
EU DEAR Multi-Stakeholder Group Terms of Reference

The following ToR are a revision of the draft version discussed at the Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) meeting on 15th-16th March 2016.

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Development Education and Awareness Raising in the European Union involves a wide range of actors and other stakeholders, including DEAR practitioners, policy makers, researchers and the EU public. In order to improve the effectiveness and reach of DEAR activities it is useful for different stakeholder groups to (a) be aware of each other's work, (b) exchange and discuss respective and common priorities and issues, and (c) explore opportunities for collaborative work that enhances the quality and reach of DEAR in the EU. The European Commission, through its DEAR programme with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs¹) and Local Authorities (LAs²), gives added value to DEAR actions taking place in EU member states. The Commission wants to increase the added value it already provides by supporting and facilitating representatives of different stakeholder groups to meet together in order to improve the provision, research, practice and policy of DEAR in the European Union.

The value of different stakeholder groups coming together has in the past been shown by a Multi-Stakeholder process facilitated by CONCORD. This led to the development of, for example, the 'Development Education Consensus' statement (2007) and the 'DE Watch' report (2010). Both of these have informed policy and practice of DEAR in the EU. The European Commission wants to reinvigorate that process by means of supporting and facilitating meetings of a group of representatives of various stakeholders.

Following an EU DEAR Stakeholder Conference in October 2015³ and a consultation process about the possible function and operation of a Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG)⁴ the following terms of reference have been developed

Current situation in the sector

The European Commission published in December 2012 a Commission Staff Working Document on Development Education and Awareness Raising⁵ (DEAR) in Europe, where detailed information

1 CSOs are non-State, non-profit making actors operating on an independent and accountable basis which include: non governmental organisations, organisations representing indigenous peoples, organisations representing national and/or ethnic minorities, diaspora organisations, migrants' organisations in partner countries, local traders' associations and citizens' groups, cooperatives, employers associations and trade unions (social partners), organisations representing economic and social interests, organisations fighting corruption and fraud and promoting good governance, civil rights organisations and organisations combating discrimination, local organisations (including networks) involved in decentralised regional cooperation and integration, consumer organisations, women's and youth organisations, environmental, teaching, cultural, research and scientific organisations, universities, churches and religious associations and communities, the media and any non-governmental associations and independent foundations, including independent political foundations, likely to contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the DCI Regulation.

2 LAs encompass a large variety of sub-national levels and branches of government, i.e. municipalities, communities, districts, counties, provinces, regions etc.

³ For the Conference report see <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/dear-programme/document/dear-stakeholders-conference-report-oct-2015>

⁴ For the results of the consultation process see www.capacity4dev.eu/dear

⁵ The term "Development Education and Awareness Raising" is not used uniformly across all EU Member States. Although most EU Member States have similar concepts; their terminologies and focus are different. Some of the terms used to describe DEAR-related activities are the following: 'development education', 'global education', 'global development education', 'global learning', 'sustainable development education' or 'global citizenship education'. For ease of reference, all activities in Development Education and Awareness

regarding the EU DEAR Programme, as well as information about the current situation in the DEAR sector in Europe can be found.

EU DEAR Programme

Within EuropeAid's unit B2 "Civil Society and Local Authorities", the DEAR sector manages a grants programme of approximately €30 million p.a. These funds are allocated mostly through Calls for Proposals.

For the future, the thematic programme "Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities" (CSO and LA), based on Article 8 of the EU Regulation establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation (DCI) for 2014-2020, will continue to co-finance activities in the field of DEAR.

The Multiannual Indicative Programme for the period 2014-2017 adopted by the Commission⁶ presents the strategic approach retained for the implementation of the DEAR programme.

Actors involved in Development Education and Awareness Raising in Europe

A wide range of actors is involved in DEAR across the 28 EU Member States, including

Civil Society Organisations

Development NGOs and DEAR focused CSOs, and their national platforms in EU member states including DEAR working groups;

European networks and platforms, such as CONCORD (development NGOs), European Youth Forum; Other types of CSOs actors as defined under footnote n° 1

Academic and Research institutions

Including for example EADI's working group on 'Global Education meets Development' and DEAR focussed departments and research centres

Local Authorities

Local Authorities and Associations of Local Authorities;

European International networks of LAs such as PLATFORMA and ALDA;

EU member state public administration

Ministries of Foreign Affairs (or International Development) and their agencies;

Ministries of Education and their (Curriculum/Teacher Training) Agencies;

European networks of government departments and agencies such as GENE

EU and Inter-governmental institutions and agencies

European Commission: DG DevCo/EuropeAid, DG Education and Culture, DG Environment, etc.

European Council, European Parliament, European Economic and Social Committee, Committee of the Regions

Other governmental and inter-governmental actors: for example North South Centre of the Council of Europe, OECD Development Centre & Development Communication Network

Raising will be referred to in this document under the term "DEAR".
http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/documents/swd_2012_457_dear_en.pdf

⁶ C(2014) 4865 final, COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION of 15.7.2014 adopting a Multiannual Indicative Programme for the Thematic Programme "Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities" for the period 2014-2020

2. OBJECTIVE & EXPECTED RESULTS

Objective

The overarching goal of the Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) is to offer CSOs and LAs from the EU, as well as European institutions, a space for exchange of information and dialogue regarding the policy, practice and research priorities and developments of the various DEAR programmes of all participating stakeholders. Particular attention will be given to the role which stakeholders play and can play in engaging with the Sustainable Development Goals.

More specifically, the MSG aims to

1. Facilitate dialogue on cross-cutting issues directly related to the role of CSOs and LAs and other stakeholders as relevant DEAR actors - providing a space for exchange of information regarding the policy, practice and research priorities and developments of the various DEAR programmes of all participating stakeholders (representatives of national governments, civil society, local authorities, academic research institutes, international organisations, and European institutions), in order to enhance and strengthen work in and with each stakeholder constituency;
2. Promote policy debate, consultation and exchange of information and experiences on DEAR.
3. Explore, and where feasible implement opportunities for joint, multi-stakeholder activities at an EU level regarding policy, practice and research;
4. Develop and issue a shared statement, resulting from the discussion of SDGs priorities and its implementation within each represented stakeholder group.

3 MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the MSG consists of

1. DEAR practitioners (including representatives of CSO and LA national and European platforms and networks)
2. policy makers relevant to DEAR in the EU (including representatives of EU members state governments and EU institutions and bodies)
3. researchers and academics with an interest and involvement in DEAR (including representatives of DEAR focused academic and research networks and working groups)
4. representatives of bodies, networks and EU/international organisations whose work relates to the interests of DEAR (e.g. networks of related education approaches, platforms involved in citizen initiatives that relate to development)

It is envisaged that membership of the MSG shall consist of 30 participants maximum including from the following:

Stakeholder group	Representative body	Number of representatives
Civil Society Organisations	National DEAR platforms: CONCORD DARE Forum	5
	ITUC DE programme	1
Local Authorities DEAR programmes and projects	PLATFORMA and its wider network	5
Researchers and academics	EADI, incl. 'Development meets Global Learning' working group representative	5
EU member state government departments and agencies	GENE	5
Intergovernmental agencies	North South Centre of the Council of Europe	1

European Commission	DG DevCo DEAR programme	2
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Additional participants will be invited to specific meetings depending on the focus of each meeting including from, for example, OECD (Centre for Education Reform and Innovation), global or sustainable development education organisations or agencies engaged in Southern (EU partner) countries, Youth organisations, International volunteering organisations.

4 MSG ORGANISATION AND SECRETARIAT

Taking into account suggestions of and consultations with MSG members, the European Commission will draw up the agendas and processes of the meetings and identify those who will be invited to attend (in addition to the core members). Meetings will be formally chaired by one of the EC DevCo representatives.

Unit DEVCO/B2 (Civil Society and Local Authorities) coordinates the work of the agenda group, provides the secretariat for the MSG (via the DEAR Support Team) and convenes the meetings of the MSG.

The work of the MSG will be supported by the DEAR Support Team who will assist in the logistics organisation, agenda preparation and documentation, meeting facilitation, reporting and communication of the Group's meetings.

Communications on the work of the MSG will be produced in English and will be uploaded on the EC's capacity4dev.eu site.

5. ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS

Assumptions underlying the project

- MSG members will get fully involved in the works of the group, by contributing to the setting of the agendas and by expressing their positions after thorough consultations of their constituencies.
- The experts will propose solutions specifically tailored on the needs expressed by the different types of actors and adapted to the different regional contexts. These proposals will be discussed with DEVCO B2.

Risks

- There is a risk of lack of interaction and dynamic participation of representatives of types of actors, who might get less involved in the various forms of consultations than the others.

6. SCOPE OF THE WORK

Meetings of the MSG

In principle, the MSG will meet twice per year during 2016 and 2017, ideally during the spring and autumn of each year at dates and venues to be proposed by the Commission. Review of the work of the MSG and discussion about its continuation will take place at the autumn meeting of the group in 2017

Logistics and Travel

The MSG secretariat will be responsible for all aspects related to the provision, arrangement and payment of travel/accommodation/invitations/renting of premises, etc., required for the MSG meetings

Accommodation and per diems

The EC will reimburse the accommodation costs and per diems to all participating MSG members.

Project management

Responsible body is DEVCO Unit B2

Start date & period of implementation: January 2016 to December 2017

Submission & approval of reports

Reports from the meetings will be produced by the DEAR Support Team and shared with all participants.