



**NEWSLETTER 2
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PFD Update: Second Global PFD Meeting

The second global Policy Forum on Development (PFD) took place in Brussels on October 1-2, 2014, and gathered together more than 140 representatives from civil society organizations (CSOs) and local authorities (LAs), EU Member States, the European Parliament and the Commission.



In his keynote speech, Director General of DG DEVCO and PFD Chair Fernando Frutuoso de Melo stressed the importance of the PFD. "This is our forum. Together, we have decided the topics of the agenda and have also designed different sessions," the Director General stressed, pointing out also "the timeliness of the meeting, coming soon after the elections of the European Parliament, with a new European Commission to be appointed shortly, and in this critical year of debate on the post-2015 agenda."

Different stakeholders showed a strong commitment to supporting this multi-stakeholder space, with MEP Linda McAven announcing the decision by the European Parliament's Committee on Development (DEVE) to nominate four members to work specifically with the PFD over the next years. Ms. Mara Marinaki, Managing Director for Global and Multilateral Issues, European External Action Service (EEAS) underlined the evolving nature of development cooperation in our changing times.



Participants discussed key development topics, including current issues such as the post-2015 development agenda, urbanization and progress toward an enabling environment for CSOs and LAs to play their roles as development agents in their own right. The final session provided information

and updates on EU-related topics such as joint programming, financial instruments, the results framework and the state of play of the thematic budget lines "Global Public Good and Challenges" and "CSO/LA."

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

Perspectives: Why is the PFD important?

Hear the views of PFD members



Linda McAven, Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the DEVE Committee.

"The Policy Forum on Development is a vital space in which EU decision-makers, civil society, trade unions and local authorities can cooperate in ensuring that development cooperation is as effective as possible. 2015 is an important year for development policy. A new global development framework replacing the Millennium Development Goals will be forged at the UN level, and the EU will play a critical role in this process. The European Year for Development will seek to engage citizens in the EU's development policy, showing its achievements, benefits, and upcoming challenges. Sustainable development is a universal challenge in which all countries must take part, and therefore it has never been more important to have a forum like the PFD in which actors from different regions of the world are present and able to interact with policy makers. I look forward to ensuring the European Parliament plays its role, and to the discussions in the PFD that will enrich our approach to the EU's development policy in 2015 and beyond."



Ms. Mara Marinaki, Managing Director for Global and Multilateral Issues, European External Action Service (EEAS).

"The year 2015 is a year full of challenges with the negotiations of the post-2015 framework being one of the major and far-reaching processes. This agenda will decisively shape development cooperation in the years ahead, so we all keep on working for a truly transformative agenda. But we can only develop a sustainable post-2015 framework, if we work jointly, comprehensively and inclusively. With the PFD as the major forum for dialogue with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Local Authorities (LA) that has already given useful input into the current post-2015 discussions and will take up the topic again, we indeed have a valuable platform we should build on further. The EU doesn't have a blueprint for the ideal solutions, we rather want to develop solutions through dialogue and mutual understanding. Therefore, we need the PFD and its contributions to this and other international processes."



Mr. Fabio Cassese, Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Director General, Directorate General for Development and Cooperation (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

"I was very happy to represent the Italian EU Presidency at this year's Policy Forum on Development. The agenda covered key issues on the development agenda, and it was stimulating to listen to the contributions from so many stakeholders from Europe and beyond. I particularly welcomed the Forum's initiative to organize a special event on the private sector – Italy believes private enterprise can play a vital role in eradicating poverty and promoting sustainable development. Italian Cooperation recognizes that development is not just the business of Governments and, as Presidency, we have aimed to step up both our and the EU's engagement with other actors, particularly civil society. The Policy Forum is one of the most important platforms through which we can build this dialogue – I am sure its work enables us to respond more effectively to the challenges of development."

PFD Highlight: Global Post-2015 Development Agenda



The first session started off the PFD discussions with the Global Post-2015 Development Agenda. Commissioner Piebalgs gave the keynote speech, after which a panel of PFD members discussed the opportunities and challenges for the CSO and LA community and how best they could influence the process further. PFD Co-chair on behalf of CSOs Jorge Balbis chaired the session. Tanya Cox, Co-Chair of Beyond 2015, stressed the need for **respect, honesty and equality** in a post-2015 framework. This means particularly including and thereby empowering individuals, as it will be ordinary citizens who must implement the post-2015 framework locally for it to be a success. "We must respect the needs of other people and also of other countries. The planet and the people's needs must be put first".

Matt Simonds of the International Trade Union Confederation reminded the audience that unemployment has reached 6% globally and continues to rise. He laid out what is needed in a post-2015 framework to achieve decent work in a healthy environment. In addition to minimum social protection, strong labour institutions, and access to essential public goods and services (such as housing, water and sanitation), there is the need to meet ILO standards for workers' rights and activate a global strategy for youth employment.

Bernhard Bramlage, Governor of the District of Leer (Germany), and representative of Platforma, pointed out key elements, including: ownership of the framework and good coordination; institution building at local level; and delivering the framework through local and regional governments (e.g. provision of basic services and competences in key areas). He noted that LAs can play a critical role in assisting their peers.

Abdelkebir Berkia, President of the Regional Council of Rabat-Salé, reminded the group that we have to decide on a new development agenda and also agree on how to address climate change; the fight against poverty is important but not enough. This new agenda must be adapted to national and local realities, as there is not a single model, nor a single voice. Urbanisation is a key challenge and should be one of the Sustainable Development Goals; as well as security and migration. These are inter-related problems, especially in Africa. The new agenda will have to converge with post-Rio and other relevant agendas.

Within this post-2015 context, the role and activities of the Global Partnership for Development Effectiveness were discussed in a session moderated by DEVCO B Director Luis Riera, specifically in relation to progress post-Busan and as a place to bring together different post-2015 initiatives coherently. Maria Teresa Nera-Lauron, CPDE Co-Chair, on behalf of CSOs, reminded the group of the importance of equal partnership of all stakeholders to ensure inclusiveness in a global partnership. Ms Aura Saldana, Mayor of Sábona de la Mar, Dominican Republic, FLACMA on behalf of LAs, discussed the important role that local and regional authorities play in linking citizenry and government. Arjan Schuthof, Strategic advisor for the GPEDC from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, explained that **post-2015 is not business as usual but a complete paradigm shift**. Ms Luiza Bara, Aid and Development Effectiveness and Financing, DG DEVCO/A2, stressed the sense of urgency and need to act faster, as well as the need for a strengthened global monitoring framework.

Localising the post-2015 was also discussed, including an update on consultations co-led by UNDP, UN-Habitat and the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments (GTF). Representatives of local authorities stressed the role of local government in bringing together national decisions with community needs. It was clear that the post-2015 agenda should remain a priority in PFD debates – both in the run-up to the 2015 summit and during the implementation phase.

PFD Highlight: Urbanisation and the Global Development Agenda



Moderated by Josep Roig, Secretary-General of the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the session on urbanisation opened with a presentation by Mr. David Satterthwaite Senior Fellow, Human settlements, International Institute for Environment and Development. According to current estimations, the world's population is projected to grow from around 7 to 9.3 billion people by 2050, with the majority of this growth expected in developing countries, particularly in urban areas. Two and half billion new urban dwellers will need access to food, jobs, education, health, new infrastructures - including drinking water, sanitation, housing, transport and electricity - most of them in Sub-Saharan Africa and in South Asia. Mr. Satterthwaite stressed

that urbanisation is an opportunity as well as a challenge. Urbanisation, if well managed, has an enormous positive transformative power. The agglomeration advantages of densely populated urban areas can promote new patterns of consumption and production, stimulate creativity and innovation, boost economic development, and foster social inclusion.

Mr. André Kimbuta, Governor of Kinshasa, took the floor next and called for more support to African cities: "We are seeing dangerous re-centralisation trends and a major urban challenge in Africa," he said. "Yet most African governments do not have an adequate urban policy." Other speakers, among which Mr. Hans Janssen, Mayor of Oisterwijk (the Netherlands), rapporteur for the CoR and spokesperson of PLATFORMA, and Ms. Emilie Maehara, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate General for Globalisation, Development and Partnerships, emphasized the innovative strength of cities, echoing Mr. Satterthwaite's words. "Cities are not only social fabrics, but also engines of growth, employment and innovation. We strongly call on the EU to keep goal 11 (on urbanisation) as a SDG and further take up territorial governance in the global agenda."

PFD member Ms. Susana Eróstegui, Executive Director of Unitas (Unión Nacional de Instituciones para el Trabajo de Acción Social Bolivia), focused on the participation of citizens in the design of urban solutions to tackle poverty and made a plea for creative thinking because urban poverty has many faces and inequality is not just about access to services. Mr. Paolo Ciccarelli, Head of Unit, Water, Energy, Infrastructure, DG DEVCO/C5, echoed that idea: "We need a holistic approach to support sustainable and inclusive cities and human settlements." He confirmed that the EC will look into three areas in order to be ready for Habitat III, namely: governance; access to basic services; and cities' resilience.

In the debate that followed, participants stressed that more knowledge is needed on the role of private companies in an urban context and how new forms of citizen engagement can create frameworks to address and tackle urban goods. The good practice of the City of Copenhagen was cited, where cooperatives are led by civil society actors to produce renewable energy.

PFD Highlight: Strengthening an enabling environment

The session devoted to the enabling environment agreed that responsibility for achieving a framework enabling CSO and LAs to play their roles as development agents in their own right should be shared between governments, donors and CSO/LAs themselves. Izabella Toth of CONCORD and Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi of UCLG Africa moderated a session that included both panel speakers and break out groups by region. Bea Sanz presented an overview of the recommendations made to enhance an enabling environment at the conclusion of the Structured Dialogue. Thomas Hansen of DEVCO B2 then talked about one example of how the EC has taken their recommendations forward: the country roadmaps for enhancing citizen engagement in local and national policy making and implementation which is currently underway in 128 countries. Cornelius Hacking from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented the new

Dutch policy for its engagement with civil society, "Dialogue and Dissent," and explained the new strategic partnerships being developed in the Netherlands with civil society networks. Bernadia Tjandradewi, UCLG Asia and Pacific, spoke on behalf of local governments about the effectiveness of decentralization in the knowledge that local governments have of their communities. She also stressed the need for a peaceful environment in constructing an enabling environment.



Daniel Svoboda of Development Worldwide talked about the CPDE report on ways forward for donors' support to an enabling environment and the implementation of the Istanbul Principles. He stressed the diversity in the civil society community and the need to simplify messages if we are to be inclusive of everyone. Sevdalina Rukanova of the European Foundation Centre overviewed the Code of Conduct for International Foundations involved in development and stressed the themes of transparency and accountability.

After hearing presentations on ongoing progress from different stakeholders and holding regional discussion groups, participants agreed that this topic is so fundamental that it will remain on the agenda at subsequent PFD meetings. Participants stressed that strengthening links amongst local, regional and global levels is fundamental to enhancing progress. Members also agreed on the need to deepen knowledge and monitor progress at all levels, by different actors.

EU Updates

- The **CSO-LA Annual Action Programme 2014** was adopted on 28 October 2014.
- The New European Commission, presided by Jean-Claude Juncker is in office since 1st November 2014 and **Neven Mimica** replaces Andris Piebalgs as new Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development. News on DG DEVCO can be found on the new EuropeAid website from now on: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/home_en.
- The **report** of the Private Sector side event to the PFD which took place on 3 October 2014 is available. The agenda, participant list and presentations can also be found on CISOCH as the other documents related to the Policy Forum itself.
- The European Year for Development (EYD) 2015 presents an opportunity to inform citizens about EU development cooperation, policy coherence and the win-win dimension of development policy, besides fostering direct engagement and critical thinking. Member States, CSOs, local authorities, international organizations, the private sector, volunteer organizations and academia are asked to actively own this year and implement it from a local perspective. Apart from dedicated Twitter and Facebook accounts, a special interactive website for the EYD2015 is launched in December where partners post their EYD2015 events, as well as stories from the field illustrating development challenges, success stories and lessons learnt. More info: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/eyd2015>



NEXT EVENTS:

- The Global PFD, Brussels, 16-18 March 2014

**HAPPY NEW
YEAR TO ALL !!**

News from the Members

- **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** (IFRC) launched **Rights of Migrants in Action**. Many migrants succeed in establishing themselves in their new communities, but others face abuses and discriminations, and these are of primary concern for the IFRC and its National Societies. This EU funded 10.5 million euro, 42 month action was launched during the second global PFD.
- **UCLG** is a key partner in the newly announced global **Compact of Mayors**, the world's largest effort for cities to fight climate change. The Compact will enable cities to publically commit to deep GHG emissions reductions; make existing targets and plans public; and report on their progress annually.
- **Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum** (EaP CSF) has issued its **September Newsletter** with updates on their activities, including the upcoming 6th annual meeting of the EaP CSF in Georgia in November, entitled "**EU Integration & common security: making it happen.**"
- **ITUC** developed a video to explain **What is the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN)**. They also finalized the **activities report (2008-2012) of the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network** on sustainable development through decent work.
- **Cooperatives of the Americas and Cooperatives Europe** in partnership with Coopermondo, FNCUMA and DGRV, organised the workshop "Cooperation between Latin America & Europe: Contributions to an inclusive & sustainable development" within the Cooperative Summit of the Americas in Cartagena, Colombia on November 5th. The meeting focused on the role of cooperatives in fostering social inclusion and enhancing political dialogue and inter-regional partnerships between Latin America and Europe.
- **Concord** has launched the **AidWatch report** and the **Guide to EuropeAid funding instruments 2014-2020**. The European Taskforce of Beyond 2015 also issued **Key Messages** for the upcoming Council Conclusions on Post-2015.
Upcoming Concord events include: the European crisis impact on EU-CELC relations, 9 December, Brussels and the EU/Arab Civil Society Dialogue – taking stock for a revised European neighbourhood Policy on 11 December, Brussels (lonne.poissonnier@concorderuoep.org)

Where to get more information



For more information, contact:

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https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/aidco/index.php/Policy_forum_on_development