

Context

The Development Education & Awareness Raising (DEAR) Support Team assists the European Commission in the development and delivery of its DEAR programme.

The EC's DEAR programme aims to:

“develop EU citizens' awareness and critical understanding of the interdependent world, of their role and responsibility in relation to a globalised society;
and to support their active engagement with global attempts to eradicate poverty and promote justice, human rights and a sustainable social-economic development in partner countries.”

Areas of work

The DEAR Support Team's work relates to:

- The organisation and facilitation of events: involving EC co-funded DEAR projects and other EU DEAR stakeholders in learning from work done, and in supporting improvements in awareness raising and education for development
- Communication and networking: sharing information about projects and enabling stakeholders to become familiar with each other's work
- Studies and researches of the results of the DEAR programme and into opportunities for the development of the programme.

Work done in the spring and summer of 2015

- Facilitation of an Inception Seminar for new EC grant funded DEAR projects, and organisation and facilitation of three Cluster Meetings for ongoing DEAR projects (see capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/ for details)
- Carrying out a Study into Impact Evaluation Frameworks used within the EU to assess the results of DEAR Programmes (publication forthcoming)
- Establishing the way of working of the Team, preparing longer term work plans, and putting in place the ground work for activities to be carried out in the autumn and winter

Current work (autumn 2015)

- Organisation and facilitation of a **Conference** involving representatives of the main stakeholder groups of DEAR in the European Union (October 2015)
- Organisation and facilitation of a **DEAR Fair**, involving EC supported DEAR projects in exhibiting, discussing and exchanging experiences about their work (October 2015)
- Organising and facilitating three '**On-site Cluster Meetings**', each involving selected projects in reviewing experiences and results regarding respectively: * assessment of attitudinal change and action as a result of DEAR project work; * the development of multipliers and agents of change to support ongoing promotion and involvement in DEAR; * stimulating public engagement in development in times of social, economic and political crises (November – December 2015)
- Developing EC DEAR programme **communications** approaches incl. website, Journal, contact database development (ongoing work throughout the autumn-winter 2015)
- EC DEAR **project information** to be collected and made publicly available (due Nov 2015)
- Revising the **reporting indicators** for DEAR projects (due Feb 2016)
- Development of the first '**EC DEAR Programme Achievements and Impact Report**' (due Feb 2016)