entirely dedicated to youth, there is a need to pioneer youth mainstreaming, as was done with gender previously. SDGs must also be aligned with regional and local agendas, while youth and youth organisations should be allowed to flourish. It was agreed that youth should be at the centre of the agenda.

Another session attended by the ACP-LG Platform was "Localising the SDGs - Owning the global development agenda" addressing the implementation of the SDGs from a local perspective using a multi-stakeholder approach, engaging all relevant actors, and discussing opportunities and challenges. Participants shared perspectives and innovations on the involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs.

For further information on the EDD 2016: <https://eudevdays.eu/about-edd16>

EC open public consultation on the future of EU development policy - Deadline 21 August 2016

The European Commission has launched an open public consultation on the future of EU development policy to inform a future revision of the European Consensus on Development.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the United Nations (UN) in September 2015, represents an ambitious new blueprint to tackle the global trends and challenges that have emerged since the adoption of the Millennium Declaration in 2000. The core of the 2030 Agenda is the set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and associated targets, which replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) from 2016, and run to 2030. Along with the other international summits and conferences over last year (in Sendai, Addis Ababa, and Paris) and recently at the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul the international community has an ambitious new frame for all countries to work together on shared challenges.

These fundamental changes in the global framework for sustainable development need to be reflected in EU development policy. The Commission would like to gather views from a wide range of stakeholders on how EU development policy might respond to the 2030 Agenda, to other important related international commitments and key global trends, to help inform the development of a revised European Consensus on Development.

Contact: EuropeAid-CONSENSUS-CONSULTATION@ec.europa.eu

Consultation websites:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/un-2030-agenda-sustainable-development-public-consultation-revising-european-consensus-development_en

Submit your contribution to the consultation via the online survey:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/ConsultationEuropeanConsensusDevelopment>

The roadmap for the European Commission proposal for a revised European Consensus on Development is published.

This initiative's main policy objective will be to put forward proposals to adapt and update the EU's development policy to reflect and respond to the 2030 Agenda, including by highlighting the necessary links with other policies.

http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2016_devco_003_european_consensus_on_development_en.pdf

News from the ACP-EU

Strengthening the ACP-EU Assembly to meet today's global challenges

Local governance, stepping up intra-ACP trade and common management of ACP-EU migration were among the topics discussed by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) at its 31st session, which closed on Wednesday 15 June 2016, in Windhoek, Namibia. As regards local governance, to enhance participation in decisions that affect citizens directly in their diversity, MEPs and MPs call for greater autonomy in local decision taking, which, they point out, entails transferring powers and resources to local level. They nonetheless acknowledge that there is no single decentralisation model that would work for all countries. Women, young people and handicapped people should be fully involved in decision taking at all levels of society and particularly at local level, they add.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20160615IPR32325/Strengthening-the-ACP-EU-Assembly-to-meet-today%E2%80%99s-global-challenges>

EU and ACP Cotonou Agreement post-2020: Opinions mixed, but potential recognised

The Cotonou Partnership Agreement between the EU and ACP States has made a positive contribution to poverty reduction, and human and social development in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. This is according to a recently published (21 March) summary report based on the results of a four month long public consultation on the Cotonou Partnership Agreement (CPA) after 2020. Sustainable and inclusive economic growth, particularly in relation to the private sector, were not reported to have been as successful under the CPA. The report states that “respondents have mostly critical opinion of the effectiveness of the CPA, particularly with regard to private sector development and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), migration, the democratic governance related mechanisms and the generation of ACP-EU alliances on global challenges.” On the same day that the report was made public, the ACP Eminent Persons Group - which has been mandated by the ACP countries to deliver a proposal for an ACP position on the future of the ACP Group - also presented its own draft final report to an extraordinary session of the ACP Committee of Ambassadors in Brussels. The role of agriculture in the context of ACP-EU cooperation received some strong responses. Among these were very encouraging views on the support provided by the CPA for agricultural development and trade in ACP countries, largely through the European Development Fund (EDF). The result has been “increased crop productivity and access to water for low-income rural populations, agricultural research and extension services, and engagement with low-income rural populations.” A smaller number of critics argued that the CPA had failed to achieve effective agricultural diversification or increased levels of exports from ACP countries. Four broad trends concerning the future of the ACP and EU’s relationship were also reported, based on the replies to the public consultation. The first is that the legally binding nature of the CPA has been critical to its implementation. Secondly, it is felt that greater recognition should be given to regional and continental partnerships (African Union, Regional Economic Communities). The adaptation of the CPA to help achieve objectives related to global public goods (SDGs, COP21) was the third trend. Lastly, the role of civil society and the private sector in the future ACP-EU relationship would have to be increased.

The public consultation, which took place between October and December 2015, was based on a joint consultation paper titled ‘Towards a new partnership between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries after 2020’ by the European External Action Services (EEAS) and European Commission (Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development). In addition to setting out the major issues that the consultation seeks to address in light of the expiration of the CPA in 2020, the joint paper also explains that the results of the consultation will form a major component of the analysis and evaluation of the current Agreement, and of policy proposals for the future relationship. According to the summary report, a total of 103 contributions were made to the consultation with respondents from ACP and EU countries and representing associations, civil society, the private sector, companies, international or public bodies, think tanks, as well as individual citizens.

Source: CTA Newsletter 485 EN

Cariforum-European Union Political Dialogue at the Level of Senior Officials

CARIFORUM and European Union (EU) senior officials held a one-day political dialogue in Georgetown, Guyana on 15 March 2016, at which they reaffirmed the two regions’ commitment to strengthen their longstanding partnership. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Sparte Odera, Advisor to the National Authorising Officer of Haiti, on behalf of CARIFORUM, and Mr. Aldo Dell’Ariccia, Head of Division, Mexico, Central America and Caribbean Division of the European External Action Service (EEAS), on behalf of the EU. As this was the first political dialogue since 2012, the two Sides welcomed the opportunity of the meeting to have wide-ranging discussions on several aspects of their partnership. There was an in-depth exchange of views on the political and economic situation in both Regions, including issues related to migration. Updates were also received on governance and human rights issues of mutual interest. The two Sides acknowledged their shared commitment to democratic principles, human rights, the rule of law, the protection of vulnerable groups, and the advancement of gender equality. The two Sides exchanged views on the subject of Dominican citizens of Haitian descent. The Dominican Republic provided information on action it had been taking and CARICOM States expressed their continuing concern. In addition, focus was placed on the implementation of the Joint Caribbean-EU Partnership Strategy, which has as its major themes: Regional Integration and Cooperation in the Wider Caribbean; Reconstruction of Haiti; Climate Change and Natural Disasters; Crime and Security; and Joint Action in Bi-regional and Multi-lateral Fora and on Global Issues. Both Sides recognised the importance of consultation and cooperation within international fora, such as the United Nations. The two Sides agreed to convene the Joint CARIFORUM-EU Working Group on the Joint Strategy, with a view to keeping the Strategy under continuous review. The implementation and programming of the 10th and 11th European Development Fund (EDF) Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme (CRIP) also came up for discussion. The two Sides acknowledged that there were certain challenges in programme implementation and took note of the remedial action being taken. With respect to the 11th EDF CRIP, the two Sides recalled that it is based on the Joint Strategy. They noted that the 11th EDF CRIP, valued at €346 million, was signed in June 2015 and that it makes provisions as follows: Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration, €102.0 million; Climate Change, Disaster Management, Environment and Sustainable Energy, €61.5 million; Crime and Security, €44.0 million; Caribbean Investment Facility, €135.0 million; Technical Cooperation Facility, €3.5 million. Note was taken that the 11th EDF Programming process is in its early stages. The two Sides highlighted the importance of accelerating regional integration to support developmental goals in the Caribbean and, in this regard, called for the effective implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).

Source: CTA Newsletter 485 EN

Caribbean countries not fully satisfied with EPA accord

Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) countries say they are yet to “meaningfully reap the potential benefits” of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) signed with Europe in 2008. The issue was among matters discussed at the 23rd meeting of the Council of CARIFORUM Ministers and a review of the EPA had concluded that the region “had as yet to meaningfully reap the potential benefits of the Agreement. They underscored that, for CARIFORUM, the EPA is a source of mixed feelings. The commonly held view was that CARIFORUM committed itself and signed a comprehensive EPA, yet it has not “harvested the windfalls” which seemed to have been held out as reward for early signature of the Agreement,” the statement noted. It said that in further reviewing the state-of-play of EPA implementation, the ministers accorded high priority to wide-ranging technical work and tasked officials to follow up accordingly.

Source: CTA Newsletter 485 EN

EU provides drought support for Caribbean nations

The impact of natural disasters is increasing, despite countries’ efforts to reduce it. Over the past year, drought has affected more than 6.2 million people in the Caribbean, especially in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Cuba. Irregular and insufficient rainfall throughout 2015 has caused loss of crop and livestock in the region. For the third consecutive year, some people are facing periods of drought that threaten their livelihood, with the most vulnerable groups being small producers, day-labourers and people with no land of their own. In this context, the European Commission’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) is contributing €13.9 million to help the Caribbean cope with drought in 2016, facilitating access to food and water, and protecting the livelihoods of more than 429 000 people. The European Commission has allocated €12.2 million of this contribution to Haiti, €1.1 million to the Dominican Republic and 600 000 euros to Cuba.

Source: CTA Newsletter 495 EN

EU Commissioner announces support for Pacific

On 1 June 2016 European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica, began his visit to the Pacific Region, where he announced new support for post cyclones Pam (in Vanuatu) and Winston (in Fiji) recovery and response to the effects El Niño (for the most affected six Pacific countries) and together with New Zealand Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully and New Zealand Climate Change Minister Paula Bennett, left for a joint official visit to Vanuatu, Kiribati and Tuvalu. The Commissioner concluded his visit in New Zealand by co-hosting a high-level conference on energy, agriculture and climate change in the Pacific. The visit was also an occasion to expand the cooperation with New Zealand in energy with Tonga and Nieu, as well as in agriculture in Vanuatu. EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica, said: "The European Commission is amongst the Pacific's leading partners, not only in the struggle against climate change, but also in achieving sustainable development in the region. In addition to the €634 million allocated for the Pacific Region in the period 2014-2020, we will be contributing additional €54,5 million for climate change mitigation and climate relevant actions. We value the strong foundations of our partnership and remain committed to contribute to the wellbeing of the citizens of the Pacific."

Source: CTA Newsletter 495 EN

News from the ACP

Cameroon migrants trained in Germany to serve local communes

Josiane Kamaleu holds a master in economic engineering, she works since 29 February 2016 in the town hall of Bagangé, a locality in the West region of Cameroon. She is the expert in the commune in charge of developing and monitoring projects. Precisely she assists the mayor in the preparation and implementation of the budget of the commune, the organisation of business training for women and young people, research for partnerships and follow-up of development actions, etc. Josiane Kamaleu got this job thanks to the Migration for Development Programme of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). This programme accompanies those from Cameroun willing to go back to work or invest in their country of origin after their study in Germany. It promotes transfer of know-how between the two countries, through support to the socio-professional insertion and the creation of enterprise of these young intellectuals. Josiane Kamaleu had the opportunity to share her work situation during a professional networking seminar organised on 18 march 2016 by GIZ. Under the theme “Contribution of Cameroon migrants trained in Germany in local development” the seminar falls within the scope of the programme. This programme aims to bring together these Cameroon migrants to the mayors of certain communes of the Centre, East and West regions of Cameroon, like those of Ayos and Bagangté.

Source: CTA Newsletter 485 FR

Announcement

Local Economic Development, 19-23 September 2016, Senegal

This training aims at training managers in methods, tools and approaches to support local government willing to boost their business activities to ensure a sustainable economy, find innovative and customised local solutions to create decent work, promote the local economy and improve the quality of life.

This training is dedicated to French speaking public and targets a group of 20 participants that will be selected among:

- Senior officers of Ministerial departments in charge of decentralisation and local development;

- Officials from institutions involved in capacity building and training;
- Officials from NGOs, programmes and projects involved in issues of local development, fight against poverty and improvement of governance.

Practical information

The course fee is €1.200 HT. This includes registration fees and training materials as well as drinks and lunches. Travel, accommodation, breakfast and dinner are not included.

Future trainings

- Local leadership: 8-18 November 2016
- Municipal infrastructure repair and maintenance: 5-9 December 2016

Contact

ENDA ECOPOP - tel: +221.33.859.64.11 - fax: +221.33.860.51.33 - ecopop@endatiermonde.org - www.endaecopop.org

Local Economic Development, 19-30 September 2016, The Hague

This course discusses strategies and tools to manage inclusive and sustainable local economic development (LED) processes. It addresses questions such as: how to develop a vision for the local economy of a region in a participatory manner, involving government, citizens, businesses and CSOs? How to promote job creation and entrepreneurship? How to improve conditions for business investments and small and medium enterprises? And how to finance local economic development?

During the course, you will learn about different approaches to accommodate the different needs of **urban and rural contexts** as well as local economic and social development in least-developed and **post-conflict States**. Furthermore, you will get familiar with strategies and tools to **support decent work and human rights and include vulnerable and marginalised groups**, such as women and youth, in the local economy. There will be ample opportunity to bring in experiences from your own local context.

During study visits, staff of The Hague municipality will talk about their long term economic strategy and show projects supporting entrepreneurs in The Hague. And you will experience economic development in the rural municipality of Westland at the ‘Demokwekerij’, a knowledge centre for innovation, information and inspiration in glasshouse horticulture.

This course will help you to:

- assess the economic and political context for regional development;
- identify challenges and opportunities for strengthening the local economy and job creation together with stakeholders at local, regional and national level;
- develop approaches for strategic local economic planning;
- get acquainted with practical tools for supporting the local economy.

After successful completion of the course you will receive a certificate of The Hague Academy for Local Governance.

Practical information

The course fee is € 2.950. This includes all training-related costs, as well as drinks, lunches, training materials and travel during the training programme. Travel to and from The Hague and accommodation are not included. **Group discounts** are available if you participate with three or more colleagues in this course. Email us for more information.

The course language is English. This course takes place in our office in The Hague, The Netherlands.

If you would like to receive more information or in case you have any questions, you can contact us at info@thehagueacademy.com or +31(70) 37 38 695.

Application procedure and on-line application form:

The deadline for application is **22 July 2016**.

For more information about the application procedure and the online application form:

<http://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2015/05/application-procedure-local-economic-development-2016/>

Fellowship opportunities

Nuffic Fellowships: The Netherlands organisation for international cooperation in higher education (NUFFIC) offers fellowships for training courses, as part of the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP) for short courses and the MENA Scholarship Programme (MSP). The aim is to promote capacity building within organisations in eligible countries (50 for NFP and 7 for MSP) via training and education for professionals. This is initiated and fully funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs from the budget for development cooperation.

<https://www.epnuffic.nl/en/scholarships/nfp-and-msp/nfp-and-msp#>

The application deadline for fellowships for this specific course has passed already. Please check the fellowship page regularly for any updates and new opportunities: <http://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2016/04/nuffic-fellowships/>

Reading

Connecting Territories for Development: This platform is a space entirely dedicated to public and private decentralised cooperation actors and their territorial networks, an instrument through which they can communicate, share and publicise their most relevant information - events, publications, projects, institutional missions and/or technics and good practices. If you are interested in publishing news and articles related to the activities carried out by your organisation, you can send an email to comunicazione@felcos.it .

<http://www.connectingterritories4development.org/>

Integrated Framework to Support Local Governance and Local Development, jointly developed by UNDP with its associated agency and fund, UNV and UNCDF.

Developing the capacity for local governance and local development is essential for delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the localisation of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#). Localising development should not be seen as a translation of global policies within a local context, but rather as a process based on the empowerment of local stakeholders, aimed at making sustainable development more responsive and more relevant to local needs, aspirations and lives through sustained exchanges between the global, national and local levels. All partners - the government at all levels, civil society, private sector, development agencies - will need to work together to ensure steady progress on this transformative development agenda. This Integrated Framework to Support Local Governance and Local Development is one of the initial forms of support from the UN system to our partners across societies and economies at different stages of development to set out a strategy to localise this agenda.

The publication of the Framework confirms the recognition across our agencies that we need to realign the way we provide support in the era of the 2030 Agenda. The Framework therefore articulates our shared intent to ensure coherence in the development and deployment of our policies and programming.

As part of this corporate Framework, a strong component is devoted to the importance of creating multi-stakeholders partnerships. We therefore look forward to the collaboration and active action of all territorial actors, including Decentralised, South-South and Triangular Cooperation actors, which will be key to achieve the expected objectives.

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/democratic-governance-and-peacebuilding/responsive-and-accountable-institutions/local-governance-and-local-development/>

The European Commission published its Inception Impact Assessment “Towards a new partnership between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries after 2020”. This initiative is concerned with fleshing out the options (listed in the document) for an appropriate follow-up to the current agreement based on an evaluation of the existing agreement and an impact assessment.

http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2016_devco_001_post_cotonou_en.pdf

China-Africa: a maturing relationship? Growth, change and resilience, published on the China in Africa: The Real Story website, addressing issues such as industrialisation, employment dynamics, conservation, governance, and peace and security, all in the context of changing China-Africa relations.

<http://www.chinaafricarealstory.com/2016/05/new-essays-china-africa-maturing.html%20http://15years.morizbuesing.com/>

The Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2016 provides a vivid picture of how and where people are poor, within and across countries, regions and the world, enabling policymakers to better target their resources at those most in need through integrated policy interventions that tackle the many different aspects of poverty together.

<http://www.ophi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Global-MPI-2016-2-pager.pdf>

The Legatum Institute’s Africa Prosperity Report 2016 ranks African countries according to both wealth and wellbeing. They find almost no correlation between GDP levels in Africa and prosperity.

<http://www.li.com/activities/publications/2016-africa-prosperity-report>

The European Economic and Social Committee called for a new ACP-EU partnership that puts civil society in the driving seat.

<http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.press-releases.39466>

Regional integration for Africa: Could stronger public support turn ‘rhetoric into reality’? This AfroBarometer study finds limited support for integration, with wide variations by country and region.

<http://afrobarometer.org/publications/ad91-regional-integration-africa-could-stronger-public-support-turn-rhetoric-reality>

The Weak Link: The role of local institutions in accountable natural resource management in Peru, Senegal, Ghana, and Tanzania. Oxfam examines the political economy of decision making in these countries and how political and economic incentives shape development outcomes.

<https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/weak-link>

The African Economic Outlook 2016 released by the African Development Bank Group says that with two-thirds of Africans expected to live in cities by 2050, how Africa urbanises will be critical to the continent's future growth and development. Trade policies and regional integration in Africa show mixed patterns.

<http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>

This is a critical moment for sub-Saharan Africa, which faces slowing growth, but with the right policies many countries in the Africa are well positioned to ride out the storm, according to the latest issue of the IMF’s quarterly magazine, Finance & Development.

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/survey/so/2016/car052616a.htm>

The 2nd African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development to map the continent’s implementation plan for the SDGs

<http://www.uneca.org/stories/meeting-adopts-recommendations-implementation-africas-sustainable-development-agenda>

Unfortunately, Africa is not currently on track to meet its targets to eliminate hunger and food security by 2025. NEPAD outlines the conditions and actions necessary to put Africa on track to meet these goals.

<http://www.nepad-caadp.net/content/ending-hunger-africa-elimination-hunger-and-food-insecurity-african-continent-2025>

Aid and Authoritarianism in Africa: Development without Democracy. Leading experts on the political situations in Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Cameroon, Mozambique, and Angola contribute essays to expose the impact of foreign aid on military assistance, rural development, electoral processes, and domestic politics.

<http://www.amazon.com/Aid-Authoritarianism-Africa-Development-Democracy/dp/1783606282>

Weakening growth in Sub-Saharan Africa calls for policy reset says the IMF. Growth is lowest in 15 years, with significant variation across region with severe shocks such as weak commodity prices, tight external financing, drought. <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/survey/so/2016/CAR050316A.htm>

There are significant reductions in the poverty headcount and the percentage of the population living in poverty in Africa due to deep regional integration, says the World Bank.

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2016/05/26345239/poverty-shared-prosperity-implications-deep-integration-eastern-southern-africa>

China's slowdown and rebalancing combined are estimated to increase gross domestic product in Sub-Saharan Africa by 4.7 percent by 2030 and reduce poverty, says the World Bank.

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2016/05/26362958/chinas-slowdown-rebalancing-potential-growth-poverty-impacts-sub-saharan-africa>

The World Bank's World Development Indicators 2016 includes indicators to help measure the 169 targets of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Regional groupings are now based on geographical coverage rather than a sub-set of countries that were previously referred to as developing. <http://data.worldbank.org/products/wdi>

Viewpoints of developing country governments on 'beyond ODA flows'. Overseas Development Institute (ODI). Governments need to better understand the sources of finance and potential partnerships available to them if they are to capitalise on a new age of choice in a way that effectively supports their national objectives

<https://www.odi.org/publications/10390-age-choice-development-finance-evidence-country-case-studies>

Making trade work for Least Developed Countries: A Handbook on Mainstreaming Trade. UNCTAD provides fresh insights on how to design and implement an effective trade strategy in LDCs.

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=1481>

Summary report on the EU public consultation on "Towards a new partnership between the EU and the ACP countries after 2020". http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/public-consultation-eu-acp-new-partnership_en

The role of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) in shaping the current global development landscape. A new Institute of Development Studies report.

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/home/redirect/true>

The report from last year from the ACP-EU Council of Ministers to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the implementation of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement in 2015 is published.

<http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-2112-2016-INIT/en/pdf>

Human Rights Guide to the Sustainable Development Goals. This Danish Institute for Human Rights' database is a fully searchable database showing the concrete links between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and human rights instruments and labour standards. <http://sdg.humanrights.dk/>

The Brookings Institution examines four questions on the state of the West African Economic and Monetary Union and implications for other regional economic communities.

<http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/africa-in-focus/posts/2016/03/15-west-africa-economic-monetary-union-sy-sow?rssid=africa+growth>

A new research series launched at IFAD aims to spark debate around critical global issues that affect smallholder agriculture and rural development. Their first paper is entitled 'Agricultural and rural development reconsidered: A guide to issues and debates'. <https://www.ifad.org/stories/tags/14080049>

What Does Aid Do to Fiscal Policy? New Evidence. This IMF report shows that large aid inflows undermine tax capacity and public investment while large reductions in aid inflows tend to keep recipients' tax and expenditure ratios unchanged.

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=43949.0>

SAIIA set out what has been learned from the African Peer Review Mechanism.

<http://www.saiia.org.za/opinion-analysis/the-african-peer-review-mechanism-learning-from-an-indigenous-african-evaluation-tool>

The Economist says Aid is best spent in poor, well-governed countries. But that isn't where it goes.

<http://www.economist.com/news/international/21700323-development-aid-best-spent-poor-well-governed-countries-isnt-where-it?fsrc=rss%7Cint>

The Africa Infrastructure Development 2016 from the AfDB presents selected indicators that comprise the Index's major components, namely: transport, electricity, ICT, water and sanitation.

<http://www.tralac.org/news/article/9870-the-africa-infrastructure-development-index-2016-update.html>

Trends and progress in international development cooperation. This report is submitted by the UN Secretary-General for consideration by the fifth Biennial High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum in New York, which takes place this July. The report provides actionable recommendations for governments and other stakeholders.

http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/2016/65

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