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The CSO Partnership is an open platform that unites CSO voices from around the world on the issue of development effectiveness.

August 2015

UPDATES FROM REGIONS

Latin America and the Caribbean



Second Regional Meeting of CPDE Latin America and the Caribbean
Lima, Peru— The CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) had its Second Regional Meeting in Lima, Peru from August 3 to 4, 2015. Sectoral and sub-regional representatives of CPDE LAC updated those present in the meeting with the platform's current work and discussions on development effectiveness. Participants analysed global processes in which the CPDE is currently involved with and reviewed the region's participation in those spaces.

One of the most relevant questions raised during the meeting was the importance of strengthening a "regional identity" that will allow the region to contribute in the different target spaces and address different international issues with a proper regional perspective. Participants also defined three thematic principles that they believe occupy a special part in the CPDE agenda, and in particular, the LAC region: (1) Financing and cooperation for development, (2) LAC model of development, and (3) democratic space to allow participation in those apparent processes.

A total of 40 participants attended the meeting, with three representatives per sub-region and one from each sector. The region is currently sub-divided in three sub-regions: CAMEXCA, Andean and South Cone. All member-countries of Andean and South Cone participated, and an important representation from CAMEXCA, including the Anglophone countries of the Caribbean became involved for the first time.

Towards the end of the meeting, the region assigned its new representatives to the Coordination Committee, and they are: Alberto Croce of Red Encuentro-Argentina (replacing Addys Then Marte) and Ana Tallada of CONADES Peru (replacing Georgina Munoz). CPDE LAC also elected the following members of its own regional Coordination Committee:

Sub-regional representatives:

- Addys Then Marte (Alianza ONG, Dominican Republic) for CAMEXCA
- Pina Huaman (ANC Peru) for Andean
- Loreto Bravo (Accion Chile) for South Cone

Regional sectoral representatives:

- Giulia Masobrio (Labour)
- Malena Famá (Youth)
- Zoila Bustamante (Rural)
- Milton Mejía (Faith-Based)
- Mónica Novillo (Feminist Group)
- Norma Maldonado (Indigenous Peoples)
- Jorge Balbis (ALOP) in his capacity as a CPDE Co-chair who also represents the region.

Participants defined work priorities until December 2016, including discussions on the proposal of having a separate Caribbean sub-region, formulation of regional key demands and the recognition of the CPDE LAC in different debates and spaces around development cooperation. CPDE LAC has designated Karina Caceres as their regional secretariat coordinator. Contact her at secretaria.aoed@gmail.com.

North America

New Canadian CSO Policy Adopted

On February 5, the Honorable Christian Paradis, Minister of International Development and for La Francophonie, announced the launch of the "International Development and Humanitarian Assistance Civil Society Partnership Policy." The announcement was met with resounding applause from the 100 leaders from Canada's top international development and humanitarian organisations gathered at the Forum. Highlights of the policy include the following: the recognition that civil society organizations (CSOs) are development actors in their own right with diverse roles and needs; the acknowledgment of the Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness and

humanitarian principles as the core principles that guide CSO work in development and humanitarian response; the commitment to establish diverse and predictable funding for CSOs, and to support public engagement; and the reaffirmation of the fundamental role that governments play in guaranteeing an enabling environment – in particular freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly – for CSOs in developing countries. The government has also agreed to review the policy with CSOs on an annual basis – essential to ensure its successful implementation. In early September, thanks to support from CPDE, the Canadian Council for International Cooperation will release a set of milestones that will interpret how the Council envisages the policy being implemented. CPDE support is also helping to fund CCIC Working Groups to develop some consolidated proposals around diverse funding mechanisms for CSOs and supporting public engagement work – key elements of the new Policy.

North America collaborating on enhancing transparency of the sector

US platform InterAction has long been a pioneer in promoting transparency in the work of their member organisations. This year, they published to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). And their NGO Aid Map – which features almost 4,000 programs from 95 member-organisations around the world – sets the gold standard for accessible and user-friendly data on the activities of American civil society organisations working overseas. Now, InterAction is looking to upgrade the software, making the content publishable to the IATI, and to expand who uses it to other national platforms. This fall, CCIC, working in collaboration with Carleton University, is starting a pilot process to consolidate the organisational info it has on each of its members, and to begin to collect basic project info using the InterAction platform to profile the results. Support from CPDE has helped make this initiative possible.

We Can Do Better 2015!

In February, CCIC launched a national campaign to raise the profile of three key events this year – the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 agenda, and the 21st Conference of Parties on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Entitled, WeCanDoBetter2015, and using the hashtag #DoBetter2015, the campaign focuses on three key themes: inequality & human rights, climate change & environmental sustainability, and gender equality & women's rights. The campaign has produced resource materials in English and French, including backgrounders on these three themes, as well as on the enabling environment for civil society and the concept of universality, a social media toolkit and tip sheet, an election toolkit (forthcoming), among other things. The campaign was launched to try and raise the profile of these issues – and in particular the post-2015 agenda – during the 2015 Canadian Federal Election, which is currently underway.

CCIC Working to Raise Profile of CSOs and Enabling Environment in post-2015

In collaboration with CPDE, the Canadian government, many of the UN major groups, and the Non-Governmental Liaison Service at the UN, CCIC was involved in organising two side events – at the May negotiation of Review and Follow-up on Post 2015 and the June High-Level Political Forum – on strengthening the role and space for civil society in the post-2015 process. Drawing a large crowd of 50 to 100 people, both events profiled the perspectives of UN officials, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, member states and a range of stakeholders. They also drew on the experience of different best practices both within and outside the UN system for meaningfully engaging civil society in discussions and decisions around global development cooperation issues.

North America

New report by VOICES-VOIX on Enabling Environment in Canada

On June 16, the Canadian coalition VOICES-VOIX published an important report documenting the abuse of parliamentary rules, the intimidation of public servants, and the defunding and intimidation of organisations that hold views at odds with the federal government. The report illustrates where the government has gutted the capacity of its own departments and independent agencies to offer information and analysis needed to make sound policy choices. The full report and an executive summary can be found [here](#). VOICES-VOIX is a non-partisan coalition of Canadians and Canadian organizations committed to defending our collective and individual rights to dissent, advocacy and democratic space. CCIC is a founding member of VOICES-VOIX.

Some National Platforms Looking to Share Perspectives on Common Challenges

Informal exchanges between staff from UK platform BOND, Canadian CCIC and US InterAction at the latter's June Annual Forum in Washington are starting to give shape to the idea of a two day meeting in 2016 to share initiatives, strategies and learning around common issues of concern. For example, how have different platforms responded to the challenges of the enabling environment, legislative restrictions on lobbying and advocacy, the new narrative for development, promoting greater transparency among members, advocating for diverse funding mechanisms and CSO policies, working with academic researchers? The organizers are looking to other national platforms to join the conversation and are thinking of doing something on the fringes of the next High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation or any potential 5th anniversary celebrations of the Siem Reap Framework. Other interested national platforms should contact freillyking@ccic.ca.

For further questions on any of the content in these articles, write to [Fraser Reilly-King](mailto:Fraser.Reilly-King@ccic.ca) at the Canadian Council for International Co-operation.

Asia-Pacific

CPDE continues its work at the regional, sub-regional and country levels in Asia-Pacific.

Sub-regional meetings

Sub-regional meetings will provide a venue for CSOs and sectoral groups in the sub-regions to discuss emerging issues in development cooperation, challenges CSOs face in their campaign for effective development, and action points on how to move the work forward. Below is the line-up of sub-regional meetings scheduled in the coming months:

28 August	Central Asia sub-regional meeting in Kyrgyzstan
1-2 September	Pacific meeting in Papua New Guinea
3-4 September	South Asia subregional meeting in Sri Lanka
23-26 September	Northeast Asia subregional meeting in Mongolia

National multi-stakeholder forums on CSO enabling environment

The forums will be multi-stakeholder discussion spaces on CSO EE, focusing on the varying roles and contributions of different actors to EE. Four national multi-stakeholder activities are set to happen in the second semester:

27 August	Kyrgyzstan
1-2 September	Papua New Guinea
5-6 September	Sri Lanka
23-26 September	Mongolia

Country training workshops on CSO Development Effectiveness/ Accountability, and Monitoring Development Cooperation & Partnerships

The country workshops on CSO DE are the continuation of the work which started in 2014, aiming to implement country trainings on capacity development particularly on CSO accountability, and develop country-level roadmaps on expanding and promoting CSO DE and operationalising CSO accountability mechanisms. Meanwhile, the latter aims to conduct country-level advocacy trainings on aid monitoring and development effectiveness. A number of country workshops are scheduled in the second half of the year.

24-26 August	Vietnam Training on CSO DE/Accountability, and Monitoring Development Cooperation & Partnerships
31 August - 1 September	Kazakhstan Training on Monitoring Development Cooperation & Partnerships
5-6 September	Sri Lanka Training on Monitoring Development Cooperation & Partnerships

Pacific now recognised as an independent region from Asia

During the 3rd Global Council meeting, the Pacific was recognised as a separate region from Asia.

South Asia has new sub-regional focal person

Wali Haider of Roots for Equity Pakistan has been appointed as the new sub-regional focal point for South Asia. He will replace Arjun Karki of LDC Watch as the South Asia representative in the regional coordination committee.

Country Activities on Inclusive Partnerships and CSO Enabling Environment

CPDE Africa has already laid the ground for the conduct of a country mapping exercise on inclusive partnerships in the region. This process will be conducted in fifteen (15) countries across Africa. Required during this exercise are evidence-based studies carried out at country-level in all four sub regions, to help form a concrete picture of actual experiences and the status of inclusive partnerships; bringing out if development is truly inclusive, just and sustainable, and thereafter offer recommendations from which possible action and guidelines for better implementation and results can be drawn by different stakeholders.

The studies are expected to:

- Briefly assess the legal and regulatory framework showing its positive and/or negative implications on the existing partnership
- Propose efforts to broaden and improve initiatives, policies and instruments undertaken to strengthen inclusive partnerships for maximisation and stabilisation of development results and impacts
- Analyse the extent to which the existing partnerships are guided by the Busan development effectiveness principles
- Assess the existing partnerships, showing their implications and impacts on development outcomes for poor and marginalised populations.

National consultations on CSO Enabling Environment were also held in Mozambique, Rwanda and DRC Congo. These consultations delved into research findings that covered the issue of CSO EE to assess CSO spaces and institutional frameworks for the implementation of the Post-Busan agenda. Researches also recommended specific actions that different stakeholders can take to ensure that they fully utilise the opportunities that Busan outcome presents to promote enabling environment for CSOs, particularly in Rwanda.

Africa

More information on the current work of the CPDE in the African region are available at the Reality of Aid Africa website: <http://roafrica.org/index.php/resource-centre/reports>

UPDATES FROM SECTORS

New research on business accountability

The International Trade Union Confederation- Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (ITUC-TUDCN) and EURODAD, in cooperation with CPDE recently published a research mapping business liability mechanisms and donor engagement with private sector in development. The study *Business Accountability for Development* launched in April 2015, highlights existing business accountability mechanisms in general, and puts forward specific criteria to grant effectiveness of private sector initiatives in development.

Full text can be accessed here:

http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/tudcn_business_accountability_for_development_final_en.pdf

More news and updates from the latest TUDCN newsletter:

English: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/TUDCN-newsletter-july-2015>

French: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/bulletin-RSCD-juillet-2015?lang=fr>

Spanish: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/boletin-RSCD-julio-2015?lang=es>

Continuing campaign for IP rights and development

CPDE IP Sector plans to conduct regional workshops for the second half of the year to gather inputs for drafting the Policy Paper on IP and Development. For Latin America and the Caribbean, the workshop will be held in September and/ or October in a community setting either in the Andes or Central America. Africa will have its regional workshop in November, in time for the launching of the International IP Heroes Day on November 10. November 10 marks the 20th anniversary of the killing of the Ogoni 9 - martyrs who fought the petroleum giant Royal Dutch Shell.

Asia regional workshop will be held in November, in time for the International Festival for People's Rights and Struggles (IFPRIS) in Manila, Philippines. The International Indigenous People's Movement for Self Determination and Liberation (IPMSDL), which serves as the global focal organisation for the CPDE IP Sector, will be part of the IFPRIS. They will also have activity titled 'A Storm of Actions and Protests 2015: Indigenous Peoples Solidarity and Resistance against APEC and Imperialist Globalization' which will be held parallel to the 2015 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) All-Leaders Meeting and will also be held in Manila. For the movement, the said meeting will only tighten imperialist control on the economies, land, territories and resources especially of the underdeveloped countries and indigenous peoples in the Asian region.

Labour

Indigenous Peoples

Youth

Plans for Regional Training of Trainers (ToT)

The Youth Sector is planned to roll out trainings on the CPDE in the African, Asia-Pacific and Latin American regions, as part of its 2015 plans. Trainings for Africa, Asia and Pacific regions are planned for the third quarter, with guidance from regional CPDE secretariats.

Engagements with Action Aid International (AAI)

The engagements are a product of the CPDE Secretariat's efforts which linked the sector to AAI. As a start, CPDE Global Youth Representative Cordellia Sikosana had a meeting with the AAI main office in UK and their team working in Bangladesh. During the discussion, the sector has noted that there is need for increased collaboration and solidarity among CSOs. CPDE-Youth Sector enquired on the Global Youth Coalition that is currently being initiated by Action Aid International. The GYC is currently composed of these members: AA International, Restless Development, Plan International. There is a possibility for CPDE-Youth Sector to join the coalition. At the moment, the sector is yet to sit down over the opportunity and agree, soon there will be internal discussions on this.

Participation in conferences

The sector participated in the Financing for Development (FFD) meeting in Addis Ababa, and the Pan African CSO Conference on Financing for Development where youth delegates contributed in the deliberations, side events, outcome document and position paper ensuring that the voice of youth is reflected in the emerging development trajectory. While both these meetings were not seen as advancing the aspirations of CSO's especially at the Addis conference, as anticipated, there is an unequivocal clarion call on CSOs to rise to the moment in support of the development agenda.

Rural

Upcoming plans for Rural Sector

The CPDE Rural Sector plans of holding Regional Workshops focused on Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in food and agriculture and in this context be releasing background papers and primers.

Information materials

Background papers

Background papers will be released this September discussing the current PPPs on food and agriculture being promoted by major players and proponents of PPP in agriculture with the implications of this promotion and a paper on the new laws, policies and trade agreements under negotiations that support and promote PPPs in food and agriculture

Policy paper

Practices and knowledge on utilisation of resources (land, natural resources, national budgets, capital, etc.) and policy reform agenda of PPP in food and agriculture. The policy paper will be disseminated during the Civil Society Mechanism Annual Forum in Rome and World Food Day (WFD) in Milan this October

Primer

A primer will likewise be released on the trends and policy framework of PPPs in food and agriculture that will include laws, policies, donors and private philanthropies and viable platforms of campaigns and struggles for public and popular audience

Regional workshops

Regional workshops will be conducted in Asia (Philippines) in November, Africa (Kenya) in December and Latin America in October mainly to serve as a venue to further discuss PPP struggles, good practices and alternatives on the PPP promotion.

Along with these, a policy paper on trade and agriculture will be released in preparation for the World Trade Organisation's 10th Ministerial Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya in December.

In the continuous discussion on the implementation of the Post-2015 development agenda, the CPDE Rural sector through its focal organization, People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty (PCFS), has been strong in its position that the business and private sector should desist from considering the Sustainable Development Goals agenda as another arena for maximising their insatiable profits, at the expense of people and sustainability of our Earth. There are adequate alternatives to realising Sustainable Development Goals, other than resorting primarily to business and private sector. Alternatives are very much feasible with rightful involvement and participation of communities at all decision making levels. This position has been repeatedly conveyed in the Stakeholder Preparatory Forum and Stock-Taking meeting of Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (January 16, 2015), Interactive Dialogue with Major Groups and other stakeholders (May 20, 2015), 6th Intergovernmental Negotiation on Zero Draft of Post 2015 Outcome (June 22-24, 2015) and 3rd High Level Political Forum (HLPF) of UN Economic and Social Council (June 26-July 8, 2015) in New York City.

UPDATES ON WORKING GROUPS

Continuous work on CSO Accountability

The CPDE Working Group on CSO Development Effectiveness held its face-to-face meeting last June 2015 in Brussels to talk about its plans for the rest of the year. One of the key plans for this year is to strengthen the platform's work on country-level CSO Accountability through the conduct of country trainings, which have been facilitated since 2014. It was also pointed out that there is a need for the WG and the CPDE units to coordinate their efforts on this, following the CPDE's protocol on the ways of working.

Support work on Busan monitoring

In support of CPDE's work on the GPEDC Second Monitoring Round, the group also plans of producing country reports and a global narrative on CSO Accountability to complement the plans of the CSO Enabling Environment WG of producing country EE monitoring reports. The CSO DE reports will be supported by a common understanding of CSO Accountability based on the Istanbul Principles, and possibly, a module on CSO Accountability to guide CSOs at the country level. Initially, seven (7) country and sectoral case stories and experiences on CSO Accountability have been committed during the meeting.

Upcoming tasks

The rest of the year will also be used to lay the ground work for the planned CPDE Global Assembly on the Istanbul Principles (IP+5) next year, as well as global

Post-MDG

Sectoral Training of Trainers on CSO DE and Accountability. The IP Implementation Checklist (csopartnership.org/cso-de-survey-page-2) will be revised and re-launched online within the year.

As the 70th United Nations General Assembly gears up to adopt the Post 2015 outcome document, the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) reiterated and strengthened its call for a post-2015 development agenda rooted in a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and inclusive development.

CPDE's Engagement in the Post 2015 Process

CPDE developed a number of policy papers in preparing for its engagement with the Post-2015 inter-governmental negotiations. These policy papers are on (a) Enhancing the Development Effectiveness of the Post-2015 Global Partnership for Sustainable Development; (b) Development Cooperation in the Post-2015 Development Framework; and (c) Regulatory framework for the Private Sector. Starting January, CPDE responded to a number of SDG-related documents to advance civil society positions. These include (a) Response to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as proposed by the open working group (OWG) of the UN General Assembly; (b) Response to the Report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing; (c) Response to the UN Secretary-General's Synthesis Report on SDGs; and lastly, (d) Response on the final draft of SDGs, slated for September adoption. CPDE engaged with monthly inter-governmental negotiations, which commenced in January 2015. The platform also attended the 3rd High Level Political Forum from 26 June – 8 July at the UN Headquarters (UN HQ) and expressed concerns with the implementation and monitoring process of SDGs in a post adoption environment.

CPDE co-organised a side event in May at the UNHQ together with Canada, the UN-NGLS and the PCFS. Mr. Guillermo Rishchynski, Canada's Permanent Representative to the UN; Ms. Tiina Nummi-Södergren of the Swedish delegation Post-2015 to the UN; Ms. Barbara Adams of Global Policy Watch; Ms. Maria Theresa Lauron of the CPDE and the Asia-Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism; and Ms. Susan Alzner, Officer-in-Charge, UN NGLS spoke at the event. The dialogue focused on the potential for institutionalising CSO participation at all relevant levels of governance in the Post-2015 Agenda, i.e. national, regional, and global. Another side event on the Institutionalisation of CSO participation in Follow-Up and Review of Post 2015 by the CPDE was organised on 30 June 2015 – during the 3rd Session of the High-Level Political Forum of the UN ECOSOC at the UN HQ. CPDE is also preparing to organise a side event on Right to Development in New York on 28th August 2015.

September Summit, Post 2015 and Beyond

CPDE is preparing to engage the adoption process of the SDGs during the UN GA in September. CPDE has already commenced discussion to assume role in a Post-2015 environment and engage, review and monitor the implementation of the goals and definition of indicators at the national level. CPDE also discussed on how best to highlight CSO concerns through established processes in the review mechanisms, including the annual High-Level Political Forum. CPDE will also focus and strengthen research and monitoring on SDGs implementation, capacity development of sectors and regions for necessary responses. CPDE will accord emphasis on a strong and meaningful role for civil society in the HLPF as the UN body with the central role in the review of post-2015 and SDGs.

CPDE at the UN GA

From 25-27 September of this year, Heads of State and Governments will gather at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York City to agree on a new set of "Sustainable Development Goals" (SDGs) and a "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" that promises to "transform our world" and "leave no one behind."

A delegation of six to seven individuals representing different CPDE member organisations across the globe will be in New York to witness, participate, and engage in the UN Summit. These organisations will be the voice of CPDE, extending analysis and demands in the six interactive sessions during the Summit as well participating in different side events alongside the Summit.

On 28 September, the day after the UN Summit on Development, CPDE will hold a whole day side event to hear the perspective from the margins and the frontlines. This will be in from 10am to 6pm in San Damiano Hall, 135 West 31st St. New York. This side event is co-organised by CPDE with IBON International, UN and International Affairs Ministry of the General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church (GBCS), International Migrants Alliance (IMA), NGO Mining Working Group, and Migrants Center of Church of St Francis of Assisi.



ADDITIONAL UPDATES

Updates from the Reference Group on Effective Institutions

The platform continues its work on effective institutions through its Reference Group. CPDE will be represented in the next meeting of the Effective Institutions Platform (EIP) Advisory Group on August 31 to September 1 at the OECD Headquarters in Paris, France. Vitalice Meja of Reality of Aid Africa will participate and present on "Multi-stakeholder Dialogues on Effective Institutions". The EIP Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 17-18 November 2015 in Singapore.

In 2014, CPDE launched the ADE Mapping Project to assess and monitor CSO practices on ADE, CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment at the country-level. The ADE Map aims to show what effective development looks like on the ground, and to provide news and timely updates from our countries. The ADE Map responds to the platform's commitment on country focus work.

After a year of implementation, the Global Secretariat believes that there is a need to scale up our mapping project to demonstrate further the depth and reach of work we currently have. No one could better contribute to this project than our country structures and partners. We invite you to take part of this initiative. You can also send case stories and country updates to membership@csopartnership.org on or before 20 September 2015. Contributions will be uploaded to the website, and the CPDE and ADE social media accounts.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ADEMapping

Twitter: twitter.com/ADEMapping

Know more about the project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ijt1PaAWRig>



EIP Engagement

ADE Mapping Project

Take part of the CPDE e-Bulletin, submit monthly updates to Reileen Joy Dulay at secretariat@csopartnership.org and Jodel Dacara at membership@csopartnership.org

Know more about the CSO Partnership, visit www.csopartnership.org