

## Newsletter N° 49 - March 2018

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](http://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](http://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 10<sup>th</sup> 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
All countries	15/05/2018	2.950.000	EuropeAid/159396/DD/ACT/Multi
Zambia	02/05/2018	3.000.000	EuropeAid/158909/DD/ACT/ZM
Ghana	27/04/2018	5.900.000	EuropeAid/159018/DD/ACT/GH
Mauritius	31/05/2018	1.350.000	EuropeAid/158293/DD/ACT/MU

### • EIDHR: European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights

Countries	Deadline	Budget (EURO)	Reference
Central African region	30/04/2018	280.000	EuropeAid/158913/DD/ACT/Multi
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
Burkina Faso	16/05/2018	16.000.000	EuropeAid/159303/DD/ACT/BF
Caribbean region	04/06/2018	1.000.000	EuropeAid/159290/DD/ACT/Multi
Burkina Faso	03/05/2018	4.000.000	EuropeAid/159085/DD/ACT/BF
Burkina Faso	03/05/2018	8.000.000	EuropeAid/159210/DD/ACT/BF
Mozambique	14/05/2018	5.000.000	EuropeAid/158946/DD/ACT/MZ
Sub-Saharan Africa	16/05/2018	947.600	EuropeAid/158673/ID/ACT/Multi
All ACP countries	open	7.000.000	EuropeAid/130741/D/ACT/Multi
Mauritius	open	56.000.000 (MUR)	EuropeAid/134113/M/ACT/MU

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](mailto: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](http://www.acplgp.net)

## News from the EU

### European Development Days 2018, 5-6 June 2018, Brussels

Organised by the European Commission, the European Development Days (EDD) showcase Europe's commitment to build a sustainable and fairer world. Each year, the forum attracts more than 8,000 participants from over 140 countries, representing 1,200 organisations from the development community. The forum builds on the core belief that cooperation is key to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and implement real change towards a poverty-free and sustainable world where everyone has the prospect for a decent life. In this regard, the EDD aim to inspire the will to work together in a spirit of true partnership through facilitating the sharing of ideas and experiences.

Everyone is given a voice in this open, collaborative and inclusive platform. Each year, the global development community is invited to contribute directly to the official EDD programme by proposing activities and sessions. This creates an opportunity to be part of the discussion, to share know-how, thoughts and beliefs regarding major global development challenges.

## Themes

Under the main thread of **"Women and Girls at the Forefront of Sustainable Development: protect, empower, invest"** the EDD 2018 agenda will be framed under three major themes emerging as key priorities in today's current context:

- **Ensuring the physical and psychological integrity of Girls and Women;**
- **Promoting economic and social rights and empowerment of Girls; and**
- **Women, Strengthening Girls' and Women's voice and participation.**

The three themes are equally important, interrelated, indivisible and interconnected. Sessions at EDD 2018 will adopt an integrated approach when addressing specific topics which have been identified and linked with the 5 Ps of the 2030 Agenda - People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership - to highlight the interlinked nature of the new sustainable development approach.

## Topics

<b>Ensuring the physical and psychological integrity of Girls and Women</b>	<b>Promoting economic and social rights and empowerment of Girls</b>	<b>Women, Strengthening Girls' and Women's voice and participation</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People: gender-based violence</li><li>• Peace: women/girls in emergencies</li><li>• People: women/girls and health</li><li>• People: adolescent girls and girl child</li><li>• Peace: women/girls, peace and security</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prosperity: gender equality in education</li><li>• Prosperity: women/girls and the economy</li><li>• Planet: women/girls in the urban space (sustainable cities)</li><li>• Prosperity: women/girls and migration</li><li>• Partnership: gender responsive budgeting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Partnership: women/girls in power and decision-making</li><li>• Planet: women/girls and the environment</li><li>• Peace: women/girls' human rights</li><li>• Partnership: women/girls in digitalisation</li><li>• Planet: rural women/girls and development</li></ul>

The EDD 2018 programme will include auditoria and lab debates, brainstorming sessions, project and report presentations and webinars. The forum will also feature a Global Village to showcase successful practices.

For further information please visit the EDD website: [www.eudevdays.eu](http://www.eudevdays.eu)

## EU trade schemes promote economic development and human rights

The report published on 19 January 2018 jointly by the European Commission and the European External Action Service shows the positive impact of the European Union's duty-rebate schemes on developing countries.

Trade acts as an engine for growth and helps promote human and labour rights, good governance and sustainable development principles.

Since the reformed EU initiative known as Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) entered into force in 2014, exports from countries to the EU benefitting from these tariff cuts rose by nearly a quarter to a yearly amount of €63 billion. Least developed countries benefited the most: their exports to the EU increased by nearly 40% and reached €23.5 billion in 2016. In addition to the economic benefits of the scheme, the report points out the progress made on issues such as women's empowerment, child and forced labour, torture, illegal drugs trafficking and climate change. The EU monitoring reveals many positive changes due to EU engagement related to the scheme. However, the report points also at areas that require further improvement in order to fulfil the conditions of the scheme, for instance as regards the implementation and enforcement of the relevant legislation by the beneficiary countries.

A separate document accompanying the report provides a detailed overview of progress and remaining shortcomings, specifically in the countries participating in the Special Incentive Arrangement for Sustainable Development and Good Governance, known as GSP+.

The report also shows the increased involvement of civil society in the monitoring of the scheme: 16 civil society dialogues took place in 2016 and 2017; the one dedicated to preparation of the 19 January report involved 20 non-governmental organisations.

The Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) is the EU's main trade instrument to support developing countries. It consists of three different arrangements to grant privileged access to the EU market, designed to take into account the different needs of beneficiary countries:

- The standard GSP scheme reduces EU import duties for around 66% of all product categories in 23 countries.
- GSP+, or Special Incentive Arrangement for Sustainable Development and Good Governance, removes customs duties for two thirds of products coming from 10 other vulnerable countries (Armenia, Bolivia, Cabo Verde, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines and Sri Lanka) that committed to apply 27 international conventions on human and labour rights, environmental protection and good governance.
- "Everything But Arms" (EBA) removes customs duties for nearly all products coming from 49 least developed countries.

The current GSP Regulation, in place since January 2014, requires the European Commission to submit a report to the European Parliament and the Council every two years, on the effects of the GSP system. The reporting also regularly consists of a 'Staff Working Document' accompanying the main report, focusing on GSP+ beneficiaries. It points out legislative and practical developments in the GSP+ beneficiary countries regarding implementation of the 27 international conventions to which they committed. EU monitoring takes place both through monitoring missions, dialogues with the beneficiary countries and written questionnaires.

For further information: [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-301\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-301_en.htm)

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**News from the ACP-EU**  
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**Sustainable Development in Africa: the importance of family enterprise**

The European Union's external investment plan has mobilised €44 billion of sustainable funds for Africa and EU Neighbourhood countries. The European Commission has singled out five areas of investment, so-called "investment windows", in which the first actions of the External Investment Plan (EIP) will be implemented. These investment areas are crucial for sustainable development in countries in Africa and the EU Neighbourhood countries. Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) will have the ability to grow significantly. New Europe has taken the opportunity to investigate examples of already established, multinational family businesses groups enjoying significant success in the African market. In the emerging markets of sub-Saharan Africa, family enterprises have all the necessary advantages. The business environment requires companies that are value-driven, can leverage a network and are built for the long-term. Family-owned companies across Africa make up around 80% of all businesses, forming a growing and essential backbone for many of the continent's economies. Part of their strength undoubtedly lies in a deep understanding of their markets and industries, derived from years of personal relationships with stakeholders across the value chain.

Source: neweurope & CTA Archives March 2018

**Bahamas looking to Jamaica, Belize for greater EPA ties**

A senior Bahamian private sector official says he hopes local companies will together with their counterparts from Jamaica and Belize, be more aware of the opportunities offered by the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM)-European Union (EU) Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). The accord, which was signed in 2008, replaces the trade component of Lomé IV and its successor, Cotonou Agreement in 2000. Speaking at the CARIFORUM-EU EPA workshop, executive chairman of the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC), Michael Foulkes, said Bahamian companies were already taking advantage of the opportunities provided by international trade partnerships and is supportive of efforts to build awareness for the private sector. "Today, we have SMEs ready to export or who are currently exporting and who are participating in this workshop; and it is hoped that they, together with their counterparts from Jamaica and Belize, will, at the completion of the workshop, be more aware of the opportunities offered by the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement."

Source: jamaicaobserver & CTA Archives March 2018

**Hub and Spokes Programme Critical to Pacific Economies**

Pacific development partners and beneficiaries of the Hub and Spokes Programme, an aid-for-trade initiative, ended a three-day regional planning workshop, with appreciation of the programmes tangible impacts on the ground. Pacific Island Country beneficiaries developed a new framework that is likely to guide the implementation and management of a successor Programme. The proposed framework aims to support sustainable and inclusive development through technical assistance and capacity building in international trade. The Hub and Spokes programme is a multi-donor aid-for-trade initiative of the European Union, the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific states) Group Secretariat, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF); its current phase ends in August this year (2018). In the current format, designed a decade ago, the Hub and Spokes Programme has been hailed by development partners and beneficiaries as an "effective and model" Aid for Trade Project. The workshop was jointly organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Forum Secretariat; the programme across the ACP Group is supported by the European Union. Speaking at the workshop closing, Mr Christoph Wagner, Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation for the Pacific, thanked the programme partners for the excellent cooperation since 2004, when the Hub & Spokes programme was initially launched. "Over the years, the programme made an important contribution by assisting several Pacific Islands countries develop their first trade policy framework and by facilitating continuous on-the-job training in Pacific trade administrations," said Mr Wagner.

Source: pngfacts & CTA Archives March 2018

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**News from the ACP**  
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**ACP countries want a development-oriented cooperation**

Parliamentarians from ACP countries met in Brussels in order to relaunch the negotiations with the European Union on the post-Cotonou period. Their discussions focused on the reorientation of the Cotonou Agreement and the redefinition of the cooperation with this economic space. Their works reviewed the economic cooperation, development and trade between the two groups. According to Léonard-Emile Ognimba, Deputy Secretary General of the ACP Group, the Cotonou Agreement allowed African countries to develop an intense trade cooperation with the EU. However for many countries, in particular in Africa, the cooperation between African countries and the European Union should be reoriented in order to equitably allow everyone to benefit from development. "The European Union gives priority to trade cooperation whereas African countries are seeking development-oriented cooperation. Because without development, it is not possible de develop trade exchanges that benefit our States", said Lucie Milebou Aubusson, President of the Senate of Gabon. Outside Gabon, other countries believe that trade could not be fair with the European Union because the technology and industrial equipment are not yet accessible to some countries in addition to lack of infrastructures which are hampering the development of some sectors in Africa.

Source: lenouveaugabon & CTA Archives Mars 2018

## Formulation of UNDP's KIRILOG Project Takes off in Kiribati

The Kiribati Local Governance and Urban Development (KIRILOG) Project takes off with Technical Assistance from UNDP. Sylvia Siango Apreku (from Uganda), a Local Governance Specialist, coordinated the project formulation process. Through stakeholder consultations and workshops, the development challenge and problem tree pathway was agreed upon. To address this development challenge, the KIRILOG project over four years (2018 - 2021), aims to provide the following deliverables:

**Output 1:** Strengthened national and councils' capacities and performance for effective local service delivery.

**Output 2:** Enhanced urban development, planning and management leading to planned urbanisation.

**Output 3:** Improved participatory, integrated and evidence-based development planning and local economic development/LED.

**Output 4:** Institutionalised ICT led innovations for empowerment of communities to hold national government and councils accountable.

The KIRILOG Project aligns with the **KV20 Pillar 4. Governance:** To create a corrupt-free society by strengthening national and local traditional and governance policy and legislative framework; and the **KDP (2016-2019) KPA 5. Governance. Goal 5:** To strengthen national governance systems to promote the principles of good governance including accountability, transparency, and inclusiveness.

The KIRILOG project will provide capacity building trainings to local and urban island councils, policy advisory to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and to finalise formulation and resource mobilisation for the substantive programme of support through UNDP to the Government of Kiribati to strengthen subnational level governance for effective local service delivery and local economic development.

UNDP will further mobilise national/local technical assistance, to ensure continuity, keep the implementation momentum and sustainability of results generated under the KIRILOG project.

Source: KiLGA Newsletter Vol 7 Issue 11 - November 2017

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## Announcements

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### Discover new tools and supporting resources to localise the SDGs

The virtual platform offers a selected set of concrete tools and resources to help you designing and implementing development policies in coherence with the Sustainable Development Goals. Among the resources available on the platform you can find:

SDGs in your municipality - 50 practical awareness raising examples. *By VVSG*

To create support for the SDGs, awareness raising is essential. We have to strengthen knowledge about the SDGs and make them more visible. Many Flemish local governments have already created fun, inspiring and effective ways to raise awareness amongst municipal personnel and citizens. VVSG has collected 50 of these examples in a publication, which is available in English and Dutch.

Mandala ODS. *By CNM*

The Mandala ODS is a tool made available to Brazilian municipal public managers to monitor their performance on SDG localization. By using a "radar" type chart and through 28 indicators, the Mandala outlines the degree of municipality's development according to four dimensions: economic, social, environmental and institutional.

Learning Module 1: Localising the SDGs / Introduction. *By UCLG, UNDP and UN Habitat*

The Trainer's guide for Localising the SDGs provides information on the SDGs to local and regional governments, and their organisations or networks, and equip them with a series of strategies, skills and knowledge to localise them.

Getting started with the SDGs in universities. *By SDSN and ACTS*

This guide provides ideas and suggestions for universities, higher education institutions and the academic sector to build the business case and approach for addressing the SDGs. Case studies and suggested paths forward are also included.

For further information: [www.LocalizingTheSDGs.org](http://www.LocalizingTheSDGs.org)

### Inclusive Service Delivery & the SDGs, 18-29 June 2018, The Hague

Local public services such as waste management, water access and social services have a huge impact on our daily lives and well-being. However, in many countries, the poor often lack access to these important services. Fortunately, local governments can ensure access and make a difference. This course discusses how different levels of government can cooperate effectively and involve citizens and the private sector to promote pro-poor local service delivery.

In this course, you will address the following questions:

- How can the different layers of government work together to ensure basic services also reach the poorest people?
- How can they set up the financial management of services in a transparent and democratic way?
- How can partnerships with NGOs and the private sector help local governments to better deal with challenges?

### Objectives

This course will help you:

- Increase your insight into the basic conditions for good local service delivery;
- Better understand the roles of the different layers of government, including central government in creating conditions and maintaining oversight;
- Gain insight on the implication of the SDGs for local service delivery and local governments;
- Understand challenges and possibilities in financing service provision at the local level;
- Increase collaboration and interaction between public and private sector (public-private partnerships), with the civil society and between central and local government.

### Intended audience

Professionals working in the field of decentralisation, local governance, public service provision and development. The course offers a combination of presentations by top experts and innovative exercises.

### Practical information

The course fee is € 3,150. 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.

For questions or more information about this course, please direct your inquiry to the Programme Manager, Pritti Rana at [info@thehagueacademy.com](mailto:info@thehagueacademy.com), or call +31-70-37 38 695.

The deadline for the application is **7 May 2018**.

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

<https://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2017/03/inclusive-service-delivery-2018/>

### **Summer course: Decentralisation & the SDGs, 2-6 July 2018, The Hague**

Cities and local authorities are catalysts for change and drivers of development. A multilevel governance approach is needed to deliver development to citizens and make sure that poor and marginalised groups are included in economic growth policies. But how can governments at all levels cooperate effectively? And how can capacities at the national and local level be strengthened?

During this summer course participants will discuss how donor and development agencies can support a multilevel governance approach to deal with future development challenges. The course consists of several modules:

- What are the latest insights and recent lessons in decentralisation and sustainable local development? We will explore the potential of local governance in realising sustainable development while taking into account the political economy of decentralisation reforms.
- Inter-governmental (fiscal) relations and local service delivery in different country contexts address different (fiscal) support modalities.
- We will discuss strategies and instruments for empowering local authorities. A new tool for local government capacity development that has recently been developed by VNG International will be introduced. We explore the capacity of local authorities to design strategies, deliver and manage services, increase transparency and accountability and successfully engage with other tiers of governments, civil society and the private sector.

*Participants who successfully finish the course will receive a professional certificate of completion from The Hague Academy for Local Governance.*

### The Experts

Contributions come from renowned experts and practitioners with extensive experience in decentralisation and local governance in various development and (post-)conflict countries around the world.

### Practical information

The course fee is € 2,450. 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.

For questions or more information about this course, please direct your inquiry to the Programme Manager, Nienke Vermeulen at [info@thehagueacademy.com](mailto:info@thehagueacademy.com), or call +31-70-37 38 695.

The deadline for the application is **25 May 2018**.

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

<https://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2017/03/summercourse-sustainable-development-goals-2018/>

### **Summer course: Sustaining Peace and Local Governance, 9-13 July 2018, Barcelona**

Local governance actors face enormous challenges in fragile and conflict-affected countries. Often times, human and financial resources are scarce, the collaboration between the state and the citizens is weak, social cohesion and trust in society have deteriorated, and the central government is weak or absent.

Despite these challenges, local governance remains the level where the state and citizens interact; an entry point for development assistance and inclusive governance to help bring about sustainable peace. However, several conditions are necessary for stability including the prevention of conflict, reduction of violence, strengthening the collaboration between the state and the citizens, social cohesion, delivering inclusive economic development and accountable governance.

To discuss how local governance can be more effective in addressing the root causes of a conflict and achieve resilient and sustainable peace, The Hague Academy will convene a one-week course on Sustaining Peace and Local Governance. The training will take place from 9 to 13 July in Barcelona and in partnership with the Barcelona International Peace Resource Center.

Participants will be challenged on the following core questions:

- How can local governance promote conditions for sustainable peace?
- What lessons can be learnt from local governance actors' approaches to sustaining peace in different fragile and conflict-affected countries?
- How can development partners improve the effectiveness of their support to local governance in fragile and conflict-affected countries?
- In what ways can decentralisation contribute to sustaining peace and what is the specific role of local governments in this process?

The course will analyse lessons learned from cases, including but not limited to, Afghanistan, Liberia, South Sudan and the Balkans. It will also revisit and provide insights on the nexus between decentralisation, local governance and sustaining peace.

The course will also compare and discuss the effectiveness of the different approaches used by development partners to support local governance in fragile and conflict-affected countries and how to make them more effective.

#### Learning objectives

This interactive course requires participants to actively exchange their experiences and engage with their peers on various topics. At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Explain the significance of local governance for sustaining peace in fragile and conflict-affected settings;
- Identify under what conditions decentralisation in fragile and conflicts affected settings can contribute to sustaining peace;
- Recognise the impact of peace interventions for sustainable peace and inclusive development at the local level and in relation to state legitimacy;
- Advise local government actors on how to create and maintain conditions necessary for sustainable and resilient peace;
- Develop ideas for evaluating peace intervention at the local level and improve learning and accountability.

*After successful graduation from this course, you will receive a professional certificate of completion from The Hague Academy for Local Governance.*

#### Intended Audience

This training is designed for the staff of donor and development organisations, NGOs, ministries and local governments. It is also aimed at practitioners who wish to remain well-informed about the local dimensions of sustaining peace in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

#### Practical information

This course will take place in Barcelona. Please stay tuned for more information about the location and accommodation. The course fee is € 2,450. This includes all training-related costs, as well as drinks, lunches, training materials and travel during the training programme. Travel to and from Barcelona 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. For questions or more information about this course, please direct your inquiry to the Programme Manager, Freddy Sahinguvu at [info@thehagueacademy.com](mailto:info@thehagueacademy.com), or call +31-70-37 38 695.

The deadline for the application is **25 May 2018**.

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

<https://thehagueacademy.com/blog/2017/03/summercourse-sustaining-peace-2018/>

#### **Reading**

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**Les dynamiques d'économie politique des organisations régionales en Afrique.** ECDPM

<http://ecdpm.org/fr/dossiers/les-dynamiques-deconomie-politique-des-organisations-regionales-en-afrique/>

**Les relations entre l'UE et les pays d'Afrique, Caraïbes et Pacifique (ACP) après 2020.** ECDPM

<http://ecdpm.org/fr/publications/les-relations-afrique-caraibes-pacifique-2020/>

**Une occasion de faire les choses bien.** ECDPM

<http://ecdpm.org/fr/publications/une-occasion-faire-choses-bien/>

**Can EU-Africa relations be deepened? A political economy perspective on power relations, interests and incentives.**

ECDPM <http://ecdpm.org/publications/can-eu-africa-relations-be-deepened/>

**Evaluation of the implementation of the African Peace Facility as an instrument supporting African efforts to manage conflicts on the continent**

[https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/evaluation-implementation-african-peace-facility-instrument-supporting-african-efforts-manage\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/evaluation-implementation-african-peace-facility-instrument-supporting-african-efforts-manage_en)

**The European Union's next Multiannual Financial Framework: Prospects and Challenges for EU Development Cooperation.** European Think Tanks Group

<https://ettg.eu/2018/03/14/the-european-unions-next-multiannual-financial-framework-prospects-and-challenges-for-eu-development-cooperation/>

**Road to CFTA: African ministers adopt free trade agreement.** The NewTimes

<http://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/read/229894/>

**How Can Trade Help Africa Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals?** ICTSD

<https://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges-africa/news/how-can-trade-help-africa-achieve-the-sustainable-development-goals>

**Using Digital Trade for Development in Africa.** ICTSD

<https://www.ictsd.org/bridges-news/bridges-africa/news/using-digital-trade-for-development-in-africa>

**African Development Bank's Economic Outlook shows decline in regional economies.** The African Development Bank Group

<https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/african-development-banks-economic-outlook-shows-decline-in-regional-economies-17937/>

**The enabling environment for private sector development: donor spending and links to other catalytic uses of aid.** Development Initiatives

<http://devinit.org/post/enabling-environment-private-sector-development/>

**Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict.** The World Bank Group

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

The multibillion dollar question: How much will it cost to end hunger and undernutrition? Reuters

<https://news.trust.org/item/20180313162224-jgsvk>

China's new development agency: five expert views. ODI

<https://www.odi.org/comment/10624-china-s-new-development-agency-five-expert-views>

Re-engaging Africa should be a foreign policy priority for Cyril Ramaphosa. Africa Portal

<https://www.africaportal.org/features/re-engaging-africa-should-be-foreign-policy-priority-cyril-ramaphosa/>

MEPs voted to boost EU budget to 1.3% GDP. EurActiv

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/economy-jobs/news/meps-voted-to-boost-eu-budget-to-1-3-gdp/>

Can the UK and the EU Find a Way to Work Together on Development Policy? Center for Global Development

<https://www.cgdev.org/blog/can-uk-and-eu-find-way-work-together-development-policy>

2017 Annual Report on the implementation of the European Union's instruments for financing external actions in 2016

[https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/2017-annual-report-implementation-european-unions-instruments-financing-external-actions-2016\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/2017-annual-report-implementation-european-unions-instruments-financing-external-actions-2016_en)

Etymological map of Africa. Oxfam

<http://oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/etymological-map-of-africa/>

Financing EU external action and development cooperation in the post-2020 EU budget: One instrument to play many tunes ECDPM

<http://ecdpm.org/talking-points/eu-external-action-development-cooperation-eu-budget-one-instrument-many-tunes/>

5 papers to read on APRM (African Peer Review Mechanism) Day. Africa Portal

<https://www.africaportal.org/features/5-papers-read-aprm-day/>

Our Ability to Nourish the Planet Depends on International Trade. NewsDeeply

<https://www.newsdeeply.com/malnutrition/community/2018/03/07/our-ability-to-nourish-the-planet-depends-on-international-trade>

African Leaders Aim to Revive Efforts to Meet Global Nutrition Goals. NewsDeeply

<https://www.newsdeeply.com/malnutrition/articles/2018/03/09/african-leaders-aim-to-revive-efforts-to-meet-global-nutrition-goals>

Taking stock (once more) of the Millennium Development Goal era. The Brookings Institute

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2018/03/05/taking-stock-once-more-of-the-millennium-development-goal-era/>

Politics, poverty, and climate change: stories from Cape Town's 'Day Zero'. ODI

<https://www.odi.org/comment/10616-politics-poverty-and-climate-change-stories-cape-town-s-day-zero>

Are tough times ahead for countries graduating from foreign aid? The Brookings Institute

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2018/03/08/are-tough-times-ahead-for-countries-graduating-from-foreign-aid/>

Economic Fluctuations in Sub-Saharan Africa. The International Monetary Fund.

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