



NEWSLETTER I **September 2014**

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Perspectives: Why is the PFD important?

Hear the views of PFD Chairs



Fernando Frutuoso de Melo. *Director General, EuropeAid - Development and Cooperation Directorate-General. European Commission. Chair of the PFD.*

"The PFD represents a step forward in the way the European Commission dialogues with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Local Authorities (LAs) in an inclusive manner. This started with the Structured Dialogue (SD) process, where for the first time different types of actors from around the globe were brought together to exchange views on issues of common interest and in particular on how to further improve the effectiveness of development cooperation. The PFD as it has evolved today is, in my view, probably one of the most inclusive and multi-stakeholder space, where CSOs and LAs together with other EU institutions and bodies as well as EU Member States come together to dialogue, consult, exchange but also to learn about one another, and this I hope will lead to new kinds of partnerships that could ultimately make a difference."



Jorge Balbis. *Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción al Desarrollo (ALOP). Co-chair of the PFD on behalf of CSOs.*

"Our first experience at the SD was very important and unique regarding the EU agenda on development and cooperation. It gave us the opportunity for a rich political dialogue with partners from other countries and regions about our relations and experiences as CSOs and LAs with the EU policy makers. It gave us the possibility to meet and have direct contact with individuals in the Commission and European Institutions beyond the project managers and beyond our region or countries. We could talk with the people who developed the projects, and thought through the policies."



Jacqueline Moustache Belle. *Member of the Executive Board of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). Co-chair of the PFD on behalf of LAs.*

"The PFD is important to local and regional authorities as it provides us with a space in which to strengthen ongoing dialogue with EU and CS organizations. We share many common values and priorities with CSOs. In the past, interactions with stakeholders have often been ad hoc and lacking follow up. This provides space to share information but also to follow up. Now we can follow up on past successes as well as failures. The Forum helps us explore how to build shared objectives for EU policies, especially decentralization and climate change. "

To read more from the interviews with each of the co-chairs, please follow the posts on <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/policy-forum-development/blogs>

PFD Updates

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.



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. For more details, please read the [full meeting report](#).

PFD Highlights: Climate Change

Climate change was a critical global topic discussed throughout the PFD meeting both as a subject focus (second session of the meeting), and in its links to urbanization and the sustainable development goals of the post-2015 agenda. Ernesto Rael Luna, responsible for the working group of the stakeholder engagement team of the Conference of Parties 20 made a presentation on the 20th Conference of the Parties (COP) meeting for the signatories of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The next COP will be hosted by Peru in December 2014. To this end, Peru has developed a Stakeholder Engagement team in order to foster dialogue and participation from all stakeholders (including private sector, civil society, local authorities) to encourage constructive global and national climate policies. Key issues to be discussed include mitigation, adaptation and financing initiatives.

Jose González y González, from the European Commission, Regional Programs Latin America and Caribbean, presented Euroclima, an EU funded climate change program which looks at local mitigation and adaptation perspectives, bringing together national focal points and implementing institutions to share information.

Juan De Los Santos, Mayor of Santo Domingo Est, Dominican Republic, presented the vision of the Local Authorities (LAs), agreed in September 2013, in the negotiations around climate change. LAs aim to: 1. promote a strong and effective global climate agreement, at all levels of government; 2. develop action plans for local governments to

mitigate and adapt to climate change, supported by capacity building, funding and access to technology; and 3. develop mechanisms to support local initiatives, low carbon and energy efficiency by 2020.

Rocio Valdeavallano, from the Citizen's movement against climate change (Movimiento ciudadano frente al Cambio Climático) reminded the audience of the urgency of climate change and the development, political and economic choices that we make that contribute to climate change. "Climate change is the greatest threat facing humanity in its history, will we be able to catch up with this problem and not leave future generations a future destroyed?"

EU Updates

□ The Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2014-2020 for the "Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities" (CSO-LA) Thematic Programme, was adopted on 15 July 2014. By focusing on both actors, the Thematic Programme provides a coherent strategy benefitting both as partners and complementary players. It will contribute to progressively supporting multi-actor approaches and inclusive partnerships for development aimed at poverty eradication and sustainable development, recognising the value of different stakeholders' contribution and synergies.

The CSO-LA Thematic Programme will be implemented over the 2014-2020 period and identifies three priorities: (i) country level; (ii) global and regional; and (iii) DEAR activities (Development Education and Awareness Raising) in Europe. Please see the [full text of the CSO-LA MIP](#) for more.

□ The Multi-Annual Indicative Programme 2014-2020 for the "Programme on the Global Public Goods and Challenges" (GPGC) was adopted on 23 July 2014. Reflecting the concept of Global Public Goods (GPGs), the GPGC programme will seek to foster economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development in an integrated and holistic way, taking into account the need to link programming objectives with the aims of promoting good governance, political stability and security and the requirement for policy coherence in external action. Please see the [full text of the GPGC MIP](#) for more.

□ The Communication on the private sector's role in development, [A Stronger Role of the Private Sector in Achieving Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Countries](#), adopted in June 2014, outlines the role of the private sector as a dimension of EU development policy and cooperation. Including input from stakeholder consultations, the communication outlines concrete actions where the Commission can add value, and identifies other areas where EC tools can be used to catalyse private sector financing to effectively complement EU development assistance. Please read more [here](#).

□ In June 2014 the Commission adopted its new Communication "[A Decent Life for All: from Vision to collective Action](#)," which describes key principles and proposes priority areas and potential targets for the years following 2015, as a contribution towards establishing a limited number of Sustainable Development Goals.

□ 2015 marks the target date for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the culmination of negotiations on a transformative post-2015 framework for poverty eradication and sustainable development. It has been designated the European Year for Development, under the motto "Our world, our dignity, our future." This presents an opportunity to inform EU citizens about EU development cooperation, policy coherence for development and the win-win dimension of development policy, and to foster their direct engagement and critical thinking. The campaign aims to involve closely key stakeholders at national, regional and local levels in the EU member states. In the preparatory phase, the European Commission has set up a collaborative working space on [Capacity4dev.eu](#), where regular updates in the lead up to the European Year for Development are posted and input from all stakeholders is welcome: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/eyd2015>

A special website for the European Year for Development 2015 will be launched towards the end of the year. This interactive site will grant publishing rights to Member States and organisations participating in the campaign that are interested in sharing with the public their views on development as well as stories from the field illustrating development challenges, success stories and lessons learned, using story-telling.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Second meeting of the PFD:
Brussels 1-2 October 2014**

**Workshop with Private Sector:
Brussels 3 October 2014**



News from the Members

News from CONCORD:

- European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development's (CONCORD) priorities for 2014 and 2015 can be accessed via the [Post-2015 & Financing for Development](#) hyperlinks. CONCORD focuses as well on Strategic Alliances and Partnerships & CSO Enabling Environment, of which the currently ongoing monitoring of EU Delegations' engagement with CSOs is just one example.

- CONCORD is convening the Civil Society Alliance of the European Year for Development 2015 and steers the involvement of CSO platforms from different sectors. For more information, please read more [here](#).

Recent policy responses from ITUC:

- The [response from the International and European Trade Union Confederations to the latest Communication from the European Commission: "A Stronger Role of the Private Sector in Achieving Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Countries"](#):

- The [trade union response to the EC Communication on "A Decent Life for All: from vision to collective action"](#).

- The [ITUC Reflections on the Open Working Groups proposed Sustainable Development Goals, as of 31st July 2014](#).

News from Cooperatives Europe:

- There will be a joint event organized by Co-operatives of the Americas and Cooperatives Europe on November 5th, Cartagena, Colombia, entitled 'Cooperation between Latin America and Europe: contributions to an inclusive and sustainable development'. It is part of the 3rd Cooperative Summit of the Americas; more information at <http://www.aciamericas.coop/Invitation>.

- The Cooperatives Europe Development Platform, regrouping 10 organisations, has set up an online database with all their cooperative development programs undertaken around the world. Information about each partner organisation, the different projects and other useful events and documents can be found on <https://coopseurope.coop/development/> - over 400 projects out of which 295 are ongoing!

News from UCLG:

- Localization of the Post-2015 agenda:** Over 4,000 people have already participated in the Global consultation on 'Localizing the Post-2015 Agenda', since its launch in May 2014. This consultation, co-led by the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, UN-Habitat and UNDP, aims to identify lessons learned from the MDGs and current best practices related to how to implement the new Sustainable Development Goals at local level. Check out more info at <http://www.uclg.org/en/issues/localization-post-2015-agenda>.

News from CPDE:

- Global Youth Meeting a success in Brussels** (<http://www.csopartnership.org/news/global-youth-meeting-a-success-in-brussels/>): Adding youth voices in the development effectiveness agenda was the central point of discussion during the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) Global Youth Meeting in Brussels, Belgium last 7-8 August.



For more information, contact:

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