

The Lima regional PFD meeting – Summary of the discussions

The first regional PFD meeting was held in Lima, Peru, June 25-26, 2014. The meeting, hosted by the Metropolitan Municipality of Lima and organised by the European Commission (EC), brought together 140 participants from civil society, local authorities, EU Member states and EU delegations from Latin America and staff from EC headquarters.. The goal of the meeting was to debate issues of common interest, with special attention to European development policies. The EU updated participants on the state of its programming including specifically the CSO and LA thematic programme. Participants used updates and panel presentations as the basis for plenary and participatory discussions on key development policies. Below is a summary of the discussions.

- (i) The EU's communication on the private sector and development welcomes partnerships with the private sector to further development, and warrants further discussion, which will take place in Brussels around the global PFD in early October.
- (ii) Participants emphasized that the views of smaller and medium sized companies, women and youth should be more adequately included in the EU thinking around private sector inclusion.
- (iii) In the discussion of the role of the private sector, more attention should be paid to the concept of decent work, the important role of decentralisation policies, and the commitment of national authorities to support public-private partnerships.
- (iv) Participants discussed the role of CSOs and LAs in relation to the EC's views for the post-2015 agenda and a "world free of poverty", and called for the promotion of people-centered policies.
- (v) Participants stressed the importance of localising the post-2015 agenda, goals and actions. LAs make the link to action at the local level and have to coordinate well with the global agenda. To this end, cooperation, accountability and shared financing are all needed components of the discussion.

- (vi) In discussing the EU [blending](#) mechanisms (combining EU grants with other public and private sector resources), participants called for increased accountability, transparency in decision-making processes, and greater attention to human rights standards.
- (vii) Climate change was the pivotal regional topic on this agenda, with discussion focused on the EU initiative Euroclima, and its mitigation and adaptation strategies. Peru is hosting a multi-stakeholder dialogue group to model and encourage participation of all stakeholders in regional and global climate change discussions.
- (viii) When discussing how to use policy dialogue for better governance, participants stressed the role of CSOs in keeping government transparent and the goal of jointly developing policy with governments in a participatory and accountable manner. Challenges mentioned include obtaining accurate information and fighting corruption.
- (ix) Increasing civic education is necessary to strengthening independent dialogue and holding government to account.
- (x) Participants called for the current development paradigm to include more of a human rights focus, in order to specifically empower women, youth and ethnic minorities to overcome inequality. Their voices are vital to ensuring inclusive and sustainable growth.

In conclusion, civil society organisations, local authorities and EU participants stressed the importance of this unique space for dialogue. CSOs emphasized the need to put human rights at the center of development. Local authorities, promoted the idea of a "human city" - respectful of diversity, and an actor of change, having a more central role in regional and global development debates. To read the full meeting report, [click here](#).