



## 1. Editorial

### **TRADE UNION DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS: ONE STEP FORWARD!**

#### **TU Principles and Guidelines Approved by the ITUC General Council (GC)**

On February 2 the ITUC (GC) approved with unanimity the document on "Trade Union Principles and Guidelines on Development Effectiveness". This document is the result of the work of the TUDCN members during the last couple of years, and it is based on a significant process of consultations including with organisations in the North and in the South, such as ITUC regional structures, national centres, solidarity support organisations, and global union federations.

Development Effectiveness is nowadays one of the highest priorities in international debates on development cooperation. Within the TUDCN we have tried to translate this concept in trade unions terms, exploring its dimensions and implications. Indeed, the Principles & Guidelines<sup>1</sup> aim to represent the vision and the values of trade unions, and is meant to serve as a common reference for development cooperation initiatives, and to ultimately contribute to enhance the impact of trade union cooperation programmes.

Thanks to the endorsement by the ITUC GC, the Principles & Guidelines will constitute core shared criteria for the ITUC itself when implementing development initiatives, and also for its member organisations within multilateral and bilateral cooperation programmes.

Certainly this is an important step towards the improvement of the role of trade unions in development. However, much work still remains to be done.

Primarily, we should ensure the consolidation of the Principles & Guidelines within the development practices of trade union actors, improving internal monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Secondly, we should work on appropriate measurement tools to assess the influence of trade unions in developing the societies in which they operate. The latter aspect also includes the contribution of trade unions to the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda and Democratic Ownership.

<sup>1</sup> Democratic Ownership; Autonomy; Partnership; Transparency; Coherence; Inclusiveness and Equality; Sustainability.

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



*"Where unions are able to act freely, to promote collective bargaining, and to play a full role as social partners in dialogue about their nation's policies and future, then we see democracy at work."*

Helen Clark at the 2nd ITUC Congress, Vancouver , June 2010

This is why the TUDCN will continue in the future to pursue the path to trade union development effectiveness, not only internally but also by raising awareness amongst external players (CSOs, governments and donor agencies) about the identity, strategy and the dynamics of trade unions and thus promoting their role in development cooperation.

[Development Cooperation: Standards and Principles](#)  
[Appendix - Trade Union Principles and Guidelines on Development effectiveness](#)

## 2. News from the Network

Recently the European Commission launched two consultation rounds on the following items: “EU Development Policy in Support of Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development - Increasing the Impact of EU Development Policy” and “EU Funding for External Action After 2013”

The TUDCN members have participated in these consultations and elaborated two documents underlining trade union positions and priorities.

### **CONSULTATION/GREEN PAPER ON "EU DEVELOPMENT POLICY IN SUPPORT OF INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - INCREASING THE IMPACT OF EU DEVELOPMENT POLICY"**

The objective of this Green Paper is to launch a debate on how the EU can improve the impact of its development policy, and how it can best support poorest countries' efforts in promoting inclusive and sustainable growth, including by leveraging new opportunities to speed up progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to reduce poverty. In particular, it asks questions around four main objectives to be pursued collaboratively by the EU and its Member States:

- how to ensure high EU impact development policy, so that every euro spent provides the best value added and value for money, the best leverage and the best legacy of opportunities for generations to come;
- how to facilitate more – and more inclusive – growth in developing countries, as a means of reducing poverty and providing a chance for all to have a decent living and have a perspective for their future. It is increasingly obvious that MDGs will not be achieved without it. Each percentage of growth can significantly improve countries' capacity to achieve poverty reduction and have a multiplier effect through employment creation and social protection;
- how to promote sustainable development as a driver for progress; and
- how to achieve durable results in the area of agriculture and food security.

[Green paper](#)

### **CONSULTATION ON EU FUNDING FOR EXTERNAL ACTION**

#### **Inclusive Growth for Sustainable Development in the Globalised World.**

The purpose of this document is to launch a public consultation to gather contributions from interested citizens and stakeholders on specific aspects and options for future EU external spending. These contributions will assist the Commission in developing its proposals for the post-2013 legislative financial instruments for external action.

[What funding for EU external action after 2013?](#)  
[Webpage Euroaid](#)

### **TRADE UNION CONTRIBUTION TO THE EU GREEN PAPER CONSULTATION.**

The trade union movement welcomes the green paper of the Commission on Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development. It shares the concerns of the commission for improving effectiveness of development outcomes and especially for strengthening the fight against poverty.

The trade union movement acknowledges the fact that the main purpose of the Union's development policy is *to reduce and in the long term eradicate poverty*; that there is a need for taking the EU's development policy into account in the programming of other policies such as trade, migration, climate and environment; and that there is a necessity of increased effectiveness in development policy, among other things, through better coordination of the Union's and the Member States' efforts within the development area and in the international development fora.

It is beyond any doubt that poverty-oriented and inclusive economic growth is a precondition for development. If, however, the profit is not to end up in the pockets of a small and wealthy minority group, it is central that growth be based on decent jobs anchored in a sustainable labour market where social dialogue and respect for fundamental labour standards make up solid pillars.

It is therefore satisfactory that the Green Paper emphasises the need for a *larger and more inclusive growth in the developing countries* and at the same time opens up for debate on the necessity of *developing joint strategies for inclusive growth* in partnership with private-sector stakeholders, among these the trade union movement and civil society organisations.

Decent Work today stands as a firmly cemented concept and is seen as a significant precondition for combating poverty. The trade union movement consequently believes that it is necessary that the European development policy contain concrete initiatives, supported by financial instruments, as suggested above, which will ensure that Decent Work becomes a central element in the future development policy of the European Union.

[Read the TU document](#)

[Letter ITUC to Mr. Andris Piebalgs, European Commissioner of Development](#)

### **TRADE UNION CONTRIBUTION TO THE EU CONSULTATION ON "WHAT FUNDING FOR EU EXTERNAL ACTION AFTER 2013?"**

This paper is supposed to accompany and complement the questionnaire on "What Funding for EU External Action After 2013", which was sent online.

[Link to the union paper](#)

**UNION AID ABROAD AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY** (by Ken Davis, International Programs Manager, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA Australia)

Union Aid Abroad, the international agency of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), celebrated its quarter century last year. The organisation was founded as Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad (APHEDA), a name reflecting the inspiration of Norwegian Peoples Aid. A nurse unionist, Helen McCue, had volunteered in the Palestinian camps in Beirut after the massacres of 1982, alongside Palestinian, Norwegian and other health workers. On her return to Australia, she convinced Cliff Dolan, the president of the ACTU, to establish a trade-union-based humanitarian agency, similar to those of Europe. The earliest programs focused on



skills training for Eritreans, Palestinians, and South Africans struggling against apartheid, and Kanaks struggling for independence in New Caledonia.

Now Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA still primarily resources training programs within the themes of decent work, green jobs, and food sovereignty. At various times the organisation has been able to win substantial funding contracts from the Australian government, but unlike other donor governments, Australia does not directly fund the development of trade unions. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA is dependent on funding from the two million members of the Australian trade unions, either through union allocations, or through individual membership donations. The annual projects budget is around US \$5 million. The management committee is half appointed by the ACTU executive and half elected by members. In addition to overseas partnership programs, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA plays a role in education of Australian workers about global issues: trade, debt, child labour, the decent work agenda, cluster munitions, and human rights in Burma, Zimbabwe, Western Sahara, West Papua, Palestine, etc. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA is not linked with the Australian Labor Party.



GAZA Project

Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA currently supports partnerships around health (in particular occupational health, HIV and asbestos); vocational, environmental and agricultural education in Timor Leste, Philippines, Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Africa, Gaza & the West Bank, Solomon Islands, Cuba, Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR; and with refugees in Lebanon and on the Thai-Burma border. Current partnerships to develop trade union capacities in various areas include those with trade unions in Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, Laos, Timor Leste, Indonesia, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Pakistan. In Vietnam and Lao PDR, the organisation has worked with Swedish and other national unions to partner with the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour and the Lao Federation of Trade Unions in regular donor coordination conferences, which have been very open and beneficial.

During the long period of the conservative government in Australia under John Howard until late 2007, leading Australian unions and Union Aid Abroad faced major threats. During that time the organisation sought alliances with trade union and labour movement-based agencies in Europe.

Collaboration was intensified in response to the Indian Ocean earthquake/tsunami of December 2004; we learned much from supporting cooperative efforts in Sri Lanka, and we were able to establish a joint implementation office in Banda Aceh.

In recent years Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has participated as an affiliate of Solidar, and has cooperated on projects with Norwegian Peoples Aid, Swiss Labour Assistance, the German Samaritan Union, Prosvil from Italy, the British TUC and UNISON, Australian Peoples Aid, Sweden’s Olof Palme Center, and with Building



Organic Farming Training in SOLOMON ISLANDS

Workers International and Union Network International. In particular, in recent years many projects have been run in partnership with SASK and SAK in Finland.

Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA plays an active role in the annual meetings of global union federations and trade union solidarity organisations with the ITUC Asia Pacific.

<http://www.apheda.org.au/>

A sister organisation has been recently established by the New Zealand unions: Unions Aotearoa International Development Trust (UnionAID) is the overseas development agency of the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions–Te Kauae Kaimahi: <http://unionaid.org.nz>

### **TRADE UNION PRIORITIES FOR THE FRENCH 2011 PRESIDENCY OF THE G20 / G8**

In early 2011, the global economy is at a critical juncture. The recovery from the great recession of 2008-2010 is uneven and fragile. Corporate profits have surged across the industrialised countries, whilst investment remains stagnant and wages are being cut. In industrialised economies, the effects of the shift in policy from G20 coordinated expansion and recovery measures to austerity policies are beginning to be felt and risk pushing the economy back into recession with further rises in unemployment. Paradoxically, through the depressing effect on growth, austerity policies stand to slow the return to sustainable public finances in the medium-term. The major emerging economies in the G20 have maintained strong growth. However, plans for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are now seriously off track. The commitments made by the G8 at the Gleneagles Summit in 2005 now appear forgotten.

The rhetoric of governments faced with the contradiction of stagnant or fragile growth, on the one hand, and deflationary austerity policies on the other, has been to call for “structural reforms”. Yet the structural reforms proposed – deregulated labour markets, weakened employment protection, tighter conditionality and lower welfare benefits – represent a return to the remedies of the past that fuelled the growth in income inequality which contributed to the crisis in the first place.

The G20 Summits held in Toronto and Seoul in 2010 presided over a shift away from the focus on policy coordination and jobs growth that characterised the London and Pittsburgh Summits in 2009. The French Presidency has indicated its commitment to an ambitious agenda for the G20 and G8 meetings in 2011. Trade unions consider it essential that this agenda includes the following priorities: returning the global economy to a path of growth and job creation; implementing financial regulation; getting development back on track; coming out of the crisis, shifting to a new sustainable economic growth model; and strengthening G20 governance and transparency...

Read the [full statement](#).

## 3. Development Cooperation Policies

### INTERNATIONAL

#### **SUMMARY REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2010 OPEN FORUM GLOBAL ASSEMBLY IN ISTANBUL, TURKEY**

After launching the work plan of the Open Forum in late 2009 and beginning the national consultation process of the Open Forum in March 2010, the Open Forum Global Assembly began in the morning of the 28th of September 2010, in the Ballroom of the Larespark Hotel, ready to review and discuss the preliminary findings and outcomes from the national-level discussions around CSO development effectiveness from across the globe. The Assembly provided the first occasion for participants to review and discuss these findings, in addition to planning ways forward in preparation for the HLF4 in Busan, November 2011.

#### Objectives

There were five key objectives associated with the Global Assembly:

- The presentation of an initial draft framework on CSO development effectiveness. This framework will be based on the results from the Open Forum national and thematic consultations, and after the Global Assembly, will be refined and finalised in the run-up to the fourth High Level Forum in South Korea.
- Share, discuss and analyse the consolidated Global Consultation Report and experiences of the Open Forum consultation process to date.
- Explore emerging perspectives on CSO development effectiveness, including the rights, roles and responsibilities of CSOs as actors in development.
- Initiate a multi-stakeholder debate with governments, donors and other development actors on CSO development effectiveness and the enabling environment for CSOs.
- Renew the membership and mandate of the global facilitation group (GFG)-governance body of the Open Forum.

[Please read the whole report](#)

#### **FOURTH UN CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES 9-13 MAY 2011, TURKEY**

In its resolution 63/227 of 2008, the United Nations General Assembly decided to convene the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC-IV). It further decided during its 64th Session in 2009 that the conference would be held for five days in Turkey in the first half of 2011.

#### **Objectives:**

In accordance with UN General Assembly resolutions and the note of the UN Secretary-General outlining the modalities of the conference, its objectives are:

- To comprehensively assess the implementation by the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and their development partners of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for Decade 2001-2010 adopted in Brussels in 2001 (the Brussels Programme);

- To share best practices and lessons learnt, and to identify obstacles and constraints encountered as well as actions needed to overcome them;
- To identify new challenges and opportunities for LDCs and the actions required at national and international levels to respond to them effectively;
- To reaffirm the global commitment to address the special needs of the LDCs made at the major United Nations conferences and summits.
- To mobilise additional international support measures and action in favour of the LDCs and, in this regard,
- To formulate and adopt a renewed partnership between the LDCs and their development partners.

[Link to the webpage](#)

[Access the accreditation form for the LDC-IV Conference.](#)

[Access the accreditation form for the Civil Society Interactive Hearings on LDC-IV.](#)

### **FIRST UN-NGLS INTERSESSIONAL MEETING FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT HELD IN NEW YORK**

The First Intersessional Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development was held on 10-11 January at UN Headquarters in New York. The meeting aimed to discuss ways to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development. It assessed progress made to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development. It also addressed the key themes of the upcoming 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Summit), including: (1) the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (2) developing an institutional framework for sustainable development.



The meeting highlighted that there are still many issues that need to be resolved before the Rio+20 Conference, including the need to clearly define a “green economy.”

[Read more](#)

[Best Practices and Lessons Learned on the Objective and Themes of the Rio+20 Conference](#)

[Statements First Intersessional](#)

### **UNITED NATIONS PLANS FOR PROGRESS ON A BROAD FRONT IN 2011**

'UN In Focus' profiles the eight strategic areas and identifies key objectives for each in 2011. The organisation will focus on inclusive and sustainable development, on climate change, on women and on a safer and more secure world. Human rights and accountability, an improved response to major humanitarian crises, disarmament and non-proliferation and a stronger United Nations are the other UN-priorities.



[Link to whole text of In Focus](#)

[Briefing on the UN Secretary-General's priorities for 2011](#) (by Mr. Sergei A. Ordzhonikidze, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva)

## 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](#)

Please also consult the [page concerning the country-based calls for proposals](#) and the website on [Structured Dialogue - For an efficient partnership in development](#).

## 5. Agenda 2011

Activity	Semester 1						Semester 2					
	Feb	Ma	Apr	May	Ju	J	A	S	Oct	Nov	Dec	
<b>WSF</b> Senegal	6-11											
<b>SD ENP</b> Azerbaijan	8-11											
<b>TU Dev Ef WG</b> Brussels	21-22											
<b>PWG+</b> <b>TU/BA</b> <b>consultation</b> Paris		8-10										
<b>GFG/OF+BA</b> Sweden		14-16										
<b>SD WG1-2-3</b> Brussels		30-31										
<b>Ad Hoc Seminar</b> PME methodologies+ <b>TU Dev Ef WG</b> Brussels			11-13									
<b>EU WG</b> Budapest				3-4								
<b>SD Final conf</b> Budapest				5-7								
<b>UN/LDC Conf+</b> <b>TU delegation</b> Istanbul				9-13								
<b>FSG+</b> <b>TUDCN-GM +</b> <b>TU Dev Ef WG</b> Florence					20-23							
<b>OF Global</b> <b>Assembly II</b> Cambodia					27-30							
<b>CB WG</b> Brussels					tbc							
<b>PWG+</b> <b>WP EFF</b> Paris						4-7						

<b>Ad Hoc Seminar</b> MEPs & EU MS <b>TU Dev Ef WG</b> Brussels										Tbc		
<b>PWG+</b> <b>TU delegation+</b> <b>IV HLF Busan</b> Korea											26/28no-1dec	
<b>FSG+</b> <b>TUDCN-GM+</b> <b>EU WG</b> Brussels												12-14

### Acronyms:

**EU WG:** Working Group on EU Development Policies of TUDCN; **PWG:** Policy and Advocacy Working Group of TUDCN

**TU Dev Ef WG:** Working Group on Trade Union Development Cooperation Effectiveness of the TUDCN; **CB WG:** Working Group on Capacity Building with Regional Organisations of the TUDCN; **FSG:** Facilitation and Steering Group of TUDCN; **TUDCN-GM:** TUDCN General Meeting;

**BA:** BetterAid CSO Platform for Development Cooperation; **OF/GFG:** Open Forum/Global Facilitation Group; **SD:** Structured Dialogue of the EU

**ENP:** European Neighbourhood Partnership (Eastern Europe + Mediterranean)

**WSF:** World Social Forum

### Explanation note on the work plan:

The work plan described above includes both meetings and seminars relating to the actual work of the TUDCN, as well as relevant events concerning development cooperation policies. The following notes are aimed at highlighting the context and perspective pertaining to each TUDCN activity. The 'ad hoc' seminars (see document on the mission, mandate, and work plan of TUDCN) are not yet included in the work plan. This will happen after consultation with the FSG in February 2011.

The meeting on the EU SD in Azerbaijan (European neighbourhood area) will be followed by the ITUC regional coordinators (PERC and Arab States), who will be reporting to the TUDCN-GM.

**March:** The meeting of the EU SD will be aimed at reaching final consensus on the findings/conclusions of the WG1-2-3. These results (together with the consultations mentioned above) will directly influence the decision making process around the new EU Development Cooperation Instrument 2014: objectives, political priorities, operational modalities. Also, these results will be also used by the EU to finalise their position towards Busan.

Policy making process towards the next HLF Busan: The first meeting of the TUDCN policy WG will take place in parallel with the BetterAid consultation for trade unions on Development Effectiveness (including other representatives from trade union organisations). This consultation is aimed at contributing as trade unions to the work of the BetterAid platform and its policy positions, at providing latest updates on the OEDC DAC Working Party, and getting feedback from the trade union movement on the "Road to Busan"-agenda. This feedback will be used for the proposed joint

meeting BetterAid/ Open Forum in which the CSO policy strategy towards Busan should be elaborated and agreed.

**April:** Ad Hoc seminar on PME methodologies + TU Dev Eff WG

**May:** the TUDCN EU WG will gather to prepare the last event of the EU SD in Budapest (Final conference).

Also a trade union delegation will be organised to attend the Least Developed Countries conference in Istanbul.

**June:** First General meeting of the TUDCN (including SFG), reporting and feedbacks on first semester of the work plan. The WG on TU Dev Ef will gather just after the GM.

The 2nd Global Assembly of the Open Forum will be aimed at finalising the 'CSOs development effectiveness framework' (defining guidelines, indicators etc.) and also at reiterating the political approach and strategies (especially on the CSO Enabling Environment) towards Busan.

The first WG on Capacity Building (international meeting) will tentatively take place in conjunction with the ILO Conference (TBC)

**July:** WP EFF (OECD-DAC) meeting in Paris + PWG meeting

**October:** Ad Hoc seminar with MEPs and EU Member States representatives on EU financial perspective 2013-2020. The seminar will involve Members of EU Parliament and Member States representatives following the programming of the EU development and human rights instruments, focusing also on national support systems to Trade unions. The seminar (date to be confirmed) will be organised jointly with ETUC and EESC.

TU Dev Eff WG meeting will also take place (date to be confirmed).

**November:** The final meeting of the PWG will take place in Busan, together with a trade union delegation to the IV HLF in Korea.

**December:** Following the II TUDCN GM and FSG the EU WG meeting will take place. This is linked to the fact that the EU is planning to release important communications on the role of CSOs in development cooperation, aiming at revisiting also the EU Development consensus in 2005. Further information and preparatory documents will be circulated in due time.

ITUC/DCE/PS-JD



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