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1. News from the Network

DEVELOPMENT IS SOCIAL JUSTICE: TRADE UNIONS FOR DECENT WORK

The first trade union conference on development cooperation of the ITUC will take place this month of October in Runö, Sweden, and is one of the major trade union events in this very busy month. Indeed, the World Day for Decent Work on 7 October will again mobilise trade unions worldwide in favour of the decent work agenda, and the ITUC International Women's Conference will take place the third week of October. In the meanwhile, the Global Council of the ITUC meeting in Berlin will have set the course of action in preparation of the next ITUC Congress in 2010 as well as it will have ratified the trade union positions when it comes to the overall challenges of the worldwide economic, financial and development crisis.

High on the agenda of the Runö conference will be the trade union contribution to development cooperation. Mr. Koos Richelle, director general of the EU-AIDCO, will be the keynote speaker on behalf of Commissioner De Gucht and will highlight the main challenges to development cooperation in today's world. Throughout two panel discussions on "Democratic ownership and decent work policies for development" and on "Trade Unions as actors for development" we will – together with invited guest speakers from government, the EU Commission and Parliament as well as from our own ranks and from other CSO networks – share ideas and deepen our understanding in order to improve our development cooperation work as trade unionists.

As a member of the core international CSO groupings, Better Aid and Open Forum on CSO Effectiveness, the ITUC has been asked to take the lead on the Democratic Ownership discussion in the cluster work of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action). The ITUC is participating through its NY Office in the CSO networks related to the UN-based Development Cooperation Forum. Also, these commitments of the trade union movement towards the main challenges of the Development Cooperation Policies will be on the agenda of the Conference.

With the contribution
of the Non State Actors
Programme of
the European Union



“creating an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work as a foundation for sustainable development”

UN Summit Heads of State 2005 Outcome document §47

After the first year of the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network, it is time to make the assessment of the progress made and to design the way forward. The workstreams are reaching the first set of conclusions, and the workplan for 2010 is taking shape. In the meanwhile, discussions have been started with the Commission, the Parliament and with governments as to the Midterm Review of the Development Cooperation Instrument. That should also allow us to consolidate and to reinforce the Network in a more sustainable way. The Network meeting immediately following the Runö Conference will draw the lines of action.

The Network has its [own TUDCN webpage](#) on the [ITUC website](#). You will find the latest news on trade union positions, solidarity actions and update information on activities.

Please send any relevant information for publication in our next issues to the Network Information Officer at: luc.vermeersch@ituc-csi.org.

(Please send your info for the next issue before 15 October)

2. Development Cooperation Policies

(Earlier reports can be found on the ITUC website, at the "Resources" section on its Development Cooperation pages. (click [here](#)))

TRADE UNION EVALUATION OF THE OUTCOME DOCUMENT OF THE UN CONFERENCE OF THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS AND ITS IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT (24-26/06/2009)

Developmental Impacts of the Crisis

The United Nations Conference on the Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, held from 24 to 26 June, 2009, adopted an [Outcome Document](#) which provides a strong critique of the root causes of the crisis and its severe impacts on developing countries. On this basis, it makes the case for much higher levels of financing for stimulus packages to developing countries than have been agreed so far, as well as deep systemic reforms, and reform of the institutions of global governance. These, according to the Outcome Document, are pre-conditions for achieving sustainable, restored growth and avoiding such global crises in the future. The Document fails, however, to provide a clear road-map for realising these reforms, and firm commitments and mechanisms for mobilising adequate levels of development finance. It therefore falls short of many of the key recommendations of the Stiglitz Commission Report, which trade unions were supporting.

[Read the whole evaluation](#)

UN-DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FORUM (UNDCF)

General information: see [earlier articles in the TUDCN Newsletter](#) (click) and the DCF website: <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/newfunct/develop.shtml>

Current workplan:

In phase II (2009-2010), the DCF will focus on a series of inter-related/mutually reinforcing activities to promote national development and the achievement of MDGs in three areas: (i) mutual accountability and aid transparency; (ii) South-South and triangular cooperation; and (iii) aid policy coherence with a view to moving from aid to more long-term sources of development financing. A special focus will be given to

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issues of quality and impact of aid in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The DCF calendar of activities (preparation of the 2010 Forum meeting) :
12-13 November 2009 Vienna: Conference on Mutual Accountability and Aid Transparency.

The CSO participation is likely to be reduced by the organisers. The ITUC will represent the trade union movement and this in cooperation with the different platforms (Better Aid, Women's Working Group (WWG), GSEG (Global Social Economy Group - formerly DNG).

As you can read and understand from the proposed work plans, there is a clear overlap with the follow-up of the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) on Aid Effectiveness which is on the agenda of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (WP Eff) and its Clusters which are working under the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD (see below). The ITUC favours and works for an inclusive and coordinated approach and asks for a maximal coordination and integration of the two agendas.

A working document is under elaboration and will be circulated as soon as available.

WORKING PARTY ON AID EFFECTIVENESS (WP EFF) AND ITS CLUSTERS.

The WP Effectiveness has now structured its work in four Clusters

- Ownership and Accountability
- Country Systems
- Transparent and Responsible Aid
- Assessing Progress

There are also groups on Sectorial Approaches (Health), South-South Cooperation and Regional Initiatives.

The CSO representation in the WP Eff is coordinated by the BetterAid Platform Coordination Group (BACG) that has two representatives in the Executive Committee and has full access to all Clusters, working groups/streams and other working instruments.

The ITUC has been asked by the BACG to coordinate the CSO work in Cluster A.

Cluster A on Ownership and Accountability now has four workstreams/groups:

- Domestic Accountability (coordinated by the OECD-GOVNET)
- Mutual Accountability (coordinated by Ireland)
- CSO Effectiveness (coordinated by Sweden, Mali and the CSO Open Forum)
- Broad-Based (or democratic) Ownership (ITUC to take the lead on behalf of the BetterAid).

The clusters are now composing their workplan for 2009-2011 (up to the next High Level Forum - HLF IV, to take place in October 2011 in Seoul).

A special website will be available soon by Better Aid (www.betteraid.org) that should allow you to find all relevant documents available. Those who would like to engage in one of the clusters, please contact jan.dereymaeker@ituc-csi.org. The ITUC and TUAC are joining forces in order to ensure thorough follow-up and we will keep you informed on the workstream 3 pages of the TUDCN webpage.

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THE CIVIL SOCIETY WORK ON AID EFFECTIVENESS

Two different platforms are now operational to respond to the challenges from Accra: **THE BETTERAID PLATFORM** that has as its main objective to support the advocacy work of the civil society organisations toward the WP Eff and the OECD/DAC on the one hand and towards the UNDCF on the other. The BetterAid platform has a coordination group (BACG) of which the ITUC is part. The ITUC is part of the policy group, the Finance Committee and the Outreach Group. The ITUC has been requested by the BACG to take the lead on the Cluster A work and in particular on the democratic ownership workstream. The ITUC in cooperation with TUAC is looking into the establishment of a support mechanism for the Better Aid platform on the matters arising from the WP Eff and OECD/DAC work and information flows in order to facilitate the CSO participation.

For more info: www.betteraid.org (will be updated soon). The next BACG meeting will be held in Stockholm on October 26-27 2009.

In-country and regional consultations on development effectiveness are being organised in all regions and in more than 50 countries for the BA platform by Reality of Aid network. Affiliates from the countries and regions are very much encouraged to participate in these consultations. More details and background can be found on the www.realityofaid.org website (English only). You can also find the BA programme for 2009-2011 on the ITUC Development Cooperation webpages (members only).

THE OPEN FORUM ON CSO EFFECTIVENESS that is specifically addressing the own effectiveness of the CSO contribution to development as well as the question of the enabling environment for CSO effectiveness. The OF has a “facilitation group” (GFG) that also includes the ITUC as an international organisation. More information on the work of the Open Forum can be found at <http://www.cso-effectiveness.org/>. The full programme documents are also stored at the ITUC Development Cooperation webpages (members only). The GFG has held two meetings to date, the most recent in June 2009 in Prague (see TUDCN Bulletin 4, and resource page of workstream 1). At that meeting it was decided to organise a thematic consultation on effectiveness within the labour movement, to be coordinated and organised by the ITUC.

A third group that has organised is the **“DONOR”-GROUP OF GOVERNMENTS**. This group brings together a large number of the civil society responsables within the national development agencies of the OECD countries as well as a few representatives of southern governments. This group is also the main partner of the CSOs to take forward the work on the CSO Effectiveness and is coordinating support for the functioning of the two platforms. The most recent composition of the group can be found on the ITUC Development Cooperation web pages under the workstream 3 documents (members only).

ON THE EU AGENDA

COMMISSION/AIDCO

Midterm reviews: a number of “evaluations” are taking place in order to adjust the EU Development Policies and the implementation of the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), including both the policy framework (eg the evaluation of the 2007-2013 Country Strategy Papers) as well as the instruments themselves (Non State Actors, European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, Investing in People, etc).

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At the same time, the commission is exploring the possible content of a new “Quadrilogue” (Commission, Parliament, Member States and Civil Society) on the DCI (the so called “Palermo process”). Important background information and documents can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/who/partners/civil-society/palermo-process_en.htm . Reports of the ITUC participation in these consultations and key documents can be found on the ITUC Development Cooperation webpages.

The Commission also published a new communication on Policy Coherence for Development.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The newly elected Parliament has formed its parliamentary commissions. The Development Committee will be headed over the following period (2009-2013) by Ms. Eva JOLY, from the French Green Party. Ms. Joly is known for her thorough and consistent anti-corruption activities.

At one of its first meeting in October, the Parliament will address already the cooperation with civil society. More information in the next issue of the Bulletin.

EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS

The EU Commission, in cooperation with the Swedish Presidency is organising the European Development Days in Stockholm on 22-25 October 2009. More information on http://www.eudevdays.eu/agenda/overview_en.htm

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) has developed the on-line platform to bring the general public closer to the realities of development work throughout the world and to involve them in the issues. The target audiences for the site are professionals, people involved in development issues and the general public. The goal of the platform is to raise awareness and generate discussion prior to, during and after the European Development Days (<http://www.eudevdays.eu/>) in Stockholm this October, and to engage the general public in the debate and questions of international development. The World Log is bringing the tools of the 21st century to bare on the issues to be discussed.

You can find more detailed information about the site including an easy to use set-up guide at <http://theworldlog.org/signup-info/>.

ITUC is glad to announce that Kouglo Lawson-Body, senior economist from ITUC-Africa, has been invited to the EDDs, taking part to the panel on 'Trade and the private sector in times of economic turmoil'

http://www.eudevdays.eu/agenda/events/trade_en.htm

Kouglo will be representing the voice of Trade Union movement in such important event, focussing his intervention on the consequences of the economic crisis on workers, and the role of Trade Unions in development support.

Further information, as well as, the report of the even will be posted in the next newsletter.

Contact person: paola.simonetti@ituc-csi.org

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3. Miscellaneous from the Network

ITALIAN ORGANISATIONS: “FIGHTING POVERTY: DECENT WORK AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION”

is a national campaign aiming to raise awareness in Italy of the need for engagement of trade unions and CSOs from the North in the international development co-operation in support of the decent work agenda as a key for eradicating poverty.

The campaign, organised by Arcs-ARCI, Ipsia-ACLI, Progetto Sud-UIL , Progetto Svilppo-CGIL and co-ordinated by Iscos-Cisl, is targeting about 12 million workers, union leaders and citizens who represent the constituency of the most important and representative Italian trade unions and civil society associations. The objective is to gain more consensus and support amongst members for an international solidarity based not, or not only, on a charitable approach towards “the poor”, but built on the nature and mission itself of the trade union movement: to fight for social and economic rights at the local and the international level. And the expression of the solidarity must be a concrete commitment in the development co-operation.

In a time such as now in Italy, when ordinary people and even workers seem to be prey to xenophobia, egotism and fear of strangers, and narrowly focus on immediate and local interests, the NGOs promoted by CGIL, CISL, UIL, Italian Christian Workers Associations ACLI and the Italian Association of Social Promotion ARCI are launching the “Fighting Poverty: Decent Work and Social Participation” campaign, reaffirming the willingness of the main Italian trade unions and CSOs to play a significant role in the development co-operation focused on work – decent work! – for the development of human beings and communities in the world.

Isco-Cisl, Progetto Sud-UIL , Progetto Svilppo-CGIL have been implementing development co-operation projects in partnership with local unions since 1983, and today they are present in more than 30 countries.

PROGETTO SVILUPPO: SUPPORT TO ACTIVE POLICIES FOR DECENT WORK IN SOUTH LEBANON

Progetto Sviluppo, the Institute for Development Co-operation of the Italian General Confederation of Labour (CGIL), has been working in Lebanon since 2007 leading the project “Work Emergency: support to active policies for decent work in South Lebanon”. The project is funded by the Italian Cooperation Office (Italian Foreign Affairs Minister) in the framework of the Emergency Programme for rapid recovery developed after the war of 2006.

Progetto Sviluppo is dealing with the social component of the programme to tackle the problem of unemployment and to promote the decent work.

Since 2007 Progetto Sviluppo has promoted active labour market policies through the creation of centres for labour orientation and vocational guidance in the area of Daye (South Beirut) and in the region of Nabatyeh.

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At the same time, Progetto Sviluppo has developed a capacity building programme for trade unions leaders, delivering training courses on issues related to the decent work agenda with a focus on: social dialogue, social protection, International Labour Standards, safety and health and gender equality at work. Special seminars and workshops were delivered on trade union organising and also strategy for advocacy and management in order to provide the trade unions with new tools to improve their structures. About 1200 trade unionists have been trained in the last two years. Moreover a campaign is being launched on decent work in the region of Nabatyeh to increase the awareness on workers' rights.

Progetto Sviluppo is also supporting a research aimed at defining a clear picture of the Lebanese labour movement to identify strengths and needs and to promote a better cooperation among federations beyond the political and religious differences.

[Read more on Progetto Sviluppo](#)

TUC AND DFID SIGN PROGRAMME PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENT

On 3 July, the TUC signed a £2.4 million Programme Partnership Arrangement (PPA) with the Department for International Development (DFID) which will run until 31 March 2011.

The TUC's PPA purpose is to achieve the following:

Reduced poverty and increased rights of workers in developing countries through greater support for and strengthened capacity of developing country trade unions.

The partnership, signals a significant development in the UK trade union movement's relationship with DFID. PPA's are at the apex of DFID's agreements with civil society organisations. They provide for a trusted, flexible and core funding relationship that complements their partner organisation's existing international development strategy and activities.

The PPA framework enables the TUC to fulfil four strategic objectives:

- improved capacity of developing country trade unions to promote decent work and good governance to government, business and international institutions at the national level;
- poor workers and their families have improved rights and improved capacity to enforce those rights leading to higher income and better employment conditions;
- strengthened UK and developing country trade union international development policy engagement and influence at national, regional and international levels; and
- greater British trade union membership understanding of and commitment to sustainable development; and to the challenges of the Decent Work Agenda for developing-country workers (including publicity about TUC projects in developing countries).

[Read more](#)

CONGOLESE SOCIAL FORUM

The Council and Secretariat of the Congolese Social Forum informed the national and international media that the second edition of the Congolese Social Forum held in Lubumbashi, in the province of Katanga, from 26 to 29 June 2009 and entitled "OUR

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NATURAL RESOURCES: Our Rights and our Dignity. Another Congo is Possible” was a real success!

By holding this 2nd Social Forum in the mining province of Katanga, the social movements of the Democratic Republic of Congo were able to challenge directly the capitalist interests that are wrongly exploiting the riches of the country generally and of this province in particular, where they have attached greater value to minerals than to the human beings producing them.

More than 3,000 people (*including representatives of NGOs, associations, trade unions, workers, religious groups, youth movements, self-employed people, international NGOs, national and provincial politicians, teachers and students*) from all provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo and from Belgium and Sweden, attended this event.

[Read more](#) (French only)

PRESS RELEASE ON THE SEMINAR OF THE ITUC-AFRICA HTUR NETWORK

A three-day seminar on building an effective ITUC-Africa network of key contact people for human and trade union rights was held in Lomé, Togo, from 17 to 19 August 2009. It was attended by representatives of affiliated organisations from all parts of the African continent.

The participants recognised the positive role played by ITUC-Africa in launching this HTUR Network, whilst welcoming the ITUC’s commitment of both human and material resources to its development.

The continuous violations of HTUR in Africa owing to bad governance, lack of democracy, lack of press freedom and corruption were seen as the principal challenges facing the network.

[Read more](#) (French only)



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4. Project Opportunities

EU PROJECT FUNDING:

Open calls for proposals:

Human rights

- [Enhancing respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in countries and regions where they are most at risk](#)
- [Support to Human Rights and Democracy actions on Torture and other forms of ill-treatment](#) (deadline 15/10/2009)

Environment

[Thematic Programme for Environment and sustainable management of natural resources, including energy](#) (deadline 01/10/2009)

Migration

[Thematic Programme of cooperation with third countries in the areas of migration and asylum](#) (deadline 13/11/2009)

Food security

[2009-2010 Global Programme on Agricultural Research for Development \(ARD\) - Component 1 - Research and Technology](#) (deadline 06/11/2009)

Please also consult the [page concerning the country-based calls for proposals](#)

5. Resources

OECD-DAC

Division of Labour - Good Practice

This good practice paper sets out eight principles on country-led division of labour and complementarity. Division of labour refers to streamlining and co-ordinating donors' assistance. Donors are urged in the [Paris Declaration](#) to specialise in areas where they have a comparative advantage and to work collaboratively.

[Read the paper.](#)

Mutual Accountability Explained

Mutual accountability is a concept designed to bring about trust and partnership, whilst achieving development results. The [Paris Declaration](#) on Aid Effectiveness (2005) includes a commitment to orient the aid relationship towards a more mature partnership aiming at substantially improving development outcomes.

[Read more](#)

ILO

Building decent societies: Rethinking the role of social security in development

In the programme for recovery from the 2009 global financial and economic crisis, there must be a guarantee of a minimum level of social security for all. This book addresses the question of whether and how social protection systems in general, and social security in particular, should be nearer the top of the world's policy agenda. Today,

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despite international efforts to promote social security, huge sections of the world's population continue to be denied this right. Bringing together historical and contemporary developments in social protection in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and developing countries, and especially considering the current financial and economic crisis, this book looks at new international strategies that can establish social security, reduce poverty and contribute to economic and social development. It concludes that to achieve this goal, low-income and middle-income countries require social security systems of a scale to match the systems operating in high-income countries.

[Read more](#)

THE EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS (EIDHR)

On September 2, the ITUC took part in the consultation meeting on the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights, organized by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC).

The European Commission (EC) is currently undertaking the so called 'Mid Term Evaluation' of the most important financial instrument to support human rights protection in non European countries: the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights. This exercise is finalised to assess the first results and the effective implementation of EIDHR in order to improve the next programming phase. To this end, the EC is organizing consultations with relevant stakeholders, such as the EESC European Institution representing social partners organizations and CSOs.

The ITUC was invited by the EESC to provide its comments on the [EIDHR strategy document](#) currently in place, representing the views also of the ETUC.

The main message highlighted in the [ITUC/ETUC comments](#) is to incorporate social dialogue and international labour standards within the priority of the EIDHR, so as to provide a more adequate support to trade union solidarity actions in third countries.

For more information please contact: paola.simonetti@ituc-csi.org

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6. Agenda 2009

June/September

Seminars

Capacity building seminars in the South, in cooperation with ITUC Africa, TUCA and ITUC Asia-Pacific

7 October

World Day for Decent Work (<http://www.wddw.org/>)

ITUC broad global mobilisation for a new globalisation



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STOCKHOLM Conference 13-14 October

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STOCKHOLM 22-24 October



19-21 October

1st ITUC World Women Conference (Brussels)

Decent Work, Decent Life for Women: Trade unions taking the lead for economic and social justice & gender equality

November/ December

Seminar

Update seminar for Development Cooperation responsables from the Network

November/ December

Seminar

Capacity building seminars in the South, in cooperation with ITUC Africa, TUCA and ITUC Asia-Pacific

For a more detailed agenda in 2009-2010-2011, [please click here](#)



The TUDCN team:

Jaap Wiene (ITUC Deputy General Secretary), Jan Dereymaeker (Network Coordinator), Mamadou Diallo (Program Officer), Paola Simonetti (Policy and Advocacy Officer), Luc Vermeersch (Information Officer) and Peggy De Clercq (Assistant).