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European Development Days 7 and 8 June 2017, Brussels

PROCEEDINGS

EDD 2017



European Development Days 2017

...What has been said, discussed and debated

Table of Content

Introduction	5
Opening ceremony – Marking the launch of the New European Consensus for Development	8
1. Investing in People and Planet.....	11
1.1 Young People	11
1.1.1. HIGH-LEVEL PANEL DEBATES	12
1.1.2 DEBATE LABS.....	14
1.1.3 PROJECT LABS.....	23
1.1.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	24
1.1.5 WEB-SEMINARS	25
1.2 Gender equality/Women empowerment.....	25
1.2.1 HIGH-LEVEL PANEL DEBATES	26
1.2.2 DEBATE LABS.....	29
1.2.3 PROJECT LABS.....	32
1.2.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	33
1.3 Migration and mobility	33
1.3.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES	35
1.3.2 DEBATE LABS.....	37
1.3.3 PROJECT LABS.....	43
1.3.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	43
1.4 Demography and development	44
1.4.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	45
1.4.2 DEBATE LABS.....	47
1.4.3 PROJECT LABS.....	55
1.5 Inequalities	56
1.5.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	56
1.5.2 DEBATE LABS.....	62
1.5.3 PROJECT LABS.....	69
1.5.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	70
1.5.5 WEB SEMINARS.....	70
1.6 Sustainable energy and climate action	70
1.6.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	72
1.6.2 DEBATE LABS.....	73
1.6.3 PROJECT LABS.....	80
1.6.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	81
2. Investing in Prosperity	82
2.1 Sustainable investment	82
2.1.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	83
2.1.2 DEBATE LABS.....	87
2.1.3 PROJECT LABS.....	92
2.1.4 WEB-SEMINARS	93
2.2 Domestic resource mobilisation	94

2.2.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	95
2.2.2 DEBATE LABS.....	97
2.2.3 PROJECT LABS.....	101
2.3 Trade and fair globalisation	102
2.3.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATE	103
2.3.2 DEBATE LABS.....	105
2.3.3 PROJECT LABS.....	109
2.3.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	110
2.4 Digitalisation	110
2.4.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	111
2.4.2 DEBATE LABS.....	113
2.4.3 PROJECT LABS.....	116
2.5 Decent jobs	117
2.5.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATE	118
2.5.2 DEBATE LABS.....	120
2.5.3 PROJECT LABS.....	122
2.5.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	123
3. Investing in Peace and Partnership	125
3.1 Partnering with the private sector	125
3.1.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	126
3.1.2 DEBATE LABS.....	130
3.1.3 PROJECT LABS.....	144
3.1.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	146
3.2 Partnerships for CSOs and local actors.....	147
3.2.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATE	147
3.2.2 DEBATE LABS.....	149
3.2.3 PROJECT LABS.....	153
3.2.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	154
3.3 Engaging with Middle Income Countries (MICs)	155
3.3.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	155
3.3.2 DEBATE LABS.....	157
3.3.3 PROJECT LABS.....	159
3.4 Building global partnerships.....	160
3.4.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	161
3.4.2 DEBATE LABS.....	163
3.4.3 PROJECT LABS.....	172
3.4.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	173
3.5 Fragility and resilience	174
3.5.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES.....	175
3.5.2 DEBATE LABS.....	177
3.5.3 PROJECT LABS.....	189
3.5.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS.....	190
Closing panel: Objective 2030 – Towards a new development policy	191
Speakers	191
EDD 2017 Special Events	194
1. INVESTING IN CREATIVITY, THE FUTURE IS NOW.....	194
2. EU-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM.....	194
3. TOWARDS A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES: DELIVERING ON GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND MUTUAL INTERESTS	195
4. SPECIAL EVENT WITH SDG ADVOCATES.....	195

5. TELL MY STORY: THE LORENZO NATALI MEDIA PRIZE AWARD CEREMONY..	195
6. CLOSING CEREMONY – WORLD RECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE 3	196
Explore the vibrancy of development in action.....	197
1. Youth involvement - Young voices in development.....	197
2. The EDD Global Village	200
3. Cultural Programme.....	201
Annexes.....	205
Annex 1	205
Annex 2	246

Full programme available [here](#)

Introduction

→ Welcome to the European Development Days 2017

Europe's leading forum on international cooperation and development since 2006, the European Development Days (EDD), also known as the 'Davos of Development', bring the development community together to share ideas and experiences, to inspire new partnerships, and discuss shared responses for the world's most pressing challenges.

The EDD marked their 11th edition this year with more than 8.000 participants, who gathered in Brussels from 7 to 8 June in Tour & Taxis to discuss innovative development practices for a more integrated and common approach. They engaged in more than 120 sessions, including high-level panels, debate labs and brainstorming sessions, proving once again that the international development community is committed to actively engage and build a sustainable and fairer world together.

The forum builds on the core belief that international cooperation, involving all actors, is the cornerstone of a fairer world. The EDD, once again, aim at encouraging an even greater and deeper collaboration and a spirit of true partnership by facilitating networking and exchange of best practices. The EDD are a participatory and open forum; around 80 % of the programme is designed by the EDD Community itself, which makes this event unique and particularly appreciated.

Marking the launch of the New European Consensus on Development

This 11th edition also marked the signing of the New European Consensus on Development, adopted on 19 May 2017 by the European Council. This joint statement was signed by the President of the European Parliament, Antonio **Tajani**; the Prime Minister of Malta Joseph **Muscat**, on behalf of the Council and the Member States; the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude **Juncker**; and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission Federica **Mogherini**. The New Consensus sets out a new comprehensive common framework for European development cooperation, which for the first time will be applied in its entirety to all EU institutions and all Member States, who also commit to work more closely together.

EU Commissioner Neven **Mimica**, in charge of International Cooperation and Development, stated on the eve of the EDD: *'The European Union is not only the biggest contributor to global development - we also strive to be the best at it. With the new Consensus on Development that will be signed at the beginning of the European Development Days, we are aligning our action on European level to the internationally agreed 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,*

and we are committed to work even more closely together. This way, we want to make a giant leap forward towards the eradication of poverty and truly achieve sustainable development everywhere on this planet".

Investing in Development

The overarching theme of EDD 2017, 'Investing in Development', was explored and debated in depth by governments, international organisations, civil society, donors, the private sector and experts in development.

EDD 2017's 120 sessions were grouped under the following 3 main themes and 16 sub-topics:

1. **Investing in people and planet:** young people / gender equality and women empowerment / migration and mobility / demography and development / inequalities / sustainable energy and climate action;
2. **Investing in prosperity:** sustainable investment / domestic resource mobilisation / trade and fair globalisation / decent jobs / digitalisation;
3. **Investing in peace and partnerships:** partnering with the private sector / building global partnerships / engaging with middle-income countries (MICs) / partnerships for civil society organisations (CSOs) and local actors / fragility and resilience.

Three crosscutting themes have also been identified: **gender, youth** and the **private sector**. Particular emphasis was given to **private sector involvement**, as the 2030 Agenda and the European Consensus on Development acknowledge the importance of the international and domestic private sector as an essential driver to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The spirit of development cooperation was reflected throughout the Global Village, the Young Leaders Programme and the Cultural Programme.

The **EDD Global Village's** 76 stands offered participants an interactive and immersive experience in how international cooperation and development can achieve tangible results. The Global Village also fostered opportunities for networking and partnership building.

Young people were a dynamic presence once again this year at the European Development Days. They are our future – and the future of our planet. Their invaluable input to the discussions and debates is and will always be essential for the success of the EDD.

The rich and engaging **Cultural Programme** included art, photography, music and dance – all of which reflected development today and the key role culture plays within communities around the world as a development driver.

Three main special events were included in this year's agenda:

1. EU-Africa Business Forum

2. The World Reconstruction Conference 3
3. Lorenzo Natali Media Prize Award Ceremony

2017 was the largest and most successful edition and this was possible also thanks to the invaluable contribution made by each session organiser, stand holder, speaker, moderator, participant, journalist and artist.

For more information: <https://www.eudevdays.eu>

Opening ceremony – Marking the launch of the New European Consensus for Development

Speakers

Welcoming words: Neven Mimica, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission

- Alpha Condé, President, Guinea - Chairperson of the African Union
- Paul Kagame, President, Rwanda
- Evo Morales, President, Bolivia
- Macky Sall, President, Senegal
- Arthur Peter Mutharika, President, Malawi
- David Granger, President, Guyana
- Nana Akufo-Addo, President, Ghana
- Erna Solberg, Prime Minister, Norway
- Christine Lagarde, Managing Director, International Monetary Fund
- Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

Moderator: Femi Oke, Journalist

Signature of the European Consensus for Development

- Jean-Claude Juncker, President, European Commission
- Antonio Tajani, President, European Parliament
- Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister, Malta

Moderator: Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President, European Commission

Key Points

- EDD 2017 brought together global leaders and more than 8,000 participants in more than 120 sessions marking the launch of the New European Consensus for Development.
- Demographic trends in Africa and Asia demand a focus on gender equality, women's empowerment and education.
- No achievements will be sustainable without tackling climate change.
- Investment in development is an investment in security; giving hope to youth will weaken extremism and retain would-be migrants.
- Only the involvement of the private sector will provide the means to match development ambitions.

Synopsis

Opening EDD 2017, International Cooperation and Development Commissioner Neven Mimica celebrated the best and brightest in development thinking who came together to inspire and be inspired at what he referred to as the “Davos of development”.

In addition to the greatest number of high-level participants ever at this 2017 edition of the EDD, a clear demonstration of the global community’s commitment to invest in development and make tangible progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), he drew attention to the 16 distinguished young leaders injecting a fresh perspective into discussions.

The UN’s SDGs remain front and centre two years on, largely thanks to the debates at and around the European Development Days.

The phase of implementation of the SDGs is now underway. The New European Consensus for Development is a “radical document” committing EU Member States to joint action and global alliances. Achieving consensus was not simple but the Consensus reflects a new era of non-prescriptive policy.

European representatives called upon European Investment Bank head Werner Hoyer to add his crucial signature to get private firms on board to foster growth and create jobs.

Participants must seek ways of ensuring that those living in misery could find help. This mammoth task could only be achieved through cooperation between developed and developing countries in a partnership of equals based on dignity.

Africa must speak with one voice to turn its demography into a strength for the future through achieving food security, education for girls, and youth employment, as well as transport and energy infrastructure to underpin decent lives for its citizens. Investment is needed in human capital to make the most of Africa’s resources.

Ghana’s demographics, with 73 % of the population below the age of 35, were representative of the whole of Africa. Gender equality is not only a human right, but also has a tremendous effect on a country's growth.

Ninety per cent of countries surveyed by the IMF and the World Bank had legal barriers to empowering women. Panellists called on them to work towards establishing a level legal playing field.

The Paris Agreement on climate change may not be perfect, but that the preference of some states for defending multinational interests instead of the planet could only be deplored. Africa supported Paris because the continent was on the frontline. Participants were reminded of the perils of climate change for small island nations and low-lying coastal states.

The dignity and safety of migrants in their country of destination are paramount. People usually leave because they feel their potential cannot be reached at home. Young people were driven by a natural desire to find a better place in the world and that poverty and unemployment in Africa inevitably turned into a problem of migration in Europe. Growth measures are needed to stem youth migration.

Youth unemployment fuelled extremism; 40 million jobs are needed every year to keep up. There is still a role for traditional aid, but pursuing the SDGs means taking a holistic view integrating social, economic and environmental aspects.

African economies have been structurally rigid since colonial times. The continent needs a more business-friendly and people-friendly economy through private sector empowerment and a shifting in focus from taxation to production. It was pointed out that EU-Africa has a strong, mutually beneficial partnership based on respect and innovative mechanisms to boost investment.

1. Investing in People and Planet



'People: We are determined to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.'

Planet: We are determined to protect the planet from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations.'

(The Preamble of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)

1. 1 Young People

By 2030, the number of people aged 15-24 in the world is projected to grow by 7 %, to nearly 1.3 billion. Many will be concentrated in developing countries, especially in Africa and South Asia. Creating opportunities for youth to be trained, participate in their societies, benefiting from wealth and decent job creation is not just a means to ensure their full contribution as active citizens to inclusive societies and sustainable development. It is also a way to address the root causes of instability, irregular migration and forced displacement. Young people deserve full access to education, healthcare, employment and financial services. Their voices in public life should be heard. We must make sure young people are part of the solution, as builders of better lives for their and future generations, and not the victims of circumstance and injustice.

Young people are particularly vulnerable in situations of fragility, violent conflict, organised crime, migration, exploitation and trafficking. Targeted policies and appropriate investment are required to promote and protect young people's rights and facilitate their full participation in society, the economy and in democratic processes. They also need to be encouraged to be part of decision-making processes and to assume leadership roles in their communities and countries. Young people have a particular role to play as peace builders in post-conflict contexts and as agents of change for inter-community coexistence, especially when they are exposed to violent extremism.

Sub-Saharan Africa faces the tremendous challenge of needing to create about 18 million jobs every year to absorb new labour market entrants. Though smallholder farmers remain of central importance for youth livelihoods, particularly in rural areas, the EU and its Member States will strengthen their focus on increasing the prospects for entrepreneurship, supported by quality basic education, effective vocational training, enhanced access to digital technologies and other services. This will help secure a demographic youth

dividend and greater productivity. It will also offer opportunities for young people to enjoy their rights, achieve their full potential and to participate in safer societies, benefit from technological progress, and achieve their aspirations of prosperity and mobility.

Investing in young people yields long-standing returns for national and global development.

1.1.1. HIGH-LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ [Empowering young people through better skills and better representation](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Naulette Frédérique, Project Manager, Global Youth Initiative, Nestlé
- Navracscics Tibor, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, European Commission
- Okwiri Apiyo, President, Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association
- Parraga Leonardo, EDD Young Leader, Colombia
- Schneider Romain, Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Luxembourg
- Touré Sidi Tiémoko, Ministre de la Promotion de la Jeunesse, de l'Emploi des Jeunes et du Service Civique, République de Côte d'Ivoire

Moderator: Nancy Kacungira, Presenter / Reporter, BBC News

Key Points

- Sub-Saharan Africa must create 18 million jobs a year to absorb new labour market entrants. Targeted policies and investment are needed to meet young people's needs and aspirations, and to avoid emigration and the risk of radicalisation.
- Young people are the future, but they are also the present. They need a seat at the political table.
- Youth networks should be encouraged so that their ideas can be integrated into the political process.
- The education system must be re-focused on entrepreneurship skills. The education system must teach a mind-set that can solve problems and not just learn the alphabet. The new young entrepreneurs can create the jobs for their peers.
- Mobility is essential for gaining broader experience, changing the mind-set and raising awareness of the opportunities at home.

Synopsis

In the next two decades many developing countries will see their youth populations increase drastically. Sub-Saharan Africa will have to create 18 million jobs a year to absorb new labour market entrants. For example, 77 % of the population of Uganda is under the age of 30.

Targeted policies and investment are needed to meet young people's needs and aspirations. Failure can lead to radicalisation, and one societal disaster can impact many other countries. The EU has an interest in supporting young people in Africa, and helping them to find work in their home country.

But how should young people be prepared for an unknown future? Education systems need to be changed. Young people need greater mobility. Moving from one country to another shows them how the African continent can work for them.

Mindsets change with mobility and become more international. Physical barriers are broken down, and people perceive similarities in problems in East and West Africa as they move out of their comfort zone and see new opportunities at home. Education and mobility lead to a cross-fertilisation of ideas. For example, Tanzania is copying projects in Bangladesh.

There is now a gap between what is taught in school and business recruitment needs. The education process needs to instill broad capabilities, especially entrepreneurial and digital, but without neglecting the traditional skills of literacy.

Education must be broader than schools and include local NGOs, which, for example, can run a social enterprise or workshops to initiate children into entrepreneurship. Companies offering apprenticeships can also provide a valuable bridge by showing young people opportunities they had not imagined.

Young people must be given hope of finding jobs at home; most of them think if they cannot find a job they will emigrate. They need to be supported to create their own jobs; this will create jobs for other young people. Growing economies need skilled young people to fill today's vacancies.

Youngsters are rarely involved in the process of policy formation. They do not have access to opportunities or civil engagement, and can feel marginalised or left behind, which represents a danger to society.

How can they become more interconnected? It is important to recognise and encourage youth networks, which can lead to political participation and subsequent integration into politics.

Many young people think they are not consulted about the major decisions that affect their future. They are part of a political speech, but not the political

agenda. While young people are certainly the future, they are also the present. They need a seat at the political table.

Countries such as Cote d'Ivoire, which have massive youth unemployment, have initiated programmes to empower young people and promote their employment. For example, a council brings together all the country's youth organisations.

Insight

Refocusing education towards entrepreneurship is critical for providing jobs for the many millions of young people looking for work in Africa. It is the youth who will be the future entrepreneurs and job creators. Governments must engage with young people to learn what they need to achieve these goals.

1.1.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [Driving social change in the private sector](#)

Organised by One Young World

Speakers

- Häuser Katrin, Associate, On Purpose
- Magarian Miganoush, CEO, TeachSurfing
- Tawfik Aouatif, Sustainability Manager, Unilever
- Zdravkovic Alexander, Manager, Strategic Growth and Programme Delivery, Cardno Emerging Markets

Moderator: Christiaan Rebergen, Director General for International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands

Key Points

- There is a demand for blended finance, where private and public money is used together to support social ventures.
- Not all private sector action on social responsibility is cost-effective.
- There should be action to encourage young people wanting to make a difference within the corporate sector.
- Young people may find it frustrating that there is not much change in the corporate sector and that CSR is not fully integrated into business strategy.

Synopsis

Integrating trade and development, which means involving the private sector in the public sector's goals, is central to development policy. The corporate sector embraces social responsibility to various degrees. Consumers hope to contribute to fair wages and fair working conditions, but cannot always tell whether the production of consumer goods and services is sustainable.

Sustainable production must be coordinated at governmental level, but efforts should involve the corporate sector, which in turn should be made aware of the importance of sustainable sourcing of production.

The public sector is hoping for more substantial private sector investment in social development. Young people must be involved in delivering aid programmes that develop public-private partnerships, especially with Asian and African countries and in areas that involve the companies' core businesses as well as taking into consideration their environmental impact and the need for infrastructure.

The Sustainable Development Goals can be turned into market opportunities, in particular the goals addressing climate change, food security and the growth in urbanisation. Private sector resources should be deployed, but the challenge is to make this involvement cost-effective.

Young people are key; they should be empowered with skills and resources to help carry out a corporate social agenda that brings about real change.

The private sector again would commit to allocating resources for innovation that supports the circular economy, or a whole system of sustainable production chains and the use of renewables. However, there must be scope to achieve profit where the corporate sector is involved.

The challenge is to bring about change. There are a great number of impediments to a future of sustainable production, where all sectors need to be involved, not just the producers of physical consumer goods.

The corporate sector's timeframe tends to be too limited to short-term profit-seeking, whereas the sustainability agenda requires a long-term perspective that considers social development and environmental impact.

These new concepts should be integrated into the corporate sector's benchmarking to go against the short-term financial focus that currently dominates. For many companies, it is a challenge to integrate corporate social responsibility with their core businesses. At present, social outcomes are often not measured and, for companies to start doing so, there has to be a change of mindset.

Insight

The corporate sector needs leaders who care about social and environmental impact. Value-based leadership applies strategies for social change that appeal to young people. Goals for a company's social impact have to be integrated into its business model. Taking CSR commitments a step further, there should be a focus on requiring companies to become socially progressive.

→ Culture, youth and entrepreneurship

Organised by ACP Cultures +

Speakers

- Besana Federica, Communication Officer, COSV
- Kopp Ingrid, Co-founder and co-director, Electric South
- Matejicek Aida Liha, Head of Unit, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Ognimba Léonard Emile, Assistant-Secretary General, Secretary General ACP States
- Parraga Leonardo, EDD Young Leader, Colombia
- Pierre-Louis Elisabeth, Director, FOKAL

Moderator: Perrine Ledan, Expert, ACP Cultures +

Key Points

- Thirty million people currently work in the cultural and creative industries globally.
- Panellists highlighted a number of inspiring cultural projects involving young people in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.
- More support is needed for these projects so they can become sustainable.
- New financing mechanisms for small and medium-sized enterprises and creative start-ups are required.
- The European Commission will look at simplifying access to funding.

Synopsis

Thirty million people currently work in the cultural and creative industries globally. These sectors offer a competitive advantage and can contribute to sustainable development. Culture is important for social cohesion. It is regarded as a soft tool that even in complex situations can unite people and even countries.

The panel focused on how culture can boost economic development of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. It highlighted a number of inspiring cultural projects involving young people across the region.

One such project is the Music Bridge, which ran from 2013 to 2014 and sought to bring together young artists from various ACP countries such as Mozambique and Malawi. The project included music camps for artists, established creative networks and offered practical training. Artists honed their craft by interacting with and learning from like-minded people. They also developed their communication skills and learned how to protect their copyright.

Based in Haiti, FOKAL is an organisation that promotes culture by running various projects aimed at young people. One example is LITTAFACAR, which promotes French-African literature. Its online platform is still going strong despite the project having finished in 2015. Other FOKAL projects focus on urban architecture, traditional games, photojournalism and film production.

Electric South is a virtual reality (VR) production company based in Cape Town, South Africa, which has discovered African artists active in VR. The company has curated a project known as African Futures, which has resulted in the production of various African VR films. With the continent's enormous young population and cheap smartphones, there is a real opportunity for VR to shine across Africa.

Despite these excellent projects, more support is needed so these projects can become sustainable, allowing artists to earn a living from their work. However, access to financing is seen as a problem.

A potential solution could be to develop new financing mechanisms for small and medium-sized enterprises and creative start-ups that currently have no hope of getting loans from traditional banks. The consensus was to put innovative funding schemes in place for artists.

The European Commission closed the session by telling participants that it would look at simplifying access to funding and work with the creative and cultural sector to provide solutions to the complex issues facing artists in ACP countries.

Insight

Many people presume that culture is free – that you do not need to pay for it. This is a huge issue for artists and creators, who are not being fairly remunerated for their work. The public needs to change its mindset to counter this problem.

→ [Young Mediterranean Voices: Transforming debate to action](#)

Organised by Anna Lindt Foundation

Speakers

- Elsayed Esmat, Egypt
- Newbery Rory, United Kingdom
- Schriever Sophie, Germany
- Talalqa Anas, Jordan

Moderator: Aissam Othmane Benaissa, Algeria

Key Points

- Furthering social inclusion is crucial to prevent radicalisation among the young in southern and eastern Mediterranean countries.
- Young people risk marginalisation in these countries where youth unemployment is at record highs and more young people are about to enter the job market.
- Although more investment in education is needed, the traditional system cannot equip the young with all of the skills in demand on the job market.
- At an individual level, possessing all of the skills required in a changing job market does not necessarily lead to employment.
- Participation in society is a condition for social inclusion, but this does not mean employment status alone; political and cultural participation should play a greater role.

Synopsis

The Young Mediterranean Voices project is facilitating the political integration of young people in southern Europe. The project fosters debate with the aim of translating opinion into action and bringing issues that young people face to the attention of policymakers. This entails initiatives to promote employability among young people in order to further social inclusion.

Social inclusion should be regarded as a multidimensional concept that involves helping people to become involved in political, social and civic issues as well as to influence decision-making. A common problem for the countries to the south and east of the Mediterranean is that youth unemployment runs as high as 60 %, with another 60 million youngsters about to enter the job market.

There is a shortage of quality jobs for young people who have been through higher education. As a result, they end up in jobs where they are unable to fulfill their potential. This shortage predisposes people to social discontent and radicalisation. Although violence is often linked to social unrest among the socioeconomically disadvantaged, there is more to the problem than a mere lack of jobs.

Young people in the Mediterranean countries struggle with building their personal identity and a meaningful existence, while gaining control of their lives in an atmosphere of general disillusionment with politics and the administration. The radical Islamist movements are exploiting this deep-running discontent and marginalisation.

But employment opportunities for young people are not the only solution for halting radicalisation. The root causes must be addressed, such as more public investment in quality education. Focusing on economic development alone does not achieve social inclusion, as sharp economic inequality is sustained by the present political and economic elites. A shrinking job market cannot respond to the demands of a growing population; instead, there must be more job creation.

Inequality is related to various social factors and not only a country's GDP. Instead of focusing policy action on employability, the panel of Young Mediterranean Voices agreed that it is also important to focus policy action on healthcare and education, as well as improved social security. Mediterranean societies should allow for young people's social, political and cultural participation, in addition to enhancing their chances for economic development.

Insight

Young people's employability can be improved by developing other skills than those offered by traditional education. Developing facets such as open-mindedness and resourcefulness are just as important.

→ [**Mobilising partnerships and investment to end violence against children**](#)

Organised by World Vision

Speakers

- Garcia Perez Mercedes, Head of Unit – Human Rights, European External Action Service
- Krug Etienne, Director, Department for Management of Noncommunicable Diseases, Disability, Violence and Injury Prevention (NVI), World Health Organization

- Mary, Young Leader to End Violence Against Children, World Vision South Sudan
- Uwera Laurence, Programme Director, ChildFund Guinea
- Wasula Lydia Najjemba, National Coordinator OVC National Implementation Unit Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Ugandan Government

Moderator: Jean-Louis Ville, Acting Director of Human Development and Migration, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- Partnership can provide solutions to violence against children.
- The Inspire programme promotes a shift away from acknowledging the problem to promoting solutions.
- The human capital costs of violence against children have long-term consequences that need addressing.
- The Sustainable Development Goals give an added impetus to governments to address violence against children, which can be harnessed.

Synopsis

The global partnership to end violence against children aims to provide solutions for what has become an endemic problem. The effects of violence are long term and reduce the value of other programmes. While governments and organisations recognise this issue, the emphasis has often been on acknowledgement rather than on providing actionable policies and practices.

The launch of the Inspire programme aims to change that. Its seven strategies address issues that practitioners and stakeholders believe can be used to good effect.

The session opened with a young woman from South Sudan relating her experiences living in violent and unsafe situations. This moving description set the context for the debate, bringing home to participants that real lives were being discussed.

One billion children experience violence every year around the world, with devastating consequences. Violence can cause death, injury, behavioural changes, mental health problems, and cause the breakdown of families and fracture communities.

Guinea has an extremely high rate of female genital mutilation, which is embedded in the community and largely unrecognised as an issue. To tackle this, a major effort was given to working with local community and religious leaders to change the norms and values of society. This included promoting the value of girls, the celebration of families abandoning female genital mutilation

and promoting a greater awareness of the law. Government support for village committees and child protection school clubs gave added impetus to behavioural changes.

The plight of refugees in Uganda and the government's response was described. Uganda has over 1.3 million refugees fleeing conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan.

The Ugandan government has taken a very open approach to refugees. It provides a package of measures including shelter, clothing, health care and access to social services, alongside specific policy measures to support those seen to be particularly vulnerable. But resources are an issue; with social and counselling support services being squeezed.

The European Commission advocates a strong partnership approach, supporting a wide range of funding programmes. Examples of support include: eradicating female genital mutilation, preventing early marriage, gender inequality, and birth registration. In addition, half of all European delegations have identified rights of children as a key priority, and guidance is given to them on child protection systems.

Insight

Participants showed enthusiasm for the Inspire strategies, and the shift in emphasis towards concrete actions was welcomed. The Inspire strategies could help turn policies into practice and help children in the most vulnerable regions.

→ [The role of religion and beliefs in building sustainable communities](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Alkarib Hala, Regional Director, Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa
- Figel Jan, Special Envoy on Freedom of religion or Belief Outside the European Union
- Melone Sandra, Deputy Director, Search for Common Ground
- Murabit Alaa, The Voice of Lybian Women, UN Sustainable Development Goals Global Advocate
- Parraga Leonardo, EDD Young Leader, Colombia
- Primus Odessa, EDD Young Leader, Czech Republic

- Schewel Ben, Fellow, Center for Religion, Conflict and the Public Domain, University of Groningen

Moderator: Nazila Ghanea, Professor, University of Oxford

Key Points

- People need to explore different religions and see what the common values are rather than focus on the differences among them.
- Each person should treat others with respect and dignity to receive reciprocal treatment.
- Reconciliation and dialogue can bring communities together after many years of conflict.
- Deeper analysis of the real root causes of conflicts is needed beyond media analysis, which can sometimes be inaccurate.

Synopsis

Participants debated the role of religion. One speaker argued that people should explore different religions. Referring to *Alice in Wonderland*, she said people 'should follow the rabbit down the hole' to explore. If they do, they would see that Islam and Christianity have similar values and that the differences between the two religions are smaller and less important than the values they share.

Another speaker referred to the "circle method" in which each person is responsible for what is in an imaginary circle drawn around his/her feet. Her view was that if people treat others with respect and dignity, then that is what will be returned to them. She said people owe that to others and they do not have to agree with others as long as they respect their views.

Another speaker explained how in Colombia the FARC rebels and civil society had been brought together after many years of conflict. Civil society only knew about the FARC, who had been living in the jungle for 50 years, via media reports that were not necessarily accurate.

People were encouraged to send letters for the purposes of reconciliation, in which they could ask FARC members questions such as what they were feeling and what they planned to do after demobilisation. The result was that FARC and civil society stopped seeing each other as enemies and victims expressed relief that they had been able to engage in the dialogue.

According to the Global Peace Index, 14 % of global conflicts are directly related to religion. The speaker who referred to this said it is important to analyse the root causes of conflicts rather than relying on what is represented in the media. Another speaker said that the war ISIL is fighting in the name of Islam is not to do with religion. For example, many Muslims and Christians in

Lebanon are shocked that some in the West think that Islam is violent when, in fact, it has similar values to Christianity.

Insight

Religions can act as strong and self-organising systems that deliver products to large groups of people; for instance, after earthquakes and in refugee crises. The world can tap into these communities for the purposes of peacebuilding.

1.1.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [21st century skills: Why entrepreneurship matters](#)

Organised by WISE

Speakers

- Assomul Ashwin, Managing Director, Parthenon-EY
- Dlabajová Martina, Member of the European Parliament
- Feerick Mike, CEO ALISON
- Jansson-Aalto Mervi, Director of Omnia Education Partnerships

Moderator: Stavros N. Yiannouka, CEO of the World Innovation Summit for Education

[Podcast](#)

→ [Investing in youth to end gender-based violence](#)

Organised by Forward

Speakers

- Agnes Partoip Seleyian, Founder and Director, Murua Girl Child Education Programme
- Awil Fatima, Ambassador, End FGM European Network
- Leng'ete Nice Nailantei, Global Ambassador to end FGM/C, Amref Health Africa
- Muruli Angela, Youth Advocate, Foundation for Women's Health, Research and Development

Moderator: Kekeli Kpognon, Head of Diaspora Programme, Foundation for Women's Health, Research and Development

[Podcast](#)

→ **Working with youth at the fringes of Kenyan society to build a better future**

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Abdi Kamilo, Team Leader of Nairobi mentors, Royal United Service Institute
- Abdi Ogle Mukhtar, Secretary of strategic initiatives for marginalised regions, Office of the President, Government of Kenya
- Mbaga Lucky, Youth representative, Kenya Red Cross
- Ondieki Catherine, Principal Education Officer, Ministry of Education - Kenya

Moderator: Yvonne Maingey, PhD Candidate and Facilitator/Trainer, Gravitazz Institute for Disaster Reduction and Emergency Management

Podcast

1.1.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ **How to make agriculture attractive for youth?**

Organised by COLEACP

Speakers

- Gnassounou Viwanou, Assistant Secretary General, African, Caribbean and Pacific Secretariat
- Kawira Carolin, Agronomist
- Meritan Regis, Head of Sector for Agricultural Growth, European Commission
- Mintah Stephen, Chairman, Comité de liaison Europe-Afrique-Caraibes-Pacifique
- Niang Khadija, Crop Manager
- Picker Calvin, General Manager, Africa Bio

→ [Transforming mindsets: 2030 Youth Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)

Organised by Young Leaders for Development

Speakers

- Abu Lail Dareen, NET-MED Youth National Project Officer, UNESCO
- Baumer Ruben, EDD Young Leader 2016 – Belgium
- Lundberg Mattias, Head of the Global Partnership for Youth and Development and, Focal Point for Youth Issues, World Bank Group
- Thompson Geoff, Youth Charter
- Zekeng Elsa, EDD Young Leader 2016 - Cameroon

Moderator: Vandinika Shukla, EDD Young Leader 2016 – India

1.1.5 WEB-SEMINARS

→ [Investing in youth: Togo's successful volunteer programme](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Ackla Blandine, Programming Director, Plan International
- Agbangba Omar, Executive Director, Togo National Agency for Volunteers
- Dogbe Victoire, Minister of Grassroots Development, Crafts, Youth and Youth Employment, Government of Togo
- Iyossou Ama, Volunteer
- Simna Ezzo, Volunteer

Moderator: Nicolás Berlanga-Martinez, Ambassador, Head of Delegation of the EU to Togo, European External Action Service

1.2 Gender equality/Women empowerment

Social norms and discriminatory legal frameworks in many countries still leave women and girls with little control over decisions that affect their lives. They continue to be deprived of access to resources and their rightful voice. They are less likely than men to be in education, training or paid work. Even in

regions and countries where significant progress has been made towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, some achievements are vulnerable and can be undermined.

Sustainable development is highly dependent on women's voices being heard and women participating fully in the economy and decision-making. Fulfilling women's rights translates into more peaceful and prosperous communities. Gender equality is vital for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and cuts across the whole 2030 Agenda. The EU is a global leader in promoting gender equality. It is vigorously pursuing its commitment to support partner countries in breaking the vicious cycle of gender discrimination and consistently promoting women and girls' empowerment through the comprehensive, results-oriented EU Gender Action Plan 2016-2020, Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations.

Concrete actions undertaken by the EU and its Member States include promoting economic and social rights and empowerment for women and girls, strengthening their voice, and ensuring their physical and psychological integrity. There is special attention to improving education and training opportunities for women and girls as well as their access to financial services and support for micro, small and medium enterprises. When women obtain access to the same productive resources as men, they can increase yields on their farms by 20-30 % and raise total agricultural outputs, potentially lifting 100-150 million people out of hunger worldwide.

Gender equality is at the core of EU values and enshrined in its legal and political framework. The EU and its Member States will pursue the fulfilment of obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. They remain committed to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and to the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and Cairo Programme of Action, of the International Conference on Population and Development and the outcomes of their review conferences and remain committed to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in this context.

Nevertheless, all of these commitments need to be translated into clear and tangible outcomes and accompanied by adequate means and procedures apt for delivering results, with more women occupying leadership roles. Sustainable development cannot be achieved if half of the world's population is left behind.

1.2.1 HIGH-LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ The smart investment – Empowering women in the economy

Organised by UN Women

Speakers

- Glemarec Yannick, Deputy Executive Director, UN WOMEN
- Guarnieri Valerie, WFP Regional Director for East and Central Africa, UN World Food Programme
- Masole Chawapiwa, EDD Young Leader, Botswana
- Mensah Awute Claudine, Country Director in Bénin/Togo, CARE International
- Mimica Neven, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission
- Vir Parminder, CEO, The Tony Elumelu Foundation

Moderator: Arancha González, Executive Director, International Trade Centre

Key points

- The economic potential of increased female participation in the workforce is enormous. African women alone drive the new growth in their countries.
- Progress on gender equality is crucial for the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of ending hunger. An end to hunger would improve gender equality.
- Business management skills are essential for women's financial inclusion in developing economies.
- The political empowerment of women cannot be separated from economic empowerment.

Synopsis

Women's participation in the economy provides for stronger and more inclusive growth. Studies show that achieving gender equality in the workplace could add enormously to the world economy, and could produce an added value of between US\$12 trillion and US\$28 trillion to the world's total gross domestic product (GDP), equivalent to that of the two biggest economic powers – China and the United States – combined.

The social benefit of women's economic participation is enormous; women return as much as 80 % of their income to their local community. When women have their own earnings in a developing country, the family spending pattern is different, as they tend to pay for food, healthcare and their children's education. If extreme poverty is to be eradicated by 2030, promoting women's participation in the economy is hugely important.

However, social norms and traditions can hamper women's economic role and represent a strong resistance to change. Gender equality in the workplace is unlikely to be achieved as long as men do not take on a bigger share of domestic responsibility.

The European Commission has increased its funding to foster women's economic empowerment and gender equality through a range of new initiatives. But panellists pointed out that policy must focus more on tackling violence towards women. The UN is a key partner on this issue through its global gender initiative on across-the-board abuse of women and girls.

The UN Women's Directorate is developing a substantial public-private partnership to help achieve gender equality as part of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Cost estimates for the needed action are enormous, but it is recognised that efforts on women's empowerment are crucial to almost every one of the goals.

Progress on gender equality is just as important for ending hunger. According to the UN's World Food Programme, food aid and cash assistance should be provided directly to women to ensure better nutrition for their children. Women have a crucial role in farming, but their work is often unpaid and undervalued. Hunger would be sharply reduced if women had access to the same resources as men so they could contribute to better food production and sell their output.

Female entrepreneurship is extremely important in African countries, where despite all the obstacles they face in obtaining finance and loans, women account for a substantial proportion of CEOs and of growth through the scaling-up of businesses.

Through private foundations and training initiatives, an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports women is evolving throughout the continent. Women have set up businesses in sectors as varied as car mechanics, fashion and agriculture. Both peer networks and greater financial knowhow are important. However, women still suffer from a lack of economic power for lack of political influence. Greater parliamentary representation for women always translates into a bigger share of the labour force.

Insight

According to the UN, action to support women's economic empowerment can paradoxically act as a trigger for abuse. Therefore, awareness raising campaigns must send a clear signal to men that women's increased participation in the labour force is positive for everybody.

1.2.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [The power of entrepreneurial women for social impact](#)

Organised by CARE

Speakers

- Aranha Carolina, Founder, Pipe Social
- Mekonnen Misrach, Project Manager, CARE Ethiopia
- Richardson Mark, Chief Executivem, Social Impact Consulting
- Van Haeringen Reintje, Director and programme manager Women's economic empowerment, CARE Nederland
- Vergos Zissimos, Team Leader - Private Sector Development Sector, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Paula Woodman, Senior Advisor for Global Social Enterprise programme, British Council

Key Points

- Now that gender equality is acknowledged as a key to fostering development, policy has increased its focus on supporting gender entrepreneurship.
- The lack of funding for women, which is an obstacle for those who want to set up or scale up their social enterprise, must be remedied.
- Actions to encourage and support female entrepreneurship must include programmes to change political and social attitudes.
- The difference in the size and sustainability of social enterprises set up by men and those set up by women needs to be addressed.
- Too often female social entrepreneurship focuses on urban women, whereas rural women also need encouragement to set up social enterprises, which can help empower them in a number of ways.

Synopsis

Gender equality is recognised as a major engine for development, as key Sustainable Development Goal 5 focuses on Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls. This means that all of the tools and actors must be engaged for pushing this forward in all areas. Because ordinary businesses employ far more men than women, social entrepreneurship is an area that presents great potential.

Needed tools include training and employment opportunities and more economic possibilities for micro-enterprises; the actors are governments, international organisations, funders and women's organisations.

Women run only about 29 % of social enterprises. Conventional funders are more open to lending to men, and female entrepreneurs consistently complain

about their lack of access to funding, even though they have a better record of repaying loans than men. Governments and donors should solve this by setting up accelerated programmes. These programmes promote gender balance in social enterprises and push for stronger female representation on the boards of investors. Evidence has shown that boards composed of men consistently prefer to fund men.

A number of social and political measures are also needed to promote female social entrepreneurship. These include programmes to change male attitudes to women's domestic responsibilities, and to prevent women from 'self-sabotaging'. Successful programmes have targeted husbands who initially were obstructive when their wives suggested setting up businesses, and insisted that they should not neglect their domestic tasks.

After a series of workshops, the men changed their attitude, understood the financial benefits and supported their wives. Women entrepreneurs are often their own worst enemy, as they do not believe they are good enough to start their own business, or to build on a successful start-up. When workshops were set up to tackle this problem and build confidence, 75 % of women reported increased self-esteem and greater ability to make choices. A spin-off has been that women are more likely to take leadership positions in business.

Current research has found there is a correlation between women entrepreneurs and the size and sustainability of social enterprises. First, businesses run by women are smaller than those run by men. This is partly because of the difficulty in obtaining funding, but is also a reflection of women being more financially cautious: they are less likely to take risks than their men. On the other hand, social enterprises run by women are more sustainable – they last longer, even though they make less profit.

It was pointed out that discussions on female entrepreneurs always focus on urban women, and that poor rural women, whose lives revolve round the collection and preparation of food, would highly benefit from the opportunity to set up social enterprises. It could also improve the lives of rural women and girls. For example many young girls cannot attend school one week a month for lack of sanitary towels. In some rural areas, women have set up social enterprises to provide better cooking facilities, and others to produce sanitary towels.

Insight

Doubling the number of social enterprises run by women would provide employment for another 12 million women.

→ Investing in women entrepreneurs

Organised by PAFO

Speakers

- Erogbogbo Vanessa, Head of Women and Trade Programme, International Trade Centre
- Kobusingye Lovin. Managing Director, Kati Farms Ltd
- Medzeme Engama Marie-Joseph, Chargée de Programmes de Développement des Chaînes de Valeur agricole, Plateforme Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale
- Ruetters Heike, Head of Mandates Management, European Investment Bank

Moderator: Michael Hailu, Director, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation

Key Points

- Women entrepreneurs in Africa already generate significant employment and tax revenues while also gaining personal autonomy and independence.
- Advances to gender equality could add US\$28 trillion to global GDP by 2025.
- The challenges facing woman entrepreneurs are well documented; what is needed now is action to unleash their business potential.
- Future success will require access to commercial-scale credit, not just microfinance, for women to grow their businesses.
- Negative male attitudes to women's business ideas need to change in the banking sector.

Synopsis

Unleashing the power of women entrepreneurs would add an estimated US\$28 trillion to global GDP by 2025. Women own between one-quarter and one-third of all businesses worldwide. What they need now is fairer access to credit and value-added markets. There also needs to be an end to negative male attitudes over finance, with women in Africa regularly told by commercial lenders that their business ideas simply would not work.

The experience of Ugandan entrepreneur Lovin Kobusingye has shown that with persistence and drive, African women's agri-businesses can thrive. When Kobusingye was refused bank credit – despite a surge in orders following her appearances in the Ugandan press and on national TV – she received the fresh fish she needed for her processed fish “sausages” on credit from her poor farmers' suppliers and paid them out of the proceeds of the sales. Her company now exports products across Africa, trades with Lebanon and is exploring ways to enter European and US markets.

The European Investment Bank is among the international financial institutions that are trying to strengthen the business environment for women like Kobusingye with new credit structures that will allow entrepreneurs to get enough large-scale loans for them to launch small and medium-sized enterprises or grow bigger corporations. Today, women in Africa are largely restricted to the type of microfinance that is typical of development programmes.

Every day, sexism is a barrier to many women seeking commercial bank loans, with some being asked if their husbands will sign the paperwork. E-mobile finance is one potential route to avoid this gender bias. Two Kenyan women, for example, have developed a phone-based credit score and lending system.

The International Trade Centre's SheTrades initiative focuses on seven areas critical to the expansion of women-owned enterprises in Africa, helping women farmers to escape from their traditional roles in low-paid primary production. Comprehensive data collection on agri-businesses is seen as a first step to bring government and scientific partners together to diversify crops, increase output and promote value-adding activities such as food processing and exporting.

Getting women-owned businesses greater access to public contracts is another priority for the SheTrades programme, given that to date women have only won 1 % of this lucrative business. SheTrades also sees enhanced rights for African women to own and inherit productive assets as essential for the future.

Insight

Kobusingye's humour and determination made her success story a pleasure to hear. Her practicality and can-do approach to problem solving overcame every obstacle.

1.2.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Investing in women - to counter the influence of fundamentalism on women's sexual and reproductive rights](#)

Organised by Arrow

Speakers

- Abdul Cader Azra, Senior Programme Officer, Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women
- Demeterio-Melgar Junice Lirza, Executive Director, LIKHAAN Centre for Women's Health
- Palanisamy Balasubramanian, Executive Director, RUWSEC

Moderator: Mangalambigai Namasivayam, Senior Programme Officer, Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women

Podcast

1.2.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ [Reaching out to women in fragility contexts: Why and how?](#)

Organised by UN Women

Speakers

- Bosmans Marleen, Expert Human Rights & Gender, Belgian Development Agency
- Freedman Jane, Professor, Université Paris 8
- Ghodsinia Farahnaz, EDD Young Leader, Philippines
- Qasas Hiba, Chief of Crisis Prevention, Preparedness and Response, UN WOMEN
- Sow Ndeye, Senior Gender Adviser – Africa Programme, International Alert
- Weber Anaïs, Policy Coordinator – Environmental and Social support, Agence Française de Développement

1.3 Migration and mobility

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development clearly recognises the positive contribution of migration and mobility to inclusive growth and sustainable development. It is also recognised that migration and mobility is a global challenge that needs a global response. The European Union is fully committed to contribute to this task, including through its development policy and cooperation.

Poorly managed migration policies can impact negatively on countries of origin, transit and destination and on migrants themselves. Especially in cases of forced displacement and irregular migration, human rights abuses may be frequent with people having limited or no access to basic services. The risks of exploitation are high, in particular for vulnerable groups. At the same time, well managed migration can have important positive impacts on development.

Migration enables workers to move to where they are more productive and valued, contributing in turn to boost global output and income. Total migrant remittances to developing countries in 2015 were well over twice the total Official Development Assistance flows. Remittances have a great potential to help recipients in developing countries meet their needs. They can also

contribute to develop human capital, support better health and education spending, financial inclusion, and local business investment.

However, in parallel to improving the global governance of migration, efforts must continue to be stepped up to address the underlying reasons, or the drivers, of migration. Inequality, limited socio-economic opportunities, climate change and perspectives for a growing population of young people, to name a few, need to be tackled. In doing so, we will further all of our development opportunities and reduce movement born out of desperation.

Seizing the opportunities offered by this complex global phenomenon, while at the same time addressing its challenges, requires a carefully designed, balanced and sustainable policy response. It also requires the involvement of all stakeholders in the process, including states, civil society, local authorities, and the private sector, as well as migrants and their families.

In the past few years, the EU and its Member States have stepped up efforts to address this challenge. In line with the European Agenda on Migration, the Declaration of the Valletta Summit on Migration was adopted in November 2015. In June 2016, the EU launched a new Partnership Framework on Migration with developing partner countries. Through this comprehensive framework, the EU has established a closer relationship with its partners on migration.

For this new approach to be successful we need to recognise the priorities and needs on both sides, and to support EU partner countries in a truly comprehensive manner, including responding to the challenges they face. EU development policy and cooperation has an important role to play in the implementation of the Partnership Framework, in full respect of core development policy objectives and principles.

Thanks to the rapid mobilisation of EU development funds, including for example through the EU Trust Fund for Africa, which has now reached a total allocation of more than EUR 2.5 billion, concrete actions have been launched to address the challenges in partner countries and along migratory routes, in close cooperation with them.

It is also what the EU wants to achieve through its proposal for a new European External Investment Plan, which thanks to innovative ways of using development funds, could inject an additional EUR 44 billion of investment to create jobs and opportunities where they are needed the most.

What we hope to achieve is that migration is not the only available option for a better future. And, if it does happen, it will be in a better prepared and a more regular manner. In this way, it should become a development enabler rather than a problem.

In this context, the EU and its Member States will also actively contribute to support the realisation of the Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees, as called for by the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants of 19 September 2016.

1.3.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ **Root causes of migration: New narrative, new purpose and new targets for development funding?**

Organised by the European Parliament

Speakers

- Appave Gervais, Special Advisor to Director-General, International Organization for Migration
- Brunon Bogdan Wenta, Member, European Parliament
- Foresti Marta, Managing Director, Overseas Development Institute
- Hussein Muhumed, Country Director for Uganda, Norwegian Refugee Council
- Münz Rainer, Advisor on Migration and Demography, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission
- Primus Odessa, EDD Young Leader, Czech Republic
- Rudischhauser Klaus, Deputy Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Sargentini Judith, MEP, Greens/EFA, Netherlands
- Schlein Elly, MEP, Socialist & Democrats, Italy

Moderator: Simon Maxwell, Chair, European Think Tanks Group (ETTG)

Key Points

- Development does not reduce migration in low-income countries. On the contrary, migration is an inevitable consequence of development.
- One root cause of refugee movements is conflict, which requires political solutions not development assistance.
- Migration management may be at cross-purposes with development assistance, since development funding is being diverted to security-driven policies
- The crisis of 2015 and 2016 in Europe was one of intra-EU solidarity, not of refugees.
- Legal pathways are one approach to tackle the humanitarian crisis in the Mediterranean.

Synopsis

Some migration is an inevitable product of development. In low-income countries, development does not reduce migration but increases it. Few people migrate from the poorest countries as they lack the cash required to move. With development, people's access to cash increases and so does their ability to cross borders in search of a better life.

This is one reason why viewing development assistance primarily with a focus on migration management is inappropriate, even though development assistance may have positive effects on some of the drivers of migration, such as climate change or lack of economic opportunity. But in general, development cannot deal with all, or even the main, drivers of migration.

Development assistance is also not the proper instrument to deal with the primary cause of forced displacement, which is armed conflict and requires political solutions. At the same time, in the long term development can help make societies more resilient and less likely to succumb to armed conflict.

Viewing development assistance through the lens of migration management has other undesirable and possibly counter-productive effects. Some EU Member States count the cost of caring for asylum-seekers from their Official Development Assistance, even though the money never leaves the country, and some development funding is being diverted toward measures such as border management in developing countries.

Longer-term development goals such as poverty reduction are being pushed aside by short-term concerns and attempts at containment. EU development assistance is also increasingly focused on dealing with the fall-out from the war in Syria.

The "refugee crisis" in Europe in 2015 and 2016 was not primarily a migration crisis, but a breakdown of intra-EU solidarity. Uganda, a poor country with fewer than 40 million people, is host to 1.2 million refugees. Turkey, a middle-income country of some 80 million, hosts 3 million Syrians. The arrival of some 1.5 million refugees and migrants in the EU (population: 500 million) turned into a crisis because of the breakdown of collective action, not because it was intrinsically unmanageable. Even globally, the share of people on the move is relatively low.

In terms of the humanitarian tragedy in the Mediterranean, where record numbers of people drown seeking to reach European shores, NGOs have stepped into the void created by the lack of an institutional response from the EU. There is a controversy surrounding the alleged pull factor created by European search-and-rescue missions off the Libyan coast, and the incentives they create for smugglers to put migrants on boats that are unseaworthy.

Insight

The policy community dealing with development is quite separate from the one focusing on migration, yet development has migration effects and migration has a development dimension. The two communities need to talk to each other more and engage in joint planning.

1.3.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [Maximising the development potential of legal migration and mobility](#)

Organised by IOM

Speakers

- Ambrosi Eugenio, Regional Director, IOM's Regional Office for the European Economic Area, the EU and NATO
- Bramdeo Ajay Kumar, Head, African Union Permanent Mission to the European Union and the ACP - Brussels Office
- Corrado Laura, Head of Unit - Legal Migration and Integration, European Commission - DG for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship

Moderator: Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels, Senior Lecturer in Migration and Politics, University of Kent

Key Points

- Disinformation in the debate about legal and illegal migration is fuelling the rise of right-wing populism and nationalism in some EU countries.
- The reduction in legal channels for migration is creating a market for irregular migration.
- More time, energy and resources must be devoted to working out legal channels for migration between the EU and Africa.
- There is a need for forward-looking migration policies covering the period before the migrants move right through to their integration in the country where they settle.

Synopsis

The debate focused on re-thinking EU-Africa cooperation for the benefit of both the countries of origin and destination and for migrants and employers. Around 4 % of the EU population consists of third-country nationals, or nationals from countries outside the EU, which is a much lower figure than is popularly imagined.

Disinformation fed misconceptions, in turn fuelling the rise of right-wing populism and nationalism in some EU countries. The debate about the relocation of asylum-seekers from countries like Greece and Italy and a lack of solidarity within the EU, including the refusal of some countries to take in these asylum-seekers, made matters worse. This has had a negative impact on the political climate and reduced the political space in the EU for talk about legal migration.

EU countries have ageing populations and therefore a growing need for immigrants for their labour forces. Given that Africa is projected to have the world's largest working-age population by 2034, it can help meet that need. It emerged from the debate that more emphasis on legal migration was urgently needed. One speaker said the reduction in legal channels for migration created a market for irregular migration and human trafficking, increasing insecurity in the EU. The same speaker called for forward-looking migration policies covering the period before the migrants move right through to their integration in the country of destination.

Channels for legal migration were discussed at the EU-Africa migration summit in 2015 in Valletta, Malta. There, EU and African leaders agreed on a migration action plan covering the following areas of cooperation: root causes of irregular migration, legal migration and mobility, protection and asylum, the fight against irregular migration, and the return and readmission of irregular migrants.

Speakers stressed that the subject attracting the least attention was legal migration and mobility and noted that the political space to develop this had been shrinking. One view was that more time, energy and resources needed to be devoted to working out legal channels for migration between the EU and Africa.

One speaker recommended that countries implement labour mobility schemes to set up mechanisms to seek profiles of migrants that can fill the gaps in the labour market and not just set numbers. Another idea was for a mechanism whereby qualifications obtained in the EU and Africa were mutually recognised. The affordability and accessibility of visas were also considered key to legal migration. Closing the doors to legal migration would lead to a rise in irregular migration, said one speaker.

Another speaker highlighted the need for safeguards to ensure that migrants are not abused and to help them end up in the formal economy with decent jobs and not in the black economy. The International Labour Organisation guidelines on fair recruitment and the World Employment Confederation's fair recruitment code of conduct could both be promoted in this context. He also urged businesses to communicate positive messages about migration to the public and to workers.

Insight

Shifting to a positive narrative about migration is a big challenge but one that needs to be undertaken. Canada was pinpointed as a good model as it has advanced resettlement and integration programmes. However, there are many open questions as to how that can be transferred to the EU context.

→ Vulnerability during the migration process: A health perspective

Organised by Save the Children

Speakers

- Cabrera Aleix, Communication Officer, ISGlobal (Instituto de Salud Global de Barcelona)
- Fehrenbach Claire, Executive Director, Oxfam France
- Henar Jara, Expert in Migration and Mobility, Alianza por la Solidaridad
- Knaus Verena, Senior Policy Advisor/Migration Focal Point, UNICEF EU Office
- Miozzo Agostino, External Relations Manager, Emergency

Moderator: Gonzalo Fanjul, Policy Director, Barcelona Institute for Global Health

Key Points

- The EU's 'fortress mentality' is not preventing migration but creating more dangerous routes that are unofficial and not safe, exposing migrants to exploitation and abuse.
- There is a need for serious resettlement programmes as well as safe corridors and routes providing critical services.
- With migrant women in particular are exposed to many vulnerabilities, including exploitation, sexual violence, and poor access to health, jobs and housing. Women need to be consulted before decisions are taken. The Istanbul Convention needs to be used to protect women from violence.
- More data about migrants needs to be collected to develop better policies and research is needed into so-called "invisible vulnerabilities" such as mental health and high suicide rates.

Synopsis

The debate centred on the risks to migrants' health during the migration process. One speaker argued that EU leaders' tough stance on migration had led to Europe becoming a fortress in the sense that systems in the EU have become inaccessible, leading to an atmosphere of rejection.

EU policies are focused on keeping people outside Europe and on security, both of which severely limits the mobility of migrants. It is very hard for migrants to get a work or study visa. However, the speaker argued that this fortress mentality is not really preventing migration, but is creating more dangerous routes that are unofficial and not safe, exposing migrants to exploitation and abuse.

The speaker's argument was that EU policies increase the dangers for migrants and for those using legal routes, as living conditions in hotspots are so bad that vulnerabilities are increased.

A speaker stressed that a negative narrative has taken hold, according to which migrants arriving in Italy are all terrorists bringing diseases, occupying Italian territory and threatening the country's democracy. The speaker said that nothing was being done to transform this negative narrative because politicians were too afraid to speak up. The speaker also underlined the mental problems, such as post-traumatic stress, that women and children in particular are facing.

With women especially exposed to many vulnerabilities such as exploitation, sexual violence, poor access to healthcare, jobs and housing, another speaker stressed the need to consult the migrant women before decisions are taken and to make use of the Istanbul Convention to protect women from violence.

Another speaker suggested putting aside narratives and focusing on putting facts on the table and on working out what services are needed arising from that research. For example, nine in 10 children arriving in Italy are unaccompanied, whereas nine in 10 arriving in Greece are travelling with their parents. The speaker referred to the need for serious resettlement programmes and safe corridors and routes providing critical services for people along these corridors, especially for people such as breastfeeding women and children. For example, hygiene kits in rucksacks and baby carriers have been distributed to migrants along the Balkan route.

There is too little data about migrants; the data that exists is too fragmented, leading to bad policies. This needs to be addressed. In addition, research is needed into invisible vulnerabilities such as mental health and high suicide rates.

Insight

Efforts to improve security should not divert funds from development aid; primary healthcare should become part of a global approach in which no one can be left behind.

→ **Artisans & migrants: An opportunity for job creation and sustainable development**

Organised by International Trade Centre

Speakers

- Barry Tahirou, Minister of Culture, Burkina Faso
- Chienin Chayet, Founder & Editor-in-chief, Nothing but the Wax
- D'Amario Carlo, CEO, Vivienne Westwood
- González Arancha, Executive Director, International Trade Centre
- Manservigi Stefano, Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Marchesini Andrea, President, Lai-momo
- Sakande Madi, General Manager & Co-partner, New Cold System s.r.l.

Moderator: Simone Cipriani, Chief Technical Advisor, Ethical Fashion Initiative

Key Points

- It is possible to do good while doing business, but for this we need to overcome the traditional separation between the private and public sector.
- It is wrong to think that there are only lowly skilled individuals at the bottom of the pyramid.
- There is great job creation potential in some of the poorest regions of the world and tapping into this is a good way to fight illegal immigration.
- Equipping artisans with computers is one way to ensure competitiveness.

Synopsis

The International Trade Centre's Ethical Fashion Initiative was launched 10 years ago in a slum in Nairobi, Kenya. The idea was to enable artisans to become suppliers to the international fashion industry. The initiative aimed to put into practice the concept of "conscious capitalism" and to enable migrants and potential migrants to become artisans, have a job, status and no longer feel the need to emigrate.

Burkina Faso realised early on that developing the textile industry and crafts could do wonders not only for the empowerment of women, but also for the economy in general and has been working closely with the initiative. Burkina

Faso wants its citizens to realise that staying in Africa is the only way to be truly free.

Another partner of the Ethical Fashion Initiative is the Lai-momo centre for refugees in Bologna, Italy. In July 2016, Lai-momo went from being a reception centre for asylum seekers to a vocational training and work centre. Eighteen people have since been trained in the textile sector and are about to be hired by the Italian Fendi fashion house.

However, this success should not hide the fact that the process is difficult. When people arrive at the Lai-momo centre they are paperless and waiting to hear whether they will be able to stay or be sent home. The centre must therefore ensure the people they train can thrive in either situation.

For the European Commission, initiatives like these are encouraging, but they must not obscure the fact that these artisans must be able to compete on the global market. Finding the artisans is easy but ensuring that they are competitive and can make a decent living in the long run is not. It is also important not only to give jobs to people, but also to give them the motivation to remain in their country and not risk a miserable and perilous life elsewhere.

Having seen how successful this initiative has been, the European Commission is now keen to expand it to other sectors like furniture and even food, based on the slow food experience in Europe. One thing is sure, artisans need to move with their time and work with technology to be as competitive as possible.

The market also has to be factored in. It is not enough to make good products; they must sell too. Previously, supply and demand was rarely taken into account. This needs to change. Efforts are needed to structure the value chain and this starts with working with the buyer rather than flooding the market with products for which there is no demand.

Artisans must also step up their game and developing countries must structure the qualification system and provide adequate and recognised training to ensure artisans are able to produce enough good-quality products.

Insight

One panellist talked about his life since he arrived in Italy as a migrant from Burkina Faso some 20 years ago. Madi Sakande is now an entrepreneur specialised in air conditioning and refrigeration, and he plans to use his experience in Africa.

Some 70 % of all agricultural products in Sub-Saharan Africa are lost because of the absence of cold-chain options. His idea is to create stand-alone cold-storage rooms powered by solar energy and export them to Africa.

1.3.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Corruption & Migration: How Women and Girls Pay a Heavy Toll](#)

Organised by GIZ

Speakers

- Falke Mike, Head of Section, Governance and Human Rights, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Fatafta Marwa, Project Coordinator, Transparency International
- Menguelé François, Head of programme (Decentralisation and State Reform – PADRE), Mali, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Merkle Ortrun, PhD Research Fellow, United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology and Maastricht Graduate School of Governance

Moderator: Peter Bonin, Teamleader Sector Project Migration and Development, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

[Podcast](#)

→ [New Means and Partnerships to Address Forced Displacement](#)

Organised by UNHCR

Speakers

- Devictor Xavier, Advisor for the Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group, World Bank Group
- Macleod Ewen, Senior Advisor on Development, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- Ngwala Philippe, Social Protection Expert, African Development Bank

Moderator: Natalia Alonso, Director, Oxfam EU office

[Podcast](#)

1.3.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ [Mobility, Investment, and Development: Towards a World with No More Left-behinds](#)

Organised by AFFORD

Speakers

- Asquith Paul, Africa Europe Diaspora Platform
- Fabrequette Céline, ACP Young Professionals Network
- N'Zouzi Henri Désiré, Media Consultant and Adviser in geostrategy
- Sakho Khady Niang, FORIM

→ **Remittances and Development in the ACP-EU Dialogue**

Organised by IOM

Speakers

- Isaacs Leon, Joint-Chief Executive Officer Developing Market Associates
- Jacques Mathieu, Programme Manager for the ACP-EU Migration Action, International Organization for Migration
- Martini Mauro, Migration, Remittances and Development Officer, Financing Facility for Remittances (FFR), IFAD
- Pasha Tauhid, Senior Specialist for Labour Mobility and Human Development, International Organization for Migration

1.4 Demography and development

The world population crossed the threshold of 7 billion in 2011 and should reach 11.3 billion in 2100, according to the United Nations Population Fund. Today, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) account only for 13 % of the world's population, but they should equate the population of the more developed countries by 2030 and continue growing until 2100. African countries will carry the biggest share of this growth, particularly due to sustained population growth in Sub-Saharan Africa. Meanwhile, population of industrialized countries is plateauing and that from other developing countries will stabilise after reaching a maximum in 2070. This global picture makes clear that the evolution of demography and its multiple consequences is indeed one of the greatest challenges for development cooperation.

Both mortality and fertility indicators set Sub-Saharan Africa apart. It has the highest fertility rates with an average of 5.1 children per woman in 2010-5 (compared to a world average of 2.5 children) and the lowest life expectancy at birth at 59.2 years (world average is 71.6 years). In light of these developments, within the next 15 years some 375 million youth in Sub-Saharan Africa will reach employment age with very low perspectives to be integrated into the labour market.

This raises multiple challenges, from those related to high dependency burdens and the shortage of resources to invest in human capital, to the risk of political instability. Yet, as shown by the East Asia's experience, a growing share of working adults in the population may be of great benefit if they can find productive employment and thereby raise labour productivity and increase real income. Better harnessing demographic dividends in Africa implies to put in place the necessary adjustments to turn demographic trends into development opportunities.

Many countries with rapidly growing populations are threatened by hunger or deforestation; others are struggling with conflict or political instability. Fragile states are typically countries where the population growth is the fastest in the world. While progress is not precluded, population growth in these countries is a challenge multiplier. In terms of food security, hunger and malnutrition, while significant progress has been made in reducing global hunger, most of the progress has occurred in countries with relatively low fertility rates. Where fertility rates remain high, the battle against hunger has yet to be won.

Biodiversity loss, deforestation and land erosion are specific long-term consequences of over-exploitation that are intimately connected to demographic pressure. Investments in sustainable agriculture, water conservation, habitat preservation and reforestation are crucial to boost food security, preserve biophysical resources and increase resilience to climate change, conflict and other threats associated with demographic growth. In these countries, an evermore-refined understanding of the potential impact of demographic pressure is crucial to design adequate policies and anticipate responses.

1.4.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ **[Key solutions: Youth empowerment and family planning](#)**

Organised by IPPF

Speakers

- Amuzu Esenam, EDD Young Leader, Ghana
- Chekweko Jackson, Executive Director, Reproductive Health Uganda
- De Croo Alexander, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services, Government of Belgium
- Lundberg Mattias, Head of the Global Partnership for Youth and Development and, Focal Point for Youth Issues, World Bank Group
- Mahiga Augustine, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Tanzania
- Steneker Sietske, Director, UNFPA Brussels Office

Moderator: Slavea Chankova, Data journalist, The Economist

Key Points

- Countries entering a period of demographic transition need to invest in young people now to reap demographic dividend.
- Without overcoming cultural resistance to family planning, there will be a demographic liability not a demographic dividend.
- This issue is reflected in the paradigm shift in the European Consensus on Development towards treating African countries as equal partners, focusing on empowering women and youth and pushing for involvement of the private sector.
- Governments need to be more accountable and more responsive to young people. Media, civil society and the private sector need to reach out to mothers and young girls.

Synopsis

The film shown to introduce the session ended with the words, "The time to act is now." It was noted that the enormous diversity of age structures among countries signalled that the demographic transition is well underway.

However, it is not automatic that countries would reap the demographic dividend of lower mortality and fertility leading to more people of working age in a household and boosting growth.

With 1 million more young people joining to both the African and Asian job markets each month, countries urgently need to invest in health and education especially for young girls. Countries also need to base their decisions considering the needs of both current and future populations to ensure inclusive development. The demographic dividend has to be seen against the backdrop of "demographic liability".

In Uganda, 75 % of the population is younger than 30, however, the advantage of an immense labour force is undermined if family sizes are not manageable. Recalling the high number of unplanned and unwanted pregnancies among her friends as she grew up in Ghana, an EDD Young Leader stressed the importance of access to information about reproductive information during the sexually active teenage period. It helps young girls plan to stay in school longer, have fewer children, space them out and learn when to take them to hospital.

Help for young people in transitioning to a productive and happy adulthood needs to be across political, economic and social domains. The World Bank database is full of programmes including the word "empowerment", but the number that can be shown to be truly impactful is very small. High-level language only goes so far and it is difficult to obtain evidence.

More needs to be done on the ground to push for more entrepreneurship. Initiatives should be developed to take full advantage of the dynamism of the private sector. ODA (official development assistance) should be strategic in catalysing domestic resources to bring the private sector on board.

Having more children should not be considered an economic insurance policy. What is needed is a cultural shift to make family planning acceptable. Infrastructure must reach out to this cross-section of population in both rural and urban areas. We need health insurance at all levels and partnership with the private sector in a proactive approach. There are three key approaches for engaging young people:

- Recognise them. Be open-minded. Let them define their own narrative and who they are.
- Let them participate in decision-making and wealth generation (through loans). Make them partners to avoid marginalisation.
- Long-term investment gives them hope. Give young people skills and employment opportunities to keep them off the streets and out of the hands of terrorists.

The She Decides movement has made good progress. There is a greater openness about discussing sexual education and reproductive rights even among religious leaders. We need to be adaptable if they put the emphasis on women's health rather than human rights.

Insight

EDD Young Leader Esenam Amuzu noted that although these problems have existed before, there are new possibilities for mutually beneficial dialogue. She stressed that there is a key role for civil society organisations, and for media such as radio to offer solutions for girls facing social stigma.

1.4.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [**A win-win deal with a doubling Africa: Addressing fragility in order to harness demographic growth in Africa**](#)

Organised by ONE Campaign

Speakers

- Babst Stefanie, Head, Strategic Analysis Capability for the NATO Secretary General and Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, NATO
- Ceriani Sebregondi Filiberto, Head of Division - Development Cooperation Coordination, European External Action Service

- Dzikunu Richard, EDD Young Leader, Ghana

Moderator: Adrian Lovett, Europe Executive Director, The ONE Campaign

Key Points

- Africa's population is set to double by 2050. It is the world's youngest continent.
- In development terms, this could deliver a "demographic dividend". But major new investment is needed if it is not to become a "demographic trap".
- The EU's new External Investment Plan is expected to leverage €44 billion of investment in Africa by 2020.
- If resources are to be spent effectively, governments in Africa must be more accountable. Non-governmental organisations, civil society and young people have an important part to play in this, but they must have access to key data.
- Development and security are mutually reinforcing. If the problems of fragile countries and regions are not addressed urgently and sustainably, new security threats will arise.

Synopsis

How can the EU leverage development assistance to take advantage of Africa's demographic dividend?

By 2050, the population of Africa is set to double from its current figure of 1.25 billion (UN). It is already the world's youngest continent. By some estimates, there will be 20 times more young people in Africa than in Europe. This young and growing population offers real opportunities for development, but major new investment will be needed if Africa's demographic dividend is not to become a "demographic trap".

The anti-poverty campaigning group ONE insists that investment in Africa must double between now and 2050, while more measures are needed to stop illicit flows of wealth out of the continent. It says the risks of neglecting rapidly growing populations in fragile states have become too great to ignore.

As ONE's co-founder Bono puts it, "Africa faces the three extremes: extreme poverty, extreme climate and extreme ideology." Instability and conflict in parts of the continent have been aggravated by the global economic downturn. In turn, this has exacerbated the migration crisis. Partnerships are needed to support inclusive and sustainable growth, create jobs and address some of the root causes of migration.

The EU's new External Investment Plan (EIP) is an important tool to leverage investment in Africa. Its blending mechanism draws on the EU's experience of

leveraging regional investment. Since blending began in 2007, €3.4 billion in EU grants have leveraged €26 billion in loans, with a total investment volume in partner countries of some €57 billion.

The new EIP is expected to leverage investment in Africa worth over €44 billion by 2020. The plan also provides guarantees against investment risks, as well as technical assistance to develop financially attractive, mature projects and improve the business environment. It aims to boost investment in fragile areas and countries, as well as in micro-enterprises. "Additionality" is a key factor: the EIP will be in addition to official development assistance (ODA), not a substitute for it.

Of course, it is vital to ensure that money channelled into countries is properly spent. Panellists agreed on the important role of non-governmental organisations and civil society in holding governments to account. Young people must play their part here: it is their future and they want to be partners in development. They need to ensure that resources go to the real priorities: education, health and reproductive rights.

Development and security are mutually reinforcing. The UN's Sustainable Development Goal 16 makes that clear: it aims to "promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels". Meeting this goal will require integrated thinking, addressing both immediate needs and sustainability.

Insight

"There's a lot of waste in the system. In Ghana, a hospital found itself without access to water. You can imagine what a hospital without water is like. Well, that same week, the hospital directors concentrated on financing new vehicles for themselves." Richard Dzikunu, EDD Young Leader, Ghana.

→ **The place where the battle for sustainable development will be won or lost**

Organised by UN Habitat

Speakers

- Andersdotter Fabre Elin, Coordinator Nordic Declaration, Global Utmaning
- Elong-Mbassi Jean-Pierre, Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments of Africa
- Kirabo Kacyira Aisa, Deputy Executive Director and Assistant Secretary General, UN-Habitat

Moderator: Dagmar Dehmer, Journalist

Key Points

- Urbanisation is an unstoppable phenomenon.
- The New Urban Agenda provides a roadmap to sustainable cities.
- Take time to understand the local urban context.
- City-dwellers are a vital untapped resource.

Synopsis

For the first time in history urban citizens form the majority of the world's population. And our cities are continuing to grow quickly. By 2030, more than 6 out of every 10 people on the planet will reside in urban areas. More than 90 % of this growth will take place in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

The creation of new housing stock to meet the growing global demand will have a huge impact on the attainment of the world's Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs). Will housing be low-carbon, climate and risk resilient? Will it be affordable? Clearly, we need planning for urbanisation to adapt an integrated approach to best manage economic development, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

In October 2016, the United Nations adopted the New Urban Agenda (NUA), which provides a roadmap to sustainable urbanisation. An action-oriented document, the NUA is designed to set global standards of achievement in sustainable urban development, rethinking the way we build, manage, and live in cities.

Cooperation is at the heart of the NUA approach, as it seeks to ensure that all levels of government, relevant stakeholders and social groups, including the poor and those living in informal settlements, are effectively engaged in the implementation of urbanisation projects. The panellists, urbanisation experts with experience in both developed and developing world contexts, agreed that the pathway to sustainable cities required a real commitment to cooperation with partners, relevant stakeholders, and urban actors at all levels.

Via the NUA, world leaders have committed to an ambitious set of targets for urban dwellers, such as providing basic services for all citizens, ensuring equal opportunities and ending discrimination, promoting measures that support cleaner cities, and to address climate change. But it was noted that urbanisation is an art not a science and that a top-down approach or a copy/paste approach will not deliver the required results. The panellists emphasised the need to reflect and understand the local context.

While global initiatives provide a helpful framework for city managers, and specific roles and responsibilities rest at the government level, such as the allocation of resources or provision of security, each city has its own specific strengths and challenges. A comprehensive vision of what the city wants to be -- that has broad agreement -- can guide the management and planning process. The system needs to be flexible and open-minded enough to include expertise as and when it is needed.

The panel concluded on an optimistic note. While financing and infrastructure resources are very important, the human dimension should never be underestimated. Critical thinking, timely decision-making and decisive leadership can make a real difference, even in a resource-poor environment. Empowering city dwellers is another smart approach. Once local citizens feel part of the process they are willing to put their own resources into making their city a better place to live.

Insight

Africa, the least urbanised continent in the world, is undergoing rapid urbanisation. By 2100, it is estimated that the population of Lagos could grow to 61 million. The case for the New Urban Agenda is clear.

→ [Investing in Africa's youth to harness the demographic dividend](#)

Organised by GIZ

Speakers

- Agama-Anyetei Margaret, Head of Division Health, Nutrition and Population, African Union Commission
- Itaye Tikhala, President of Eastern and Southern African Region of AfriYAN, African Youth and Adolescents Network
- Montesi Carla, Director of the Directorate for Development Coordination - West and Central Africa, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Msiyaphazi Zulu Eliya, Director, African Institute for Development Policy
- Nagel Tilman, Host of the session - Head of Section, Education, TVET & Labour Markets, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

Moderator: Ute Lange, Moderator, Trainer and Communication coach, i3kommunikation

Key Points

- Asian and Latin American countries have been the main beneficiaries of the demographic dividend over the last four decades. Now it is Africa's turn.
- Integrated development is key to harnessing the demographic dividend.
- Employment, education, skills management, health and well-being, and good governance are the four wheels of development.
- There is a time limit to making the most of the demographic dividend.
- Focusing solely on one investment pillar for before considering the other areas will not help Africa's youth.

Synopsis

If you were asked what your main priority is when it comes to Africa's youth, what would you choose? Education? Health? Governance? Mortality and fertility? If you were then asked about how to sequence the investment to harness the continent's demographic dividend, what would you choose as your entry point?

These are the questions that occupy the minds of those in the development and donor communities as they try to direct young Africans towards a brighter social and economic future.

For development practitioners in Africa, it is not a case of prioritising one thing over another, but of building an integrated development. That means creating a holistic approach that considers the issues not in isolation, but in a combined and complimentary way.

They believe there are four key development pillars that must be considered together:

- Employment
- Education and skills management
- Health and well-being
- Good governance.

These four pillars must work together in a synchronised fashion. You cannot look at one without the others if you want to harness the demographic dividend.

Push harder for an answer about priorities and, depending on who is speaking, individual concerns become apparent. EU leaders in development coordination might favour education, for example, because of its ability to empower young people, create opportunities and tackle gender inequality.

Those looking at African development policy might pick interventions that tackle child dependency. African youth networks might suggest governance as key.

Without good structures and systems in place, funds could be managed badly, and the investment opportunities will be lost.

While some in the development community cite limited budgets as a reason to focus on single issues, youth networks believe that true multi-sectoral partnerships will allow them to cover the four key development pillars at the same time. Bringing together stakeholders in each of the key areas means they can plan together, work together, and ensure the right investment is delivered in the right areas at the right time.

The demographic dividend occurs when the proportion of working people in the population is high, meaning more people have the potential to contribute to growth of the economy. The countries of Asia and Latin America have been the main beneficiaries of the demographic dividend over the last 40 years. Now it is Africa's turn.

The window of opportunity to make the most of the dividend is limited: it is estimated that the continent has just 40 years.

What is needed now is for development practitioners to find a way to help governments develop packages of intervention to support young people. If they don't harness the demographic dividend now, there could be chaos.

Insight

The demographic dividend is about adopting a holistic approach to achieve the development aims for young people in Africa. Focusing solely on one issue before considering other areas will not work.

→ **Choosing sustainability: Future planning for climate change**

Organised by Margaret Pyke Trust

Speakers

- Assefa Feyera, Country Director, Ethiopia, DSW (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung)
- Belanger Erica, Senior Advocacy Adviser, International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network
- Hautala Heidi, Member, European Parliament
- Hirsch Carina, Advocacy and Policy Manager, Margaret Pyke Trust, with the Population & Sustainability Network

Moderator: Sibylle Koenig, Development Consultant and Policy Advisor, DSW (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung)

Key Points

- A community's ability to respond to climate change can improve if women are able to access sexual and reproductive health information and services.
- 42 % of the African population is under the age of 25, coupled with a high fertility rate and a 2.6 % population growth rate.
- The Population, Health, and Environment (PHE) approach aims to improve access to family planning and reproductive health, while also helping communities become more environmentally aware.
- Government and private investment in family planning and contraceptives is necessary.

Synopsis

The session focused on the importance of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for women's empowerment. SRHRs play a major role in the lives of young people, particularly girls, and according to expert research, access to SRHR can also help curb climate change.

Many people question this link but the evidence is clear: a community's ability to respond to climate change can improve if women are able to access sexual and reproductive health information and services and plan their families.

Of the African population, 42 % are under the age of 25. There is a high fertility rate and a 2.6 % population growth rate. It is therefore important to empower these young people, enabling them to decide freely and responsibly on all aspects of their sexuality.

An example of a project that has transformed how young people feel about their sexuality can be seen in a small town in Ethiopia called Bonga. The programme had a community-based structure and young people played a big part by providing Reproductive Health Care and Family Planning (RHFP) education and by giving contraceptives to other young girls. But it went beyond SRHR and RHFP in Bonga. These young people started to actively engage in environment-friendly projects.

Bonga was putting into practice the so-called Population, Health, and Environment (PHE) approach to community development. This aims to simultaneously improve access to family planning and reproductive health, while also helping communities conserve biodiversity, manage natural resources, and develop sustainable livelihoods.

Another project in Nepal saw new multipurpose centres being constructed for the community complete with a clinic, information point, and even a micro-

finance facility. The project has been a success and it has just received funding for a second phase.

However, there is a certain reluctance to convince people that PHE should be taken together, with many governments preferring to pick and chose what specifics they want. However, studies show that an integrated PHE approach may help people become more resilient and better able to adapt to climate change. It seems that the tide is turning with more governments and industry taking an interest in PHE.

There was an appeal to the EU to hold a stakeholder consultation on SRHR issues. There was also a call for low-cost access to family planning and supplies, such as contraceptives. It was agreed that both government and private investment is required. But small innovative approaches, such as engaging with employers so that they provide workplace health services are also being looked at.

Insight

The general consensus was that the United States' withdrawal from the Paris climate agreement was disastrous. However, it was also agreed that the move had brought the rest of the world closer together and more determined than ever to beat climate change.

1.4.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [**WATER SHOCKS: Wetlands and human migration in the Sahel**](#)

Organised by Wetlands

Speakers

- Ambrosi Eugenio, Regional Director, IOM's Regional Office for the European Economic Area, the EU and NATO
- Duijsens Raimond, Global Coordinator, Partners for Resilience, Netherlands Red Cross
- Madgwick Jane, CEO, Wetlands International
- Zaccheo Felice, Head of Unit C.6 - Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Fred Pearce, Journalist

[**Podcast**](#)

1.5 Inequalities

Inequality is a pressing global challenge, which is fully reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Inequalities cut across all dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. Inequalities among countries and regions continue to be high and, more importantly, those within countries have risen since the late 1980s, despite high rates of economic growth.

Evidence shows that there is a negative relationship between income inequality and human development. High levels of income inequality can hamper growth, macroeconomic stability and poverty reduction. Moreover, inequality can cause political and economic instability, undermine resilience and weaken the social consensus required to allow countries to adjust in the face of shocks.

Addressing inequality requires a comprehensive and partnered approach. Action is needed to assist the poorest sections of our society directly and also to help to promote more inclusive and sustainable growth that does not compromise future generations. To address economic and social inequalities, national development paths need to maximise positive social outcomes and impacts; promote better sharing of the benefits of growth, particularly for the poorest and most vulnerable, through the creation of wealth and decent jobs and by improving their access to factors of production. This requires effective tax collection systems, in addition to policies for progressive taxation and redistributive public expenditure to increase access for all to employment opportunities and quality basic services.

Sustainable and equitable social protection systems are essential to guarantee basic income, underpin the rights of all citizens, in particular persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, prevent relapses into extreme poverty, and build resilience.

1.5.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ [Reducing health inequalities through global partnership and collaboration](#)

Organised by World Health Organisation

Speakers

- Adhanom Tedros Ghebreyesus, Director-General Elect, World Health Organization
- Andriukaitis Vytenis, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, European Commission
- Gashumba Diane, Minister of Health, Government of the Republic of Rwanda
- Murabit Alaa, The Voice of Lybian Women, Sustainable Development Goals Advocate
- Nkonde Kalaba, EDD Young Leader, Zambia

Moderator: Ilona Kickbusch, Director, Global Health Centre

Key Points

- Health is a key element of equitable and sustainable development.
- Universal healthcare for all can be achieved; it is merely a matter of political will.
- The social determinants of poor health must be addressed.
- Improving human health needs a holistic approach.

Synopsis

Health is central to people's lives and is a key element of equitable and sustainable development, even in richer countries. The promotion of good health for all has been an international commitment for nearly 40 years, since the Declaration of Alma-Ata in 1978. But since then, the political will to bring it about has been lacking.

The world has the technical and financial means to provide universal health care. Providing such care would be a smart investment as research has shown that every US dollar spent on providing health care yields a dividend of US \$20 in growth. Some political leaders have seen health as an investment with no economic return, one panellist observed.

But this is far from true. Many companies in Europe have realised that investing in the health of their workforce can yield important economic dividends. There is no reason why governments should not adopt the same approach.

Thanks to the World Health Organization (WHO), good health is understood as extending to social, physical and mental wellbeing rather than being limited to disease and infirmities. Human health needs a holistic approach in which social, cultural and behavioural factors play a big role. People with higher incomes enjoy better health in part because they also tend to adopt healthier lifestyles. Poorer people eat poorer food and tend to drink and smoke more.

These social and economic inequalities have intensified following the global financial crisis. Ensuring better and fairer healthcare means addressing these

economic risk factors. For example, eight out of 10 smokers live in lower income countries. These countries are often afflicted by many other health problems, leading to a vicious circle of poor health, poverty and poor living conditions.

But much can be achieved when there is strong political commitment. Since 1994, Rwanda has followed a policy of equal access to healthcare; these services now cover some 90 % of the population. Immunisation coverage is 94 %. Another example is Sri Lanka, where the government covers cancer care.

It is also important to understand the reason why some sectors of society are excluded from healthcare. Sometimes this is due to social and cultural reasons. In Ethiopia, for example, women are reluctant to use health centres where the healthcare providers are men. One solution is to deploy extension health workers. Another is to invest in e-health services. In Pakistan, women doctors have spearheaded the use of e-health services to reach women who otherwise might have no access to healthcare.

One of the surest ways of extending healthcare is to strengthen primary care. Primary healthcare workers are at the frontline of the battle for better health, for example, by preventing local disease outbreaks from turning into global emergencies.

Insight

Governments need to consider good healthcare services a stimulant of economic growth. Personal health and economic health are often related.

→ **Leave no-one behind (Special event with SDG advocates)**

Organised by UN

Speakers

- Gbowee Leymah, 2011 Nobel Peace Laureate and Sustainable Development Goals Advocate, Gbowee Peace Foundation
- H.M. Mathilde, the Queen of the Belgians, Sustainable Development Goals Advocate
- Murabit Alaa, The Voice of Libyan Women, Sustainable Development Goals Advocate
- Polman Paul, CEO, Unilever, Sustainable Development Goals Advocate
- Sachs Jeffrey, Sustainable Development Goals Advocate and Professor Columbia University
- Timmermans Frans, First Vice-President for Better Regulation, Interinstitutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights, European Commission

- Yunus Muhammad, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and Sustainable Development Goals Advocate

Moderator: Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Key Points

- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Agenda has to be inclusive to succeed.
- There can be no political consensus if too many people feel left behind.
- The agenda needs to be translated in terms people can relate to.
- The SDGs are a framework for progress that can survive interruptions by crises.
- 99 % of the world's wealth owned by 1 % of people is not a sustainable system.
- The current crisis of ethics, trust and leadership makes progress difficult

Synopsis

"Investment in development means, first of all, investment in people," declared Her Majesty Mathilde, the Queen of the Belgians, in her opening address. Insisting that quality education and health are the cornerstones of an inclusive sustainable development, she warned that without sufficient efforts now there could be a terrible price to pay later.

She emphasised that without a focus on vulnerable groups who cannot find their way to a school or a doctor, all progress will be precarious. Her Majesty Mathilde spoke movingly of meeting children fleeing war zones and concluded by giving heartfelt thanks to those working in the field with refugees.

Even in the richest societies on earth, people have the feeling they are being left behind. In any society the social contract assumes no one is left behind, but the reality is different, undermining solidarity towards others and the global solidarity so urgently needed to achieve the SDGs. The situation can be fixed – it is "the eternal political problem of redistribution."

It is important to translate the goals into a language people can understand, bringing it down to the level of a village and expressing it in the simplest terms. Every child must have something to eat every day. Only in this way would people own the agenda and see their future in it.

There is a need to translate the SDGs into people's personal lives and demonstrate that they are of interest to companies and governments through clarification of what the outcome will look like. It is important to educate girls on women's reproductive rights and the need for patience as global crises interrupt progress.

A system based on personal interest means that people are inevitably left behind. There should be a shift away from selfishness and towards selflessness in a thorough redesign of today's economic machine that sucks resources to the top by exchanging the employer/employee model with that of the entrepreneur.

Inequality is an inadequate word for just eight people having more wealth than the bottom 40 % and next year it will be less than eight. It is a ticking time bomb and will explode sooner or later. It the money; no miracles are needed. One per cent of world output is over a trillion dollars, enough to solve all the problems if we direct it towards vulnerable people. Only US\$80 to US\$100 is necessary per year to provide basic healthcare for a person, but that is beyond the means of country with US\$800 per capita GDP.

There are more good people than bad people in the world. Achieving dignity and respect for all individuals is a question of ethics. However, although values are simple, they are difficult to put into practice. The golden rule helps people assess their position: "If we don't want things to happen to us, why accept they happen to others?"

Considering the damage done to the planet in the past 50 years, there needs to be more awareness about intergenerational responsibility. Everything we do has to make sense seven generations down the line.

Insight

The current system can work, but there is an urgent need for courageous leadership, greater transparency to restore the trust that is the basis of prosperity, longer-term incentives in the financial markets and a broadening of the definition of capitalism to include social and environmental aspects.

→ [**Tell my story: The Lorenzo Natali Media Prize Award Ceremony \(Special event\)**](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Moderator: Katrina Sichel, TV Producer and Presenter

Key Points

- After receiving more than 500 applications, the European Commission awarded 11 awards for the Lorenzo Natali Media Prize for outstanding reporting on development, poverty eradication and freedom of religion.

- An independent jury of experts in development, journalism and human rights selected winners. Each prize is worth €5,000.

Synopsis

After receiving more than 500 applications from around the world, the European Commission awarded 11 Lorenzo Natali Media Prizes to journalists for outstanding reporting on development, poverty eradication and freedom of religion.

Awards, worth €5,000 each, were presented to amateur and professional journalists from Africa; the Arab world and Middle East; Asia and Pacific; Latin America and the Caribbean; and Europe. This year included a special prize on Freedom of Religion or Belief outside the EU.

For Africa in the professional category, Daniel Addeh won for his story on school children in Togo whose lives were transformed when a start-up gave them access to solar powered lights. The lights enabled children to study at night and avoid exhausting manual labour by day to pay for batteries. In the amateur category, Martin Kaba of Burkina Faso won for reporting on his government's efforts to bring solar energy to rural communities.

For the Arab world and the Middle East in the professional category, Nehal El-Sherif won for her audio story on rural savings and loan associations in Egypt that empower women to start small businesses. No award was given in the amateur category in this region.

For Asia and the Pacific in the professional category, Umar Manzoor Shah won for his profile on the lives of disabled children in Kashmir who the Catholic Social Service Society supports with medical treatment. Saurabh Sharma's wrenching story on the hardships faced by homeless girls in India won the amateur prize. For his courageous reporting on a taboo subject, Sharma also won an additional grand prize.

In Europe in the professional category, Peter Lind won for his investigative report on abusive child labour practices in Madagascar, the world's largest producer of vanilla. Amateur journalist, Maria Zornorsa won for shining a spotlight on the child labour and other abuses faced by Syrian refugees living in Turkey.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, Fernanda Maldonado won for her multimedia story on modern day slavery on farms in the Brazilian state of Parana. No award was given in the amateur category in this region.

For the special prize on Freedom of Religion or Belief in the professional category, Delphine Bauer won for her story on two refugees who fled Tunisia for France after being persecuted for renouncing religion in their lives. In the amateur category, Ousame Drabo won for his report on a village in Burkina

Faso where Christians and Muslims are co-existing with respect despite growing religious extremism nearby.

An independent jury of experts in development, journalism and human rights selected winners. Jury members included Sanitsuda Ekachai (Bangkok Post and Press Council of Thailand), Nazila Ghanea (University of Oxford), Richard Jones (Devex), Julie Majerczak (Reporters Without Borders), Ines Pohl (Deutsche Welle), Alana Rizzo (Brazilian Association of Investigative Journalism), and Sybella Wilkes (UNHCR).

Insight

In her acceptance speech, journalist Maria Zorzona explained that she knew she had to tell the story of the Syrian children she met in Turkey. The abuses they faced were intolerable and the best thing she could do was to give them a voice. The prize was an affirmation of her belief in the importance of journalism and the fundamental values of democracy and human rights at the heart of Europe.

It made her proud to be a European, especially as her family members were once refugees fleeing Syria. The EU's Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU, Jan Figel, said the prize is a testament to European tolerance and multiculturalism. It speaks for itself about European values, and our respect for journalists who courageously give voice to the voiceless.

1.5.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [Mid-term review of the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy](#)

Organised by EEAS

Speakers

- Feiring Birgitte, Chief Adviser, Human Rights and Development, The Danish Institute for Human Rights
- Hachez Nicolas, Senior researcher, Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies KU Leuven
- Rinaldi Sarah, Deputy Head of Unit - Human Rights, Gender, Democratic Governance, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Ville Jean-Louis, Acting Director of Human Development and Migration, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Zaimis Nikolaos, Deputy Director General in charge of Directorates B, C and D, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Mercedes Garcia Perez, Head of Unit – Human Rights, European External Action Service

Key Points

- The EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy (2015–2019) protects human rights and supports democracy worldwide.
- The Plan's main components are the National Human Rights Institutions or NHRIs, and the EU's trade policy.
- Despite being extremely successful in some countries, there is still a need in some regions for more cooperation, better exchange of information and more awareness raising activities.
- The GSP+ instrument, which is also part of the EU Action Plan, has been effective in protecting human rights, as countries benefiting from it are wary of breaking the rules.

Synopsis

The EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy (2015–2019) reaffirms the EU's commitment to promote and protect human rights and to support democracy worldwide. This session looked at two of the Plan's main components:

- The National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs); and
- The EU's trade policy.

NHRIs are bodies independent of government and broadly protect, monitor and promote human rights in a country. Their functions include complaint handling, human rights education and recommendations on law reform. They are an important link between government and civil society as they bridge the gap between the rights of individuals and the responsibilities of the state.

Despite being extremely successful in some countries, there is still a need in some regions for more cooperation, better exchange of information and more awareness-raising activities.

NHRIs are regularly reviewed to assess their standards, with grades from A to C. Currently, just 37 % of all countries have been awarded the A grade. It was argued that this figure needs to rise.

Various Directorate-Generals of the European Commission have provided both financial and political support to numerous NHRIs. Many capacity building projects have helped staff working at these institutions in their daily work. The Commission also wants to support NGOs working on the ground and make governments accountable for human rights violations.

When it comes to trade policy, GSP+ (the Generalised Scheme of Preferences) is the EU instrument that encourages developing countries to comply with such

issues as human rights, labour rights and good governance in return for preferential trade access to the EU market.

The instrument, part of the EU Action Plan, has been effective in protecting human rights, as countries benefiting from it are wary of breaking the rules. It has received positive feedback from civil society as it gives them a platform to communicate to their government.

Human rights have now become an essential component of any Free Trade Agreement (FTA). However, if GSP+ is violated, action will be taken, and in the worst-case scenario, countries at fault can be suspended from their FTA.

There was some criticism of the EU's trade policy. It was argued that the EU does not always apply its GSP+ commitments in all of its target countries. Results also appear to be lacking at times, with implementation being below expectations. It was recommended that more thought should go into enforcing the EU's trade policy in some developing countries.

The Commission stressed that it is still seeking feedback for its mid-term review of the EU Action Plan and that it will soon publish its report, which will prove crucial for the Plan's future success.

Insight

Human rights are being violated across the world. It is no longer enough to simply advocate for them. There are needs to be fresh arguments made and new audiences targeted, as there is a decreasing appetite among some governments to defend basic human rights.

→ **The future of social protection**

Organised by OECD

Speakers

- Bastagli Francesca, Head of Social Protection, Overseas Development Institute
- Fuentes-Nieva Ricardo, Executive Director, Oxfam Mexico
- Oye Nana Lithur, Former Minister, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ghana
- Signore Stefano, Head of Migration, Employment, Inequalities Unit, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Alessandra Heinemann, Coordinator, European Union Social Protection Systems Project, OECD Development Centre

Key Points

- Providing social protection as a form of poverty reduction is part of the general debate about wealth distribution and employment in the informal and formal sectors.
- Political will on the part of the government is instrumental in driving forward a social protection system. It may need support at the very top – such as the personal backing of a president.
- Governments that want to introduce an effective social protection system need to tackle institutionalised corruption at government and personal individual levels to ensure the population supports the system.
- The issue of how to finance social protection needs to be solved – at present it costs between 4 % to 5 % of GDP. Another issue is the question of how to increase domestic resources and to move people into the tax-paying formal sector.
- A new system of social organisation is needed that improves delivery and advocates for those in the formal and informal economy.

Synopsis

The post-war political landscape, in which social protection was an accepted right, has changed. We now live with a global economic system, which has created immense wealth for the few but is not shared by the general population. Tax systems have not adjusted to the new reality, as there is a growing antipathy to paying taxes as a form of income redistribution.

Employment patterns have also changed, with the growth of the informal sector both in developing countries and in the West with the so-called 'gig economy'. This has created a huge sector of the population that works in the informal sector and is not covered by social protection. The challenge is to provide a system that extends coverage to informal workers.

Government backing at the top has been a major component in countries that have introduced a social protection system. In some African countries, such as Ghana, it needed the personal intervention of the president to ensure that all the government departments involved participated. He used his personal prestige to push this through, ignoring protests from his own political party and ministers.

The importance of political will to set up effective social protection is closely linked to the need to reduce corruption, as people are losing faith in the institutions tasked with implementing social-protection policies. It is a question of getting public acceptance for social protection systems. Ironically, the general population will often agree to military spending without question, whereas there are doubts about whether money on social protection is well spent.

Too often the money destined for social protection payouts is siphoned off into the personal bank accounts of officials or politicians who use it to buy votes. Donors who finance social protection systems also need to be reassured that their money is being well spent.

Another challenge in setting up social protection systems is how this should be financed. At present, an average social protection system costs 4 % to 5 % of GDP, so it is necessary to increase domestic resources to cover it. This, in part, involves public acceptance of contributing towards a social security section, but it also presents a circular problem – in countries where a large proportion of the population works informally, it is not contributing to the country's tax base.

Research has also suggested that in countries where governments make cash payments to poorer families, people have been stimulated to seek formal employment. In Ghana, for example, a programme offered public works programmes in rural areas, coupled with cash transfers. This offered employment and training to 38 000 people, 60 % of whom were women, gradually moving these people into the formal economy.

The session finished with a discussion on improving system implementation. It was agreed that governments must introduce new regulatory and legislative frameworks that bring together different social protection programmes that are spread across government departments.

New policies are also needed to look at ways to support workers in both the informal and formal economies and to fill the space left by the decline of the trade unions, which pioneered social protection systems in their heyday.

Insight

Civil society organisations need to play a big role to ensure that governments put in place social protection systems.

→ [**Tackling inequalities: Making the SDGs work for indigenous peoples**](#)

Organised by ILO

Speakers

- Carling Joan, Representative, Indigenous Peoples Major Group
- Feiring Birgitte, Chief Adviser, Human Rights and Development, The Danish Institute for Human Rights
- Garcia Perez Mercedes, Head of Unit – Human Rights, European External Action Service

- Kishore Tripura Naba Bikram, Secretary, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
- Kyrrou Eleni, Senior Social Development Specialist Environment, Climate and Social Office, European Investment Bank
- Oumarou Ibrahim Hindou, Coordinator, Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad
- Ville Jean-Louis, Acting Director of Human Development and Migration, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Martin Oelz, Senior Specialist on Equality and Non-Discrimination, International Labour Office

Key Points

- The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are game-changers for the rights of indigenous peoples.
- A rights-based approach tackles inequality in all its forms.
- Indigenous peoples must always be treated as equal partners.
- Innovative tools are emerging to support the rights of indigenous peoples.

Synopsis

Indigenous peoples face common challenges arising out of historic and continued exclusion and marginalisation that has economic, social, cultural and political dimensions. As a result, today's indigenous peoples, who are estimated to represent 5 % of the world's population, account for 15 % of the world's poor. Panellists emphasised that the adoption of the SDGs marked a real step forward for the enforcement of indigenous peoples' rights.

A rights-based approach to development is implicit in the world's shared ambition of leaving no one behind. The European Council recently adopted conclusions on indigenous peoples. The conclusions focus on discrimination and the threat of violence to indigenous peoples and human rights defenders regarding ownership of land and access to natural resources. They emphasise Europe's adherence to a rights-based approach.

Panellists elaborated on the situation in different countries, such as Bangladesh, which recognises and protects the rights of ethnic minorities in its constitution, rather than recognise specific indigenous peoples. Tackling the root causes of poverty based on a genuine partnership approach was seen as the way forward.

Whereas previous initiatives, such as a hydroelectricity project requiring the construction of a dam as part of a climate change initiative, may previously have disregarded rights and dispossessed indigenous peoples, the SDG

approach is based on partnership and reduces the likelihood of rights being denied.

Treating indigenous peoples as real partners is still challenging, however. International financing institutions, such as the European Investment Bank, can run into difficulty with due diligence as the ancestral land rights of a people are not recognised legally and thus development projects can be abandoned. The global database of land rights needs to be elaborated to limit the appropriation of indigenous peoples' rights.

The status of indigenous peoples is often hidden in the monitoring of the implementation of global initiatives such as the SDGs. This can make enforcing rights more difficult and cloud over real change. To disaggregate data pertaining to indigenous peoples, exciting new initiatives are being proposed.

Panellists singled-out the Indigenous Navigator for praise. It is anchored in the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which covers the full range of indigenous peoples' rights.

The Indigenous Navigator provides a framework and a set of tools for indigenous peoples to systematically monitor the level of recognition and implementation of their rights. The tool will help raise awareness and contribute to the ability of indigenous peoples to claim their rights. It will also help to hold states accountable to their human rights obligations and can guide policy and development programmes.

Indigenous peoples are yet to be treated as equals in the decision-making process. It was noted that capacity building is a two-way street – more effort is needed to recognise indigenous peoples as rights holders and development actors, with sustainable lifestyle practices that can feed into the SDGs. For example, the role of indigenous women in resource management is insufficiently appreciated.

Insight

Buried in the figures: Vietnam has reported a 40 % reduction in overall poverty levels. However, despite this progress, some 80 % of Vietnamese indigenous peoples live in poverty.

1.5.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Innovative approaches for more inclusive social protection of informal workers](#)

Organised by ARS Progetti

Speakers

- Alfes Laura, Deputy Director, Social Protection Programme, WIEGO
- Charmes Jacques, Economist and statistician, RNSF Research Expert, AGRER
- Frota Luis, Senior social security specialist at the Decent WORK Team for Southern and Eastern Africa, International Labour Organization
- Hohmann Jürgen, Social Protection Expert, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Paul Mundy, Freelance Consultant

[Podcast](#)

→ [A Territorial Approach to Food Security and Nutrition Policy](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Cistulli Vito, Senior Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Mizzi Leonard, Head of Unit C.1 - Rural development, food security and nutrition, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Oliveira Martins Joaquim, Special Advisor to the Director - Centre for, Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Local Development and Tourism, Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation
- Schmitz Stefan, Deputy Director General, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development - Germany

Moderator: Mark Cropper, Senior expert, European Commission - DG for Agricultural and Rural Development

[Podcast](#)

1.5.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ [Leaving No One Behind: The Role of Inclusive Programming](#)

Organised by Islamic Relief

Speakers

- Al Shaikahmed Sherin, Age & Disability Inclusion Advisor, Islamic Relief
- Cheema Affan, Islamic Relief
- Crump Steve, Founder, DeafKidz International

1.5.5 WEB SEMINARS

→ [Social Cash Transfers in Malawi](#)

Organised by EEAS

Speakers

- Freeland Nicholas, Member, European Commission's Advisory Service in Social Transfers (ASiST)
- Gerrmann Marchel, Head of Delegation of the EU to Malawi, Delegation of the European Union to Malawi
- Masi Patience, Project Manager, KfW
- Msowoya Nations, National Authorising Officer, Ministry of Finance, Government of Malawi
- Mwamlima Harry, Director (Social Protection & Poverty Reduction Department), Malawian Ministry of Economic Planning and Development

Moderator: Jürgen Hohmann, Social Protection Expert, European Commission
- DG for International Cooperation and Development

1.6 Sustainable energy and climate action

Developing countries need energy to ensure access to clean water, clean cooking, education and healthcare and also create jobs and support local businesses. Access to sustainable and affordable energy services, particularly

in Sub-Saharan Africa, is limited and remains a critical challenge to economic growth and industrialisation in the continent. Investment in sustainable energy promotes inclusive growth and helps to limit climate change, which threatens development gains and disproportionately affects the poor. The EU and its Member States will address energy poverty by contributing towards universal access to energy services that are affordable, modern, reliable and sustainable, with a strong focus on renewable energy.

Renewable energy generation represents about 25 % of global production, although it is growing in terms of share and investment. The scale of financial investment needed to bring universal access to sustainable energy services requires increased cooperation with all relevant parties, including the private sector, on energy demand management, energy efficiency, renewable energy generation and clean technology development and transfer. The EU and its Member States will also promote the phase-out of fossil-fuel subsidies and the establishment of stable and transparent energy markets while supporting the deployment of smart grids and the use of digital technologies for sustainable energy management.

The EU's Energy Union will support Africa and its neighbourhood in this energy transition, partnering third countries in tackling climate change and the transition into a low-emission climate-resilient economy through strategic dialogue, sharing best practices and development cooperation. Strategic investment in sustainable energy will be used to support the improvement of regulatory frameworks enabling the development of a healthy energy sector and to leverage private finance. This strategy will help our partners meet the twin challenges of energy and climate change.

The Africa Renewable Energy Initiative, a transformative and African-led initiative launched at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, (COP21), will be critical, as it focuses on the twin challenges of universal sustainable energy access and climate change. It aims at harnessing Africa's abundant renewable energy resources to help African countries to support their development strategies and leapfrog towards low-carbon economic development. The European Commission will play an important role to achieve its ambitious objectives: At least 10GW of renewable energy capacity by 2020, and at least 300 GW by 2030.

1.6.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ **Harnessing opportunities for climate change adaptation and mitigation in cities**

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- El Haite Hakima, UN High Level Climate Champion and Special Envoy for Climate Change from the Kingdom of Morocco
- Ennassiri Rachid, EDD Young Leader, Morocco
- Ketcha Courtes Celestine, Mayor, City of Bangangté, President of the Network for Locally Elected Women of Africa
- Kibuule Ronald, Minister of State for Water, Government of Uganda
- Kirabo Kacyira Aisa, Deputy Executive Director and Assistant Secretary General, UN-Habitat
- Taylor Jonathan, Vice-President, European Investment Bank

Moderator: Anya Sitaram, Founding Director and Executive Producer, Rockhopper T

Key Points

- Cities are the frontline of climate action.
- Internal migration is the leading cause of explosion of urban populations.
- Women have the key role to play in making climate-related decisions.
- Leveraging private finance and public-private partnerships are crucial.

Synopsis

Mayors are in the frontline of action and the only ones who know where people are having difficulties. Climate action is not a luxury. It affects the poor much more than the affluent, as they inhabit the most ecologically vulnerable environments, often in and around cities.

Eighty per cent of climate-related decisions are taken every day by cities regarding finance, water, energy and human capital. At the same time, internal migration in Africa is largely forgotten.

Only a small proportion of people fleeing desertification or conflict reach Europe; the remainder congregate around African cities where there is little or no infrastructure. We should establish coherence between cities and national policies. But cities should go ahead if national policy lags.

Financing sources have to be equally available to women. Activists are pushing harder for climate finance to be reserved for women. Women work the land in

Africa but need help to develop finance-attractive projects. If public funds can be spent better through decentralisation and the local level is most important in climate action, then the best way of ensuring success is putting women in charge.

Fifty-two per cent of Africa's population cannot be left out. If there's no water, then it is the women and girls who fetch it, or wood if there is no electricity. Ecological toilets are good for the environment, but they are also good for sanitation, which gets girls going to school.

Even if mitigation and adaptation are priorities for public finance, we need much more if we are going to address the challenges at scale and this is bigger than mayors can do at their level. Mayors' organisations are vital in best-practice sharing, but we have to bring in private finance and convert billions to trillions.

There is plenty of liquidity, which can be leveraged through de-risking and blending. Flood-risk areas will always require investor encouragement. A lot of this is happening in Europe, but it can be used beyond. It is already the case that a lot of mainstream private sector investment uses social, environmental and governmental metrics, not just ethical or green finance. Public-private partnerships are another crucial means: for example, large corporates may well want to provide solar panels or sustainable construction.

Planning for development and resilience are synergistic and need to be in place before investment. Centralised planning needs to become more holistic, with national budgets leveraging private finance and the UN offering technical support and a platform for public-private cooperation. There are opportunities for adaptation as well as mitigation, but these are perhaps invisible to corporates. We are used to inviting corporates at the end of the process, but we need policy frameworks to bring them in earlier.

Insights

The penny drops: We should start conversations about sharing knowledge rather than funding.

Rhetorical question of the day: What's the point of investing in projects that are not resilient to climate threats?

Business plan: Africa has many young people and lots of arable land: we must encourage "agripreneurs" and take the climate action necessary to make this a long-term proposition.

Example of interconnectedness: Ocean acidification and reef bleaching are a direct consequence of climate change and affect people's livelihoods meaning they will migrate to cities.

1.6.2 DEBATE LABS

→ **Financing city waste management for urban economic development and climate mitigation**

Organised by Climate & Clean Air Coalition

Speakers

- Kaudia Alice, Environment Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Kenya
- Scatasta Monica, Head of Environment, Climate and Social Policy, European Investment Bank

Moderator: Jacob Werksman, Principal Advisor, European Commission - DG for Climate Action

Key Points

- To reduce the environmental impact of waste disposal, better waste management is urgently needed, notably in developing countries.
- The best way of managing waste is to avoid it as much as possible, through recycling and to strategies for reuse such as the EU's circular economy.
- Finance is a major barrier to proper waste management in developing countries.
- Cities, governments, civil society and financial institutions are networking to find sustainable solutions.

Synopsis

Waste is responsible for significant emissions of greenhouse gases, notably methane. This session focused on landfill waste disposal, as it is a major source of methane.

The best way of managing waste is to reduce it as much as possible. For the EU, the challenge of managing landfill is part of the drive to build a circular economy in which materials are recycled and reused. This lies at the heart of the EU's efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In developing countries, economic and population growth makes transforming the waste sector even more urgent. The upfront costs of efficient waste management would be outweighed by major economic benefits in the longer term – but the problem is how to cover those costs in the first place.

Informal urban development poses particular problems. Organising the collection and disposal of waste is much more difficult in areas where tax collection is patchy or non-existent.

Therefore, paying for better waste disposal comes down to the three Ts – taxes, tariffs and transfers (from central to local government). It was generally agreed that the appropriate mix of these can, and should, vary in line with local needs.

But improved quality of service has to be clearly visible if tariffs or transfers are to be secured.

Kenya, like many African countries, lacks a waste management and reprocessing industry. This is a major hindrance to development and the country has set out to tackle the problem with a right to a clean and safe environment now enshrined in the constitution. A Waste Management Bill should be ready for adoption by July 2017 and will reinforce compliance.

However, retrofitting proper waste management systems in urban areas is a challenge. Kenya is now looking for partnerships in this field, which it sees as an opportunity for investment. The aim is to move waste management towards a more entrepreneurial approach.

International financial support for environmental remediation is certainly available. The European Investment Bank, for example, has set itself a strict target – at least 25 % of its global lending has to go to climate action. Waste management improvements would clearly qualify.

C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, a network of leading world cities committed to mitigating climate change, is helping cities to work out financing solutions that are sustainable; in other words, that will not permanently burden their finances. It is also building cities' own capacity to formulate projects. And its members are sharing experiences of what works well.

Meanwhile, the Climate & Clean Air Coalition unites governments, civil society and private sector organisations that are committed to improving air quality and protecting the climate. It brings together multiple actors who can move things further forward than governments alone can commit to.

Insight

The European experience is that methane emissions from landfills went down by 35 % between 1990 and 2010 – mainly due to sorting beforehand.

→ [Shaping cities of tomorrow: A realistic ambition for emerging and developing economies?](#)

Organised by Mobilise Your City

Speakers

- Beaume Eric, Deputy Head of Unit Water, DG for infrastructures and cities European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Calland Richard, Co-director, African Climate Finance Hub
- Chevallier Christophe, Responsable de l'activité maîtrise d'œuvre urbaine, AREP Ville
- Huybrechts Eric, Architect, Urban Planner, Paris Region Planning and Development Agency
- Martinie Maël, Project Manager MobiliseYourCity
- Mbimi Tene Prisca, Head of Service "Mobility and Urban Transport Management" Douala City Council, Cameroon

Key Points

- Cities across the world are facing complex challenges of creating a low-carbon, efficient, integrated infrastructure.
- Without taking significant steps towards low-carbon, sustainable, transport systems, emissions could triple by 2050.
- Sustainable Development Goals, the UN's new Urban Agenda, and the National Determined Contributions offer guiding principles for action.
- There is a mismatch between the money set aside on an international level and the ability of cities to access it.
- The EU and Member States have embraced plans to provide comprehensive technical assistance through initiatives.

Synopsis

Traffic congestion, onerous commuting conditions, high carbon emissions, poor air quality, inadequate housing conditions, disappearing public spaces, and economic inefficiency – these complex urban environment challenges are common across many global cities.

The UN predicts that two out of every three people will soon be classed as urban dwellers. The worldwide transport sector is responsible for more than a quarter of all CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion, according to Mobilise Your City, an open international partnership created by the French and German governments and supported by the European Commission. Without taking significant steps towards sector transformation, these emissions could triple by 2050.

The challenge of integrating urban development with low-carbon, sustainable, transport systems is becoming ever more pressing. While the Sustainable Development Goals, the UN's new Urban Agenda and the National Determined Contributions provide guiding principles for the development community, translating them into powerful opportunities on the ground is proving more complex than anticipated.

The same old problems still exist. Access to funding remains a significant barrier to sustainable urban planning in developing and emerging economies. The

accounting standards set by international aid and financing institutions are extensive. Local authorities must invest a lot of time and effort simply to apply for funds, without any guarantee they will be successful.

That is reflected in the fact that in the four years since 2010, only 11 % of the US\$8 billion committed by the multilateral climate finance funds ended up in cities. Of that, about 3 % was invested in urban transport planning and resilience. The spend is a small crumb in an overall scenario, which suggests there is a mismatch between the money set aside on an international level and the ability of emerging and developing cities to access it.

Competing priorities among local and national governments, the short-term political ambitions of elected officials and a lack of comprehensive dialogue between stakeholders also threaten the creation of sustainable transportation development.

That is perhaps why the EU and Member States have embraced plans to provide comprehensive technical assistance through initiatives such as Mobilise Your City. This partnership helps to bring high-level stakeholders, experts and public authorities together to support capacity building and define low-carbon transport and mobility policies.

New acronyms – SUMPS (Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans) and NUMPS (National Urban Mobility Policies) – have entered the sustainable development lexicon. They could become key tools in helping cities develop integrated and inclusive urban transport plans.

Cities in emerging countries such as Brazil, India and Mexico have developed SUMPS to meet the transport needs of people and businesses. The initiatives aim to harmonise and integrate new developments with existing arrangements, and enable transformational changes towards more inclusive, liveable and efficient cities.

Insight

Integrating urban development with sustainable, low-carbon transport systems is a highly complex topic that must be addressed in a comprehensive way and embedded in a wider integrated urban development strategy. The EU and member states are committed to changing the way cities and urban infrastructures are planned, financed, developed and governed.

→ [**Soils and agriculture in the face of climate change: Challenges of the 4P1000 initiative**](#)

Organised by Institut de Recherche pour le Développement

Speakers

- Bernard Rey, Deputy Head of Unit, Rural development, food security, nutrition, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Emmanuel Torquebiau, Senior researcher and Climate Change Officer, Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement
- Jean-Luc Chotte, Head of research and Deputy Director of ECOBIO, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement
- Mathieu Savadogo, Director, Association for research and training in agroecology

Moderator: Dorothee Fischer, Journalist

Key Points

- Soil degradation poses a threat to more than 40 % of the earth's land surfaces, a process accelerated by climate change. The 4P1000 (four parts per 1000) initiative will increase the growth rate of carbon stored in the soil, which helps slow the increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
- Farmers in eastern Burkina Faso are working on an agro-ecology programme to improve soil quality and receive training on elements of agro-ecological agriculture.
- The EU is a key player in climate change-related programmes, and DG DEVCO will mobilise 29 % of its development cooperation envelope on agriculture and climate change activities.
- The private sector is increasing its investment in new forms of agriculture, but needs to include social and environmental safeguards. The European Commission is keen to work with the private sector to aid research.

Synopsis

Soil degradation, which poses a threat to more than 40 % of the earth's land surfaces, is being accelerated by climate change, with disastrous consequences for food security and small farmers, particularly in developing countries.

The 4P1000 (4 parts per 1,000) programme to improve the carbon load in the soil was launched by France's Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD) during the Paris 2015 climate talks. This programme aims to reduce carbon emissions, improve farming and combat the increasing drought in the soil.

4P1000 has two objectives: improving carbon sequestration in soil will enrich the soil and improve agriculture; storing carbon produced by industrial emissions will reduce the level of carbon in the atmosphere and potentially slow climate change.

The programme is run by a partnership of government and non-state actors and is based on a research and scientific programme of 11 countries.

A related African initiative to improve soil yields and support local farmers is bearing fruit in Burkina Faso. The Association for Training and Research in Agro-Ecology is working with farmers, local NGOs and agricultural researchers to develop agro-ecological farming practices that restore the soil's fertility and increase food production.

Farmers build on traditional practices to conserve water and improve the soil. In addition, they use animal and other organic compost to enrich the soil, carry out strategic tree planting, and develop short-cycle seeds.

The programme helps farmers to experiment in comparing costs and benefits in relation to other practices, as well as offering technical training sessions in agro-ecology innovation. It also has a social aspect: boosting gender and economic equity by setting up women's savings and credit groups; encouraging dry-season vegetable gardening for consumption and sale at local markets; improving practices for raising livestock; and building agricultural capacity.

Combatting climate change is a main concern for the European Union, which was a key player at the Paris climate talks in 2015, where it helped leverage the final agreement.

In keeping with this commitment, DG DEVCO has increased the share of its budget line for sustainable agriculture to 29 % for actions relating to climate change programmes, and is on track to increase this to 40 %. DG Research is also supporting 4P1000 to 'the last mile', and the EU continues to be a leader in combatting climate change.

The private sector is getting on board to support new agricultural developments in the face of climate change, and participants agreed that research cannot survive without private sector support, and in many cases public-private partnerships are an excellent vehicle for joint cooperation.

The European Commission is producing an agro-biodiversity index to measure sustainability in agriculture, which can be used by the private sector. It was suggested that when designing research programmes the private sector should build in social and environmental safeguards, even if this might reduce production levels.

Insight

There was a suggestion that the 4P1000 could be a pretext for Europe to continue to produce carbon emissions at the same level, while hoping that developing countries could sequester these in its soil. However, IRD confirmed that this programme is being rolled out in both industrialised and developing countries, so such fears are not grounded.

1.6.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Business switch to green with innovative support services](#)

Organised by Switch to Green

Speakers

- Kays Nour, Founder, NK by Nour Kays
- Marijnissen Chantal, Head of Unit C2 Environment, Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Wildlife, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Mishra Vivekanand, Director of Gayatri Pashmina Inc.
- Mwaura Muiruri James, Managing Director, Champion Shoes LTD

Moderator: Alexander Charalambous, Team Leader, SWITCH to Green Facility

[Podcast](#)

→ [Decentralised electrification and development](#)

Organised by Institut Veolia

Speakers

- Carpentier Pierre, Chief Investment Officer, Investisseurs et Partenaires
- Iry Alaoy Raïssa, Field Team Leader, HERi Madagascar
- Marmion Ada, Business Development Manager, Energy 4 Impact
- Misra Rachita, Senior Program Manager, SELCO Foundation
- Nkamgueu Elie, President, Club Efficiencie

Moderator: Christophe Angely, Director of Strategy and Funding, Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international

[Podcast](#)

1.6.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ [Is Cooling Food Better for the Climate?](#)

Organised by UNIDO

Speakers

- Alvarez Graciela, International Institute of Refrigeration
- Gavilán Ignacio, Director of Environmental Sustainability, The Consumer Goods Forum
- Kasper-Claridge Manuela, Head of Business and Science & Environment, Deutsche Welle
- Lokko Yvonne, Industrial Development Officer, United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- Skayem Antoine, CEO, RIEGO

→ [Let's team up for climate!](#)

Organised by PLATFORMA

Speakers

- Boesman Wouter, Director Policy, PLATFORMA

2. Investing in Prosperity



'Prosperity: We are determined to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.'

(The Preamble of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)

2.1 Sustainable investment

Sustainable investments help to create growth and decent jobs, diversify economies, link them to regional and global value chains, promote regional integration and trade, enhance local economic value and meet social needs. The 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provide a policy framework for responsible investments that can contribute to achieve sustainable and inclusive development.

In this context, the EU proposed European External Investment Plan (EIP) sets out a coherent, consistent and integrated approach to catalyse investments in Africa and the Neighbourhood countries. The EIP will improve the way in which public funds are used and the way public authorities and private investors work together on investment projects and creating an enabling business environment.

Investments will mainly be targeted to improve social and economic infrastructure, renewable energies, a climate-resilient green economy and sustainable agriculture. They will also contribute to the improvement of the access to finance and development of micro, and small and medium-sized enterprises. Through a European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD), the EIP will offer a guarantee instrument to the private sector to enable them to invest in contexts that are politically more risky than others, and it will address the key factors that enable crowding in private investment where investors would not otherwise go.

Th EIP will include technical assistance to create a broader policy environment to help local authorities and companies develop a higher number of sustainable projects and attract investors. It will also include a range of dedicated thematic, national and regional EU development cooperation programmes, combined with structured dialogue with private and public sector, in order to improve the investment climate and the overall policy environment in the countries concerned.

The instruments available under the EFSD will be offered to all investors through providing integrated services, accessed by a one-stop-shop/ portal.

2.1.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ New frontiers in investment for impact

Organised by European Investment Bank

Speakers

- Enkhtur Nomindari, EDD Young Leader, Mongolia
- Fayolle Ambroise, Vice President, European Investment Bank
- H. Sherif Dina, CEO/Founding Partner, Ahead of the Curve
- Jager Marjeta, Deputy Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Michon Xavier, Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)
- Ridolfi Roberto, Director for Sustainable Growth and Development, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Rioux Rémy, Chief Executive Officer, Agence Française de Développement

Moderator: Shada Islam, Director of Policy, Friends of Europe

Key Points

- On current trends official development assistance (ODA) is not enough to ensure the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be met.
- ODA should serve as a catalyst for private sector investment by helping reduce investment risk.
- 'Blending' offers one way of leveraging grants and ODA.
- All of the SDGs are business opportunities for the private sector.

Synopsis

ODA will not be enough to ensure that global development targets, such as the United Nations' SDGs, are met. Overall, ODA stands at only around half of the international target of 0.7 % of the gross national income of donor countries. But it can serve as a catalyst to attract other funding and investment, notably from the private sector, by helping reduce the perception of risk surrounding international investment in poorer countries.

The good news is that the ODA trend is improving in many parts of the EU. The EU is also developing instruments to ensure that more can be achieved with the ODA available. One such method is "blending", which combines grants with

private sector funding. Asked to guess the multiplication effect of blending, participants correctly put it at 20 times; each US dollar of ODA can attract US\$20 of private-sector investment. An example is the EU-African Development Bank Boost Africa project, which aims to create jobs for young people.

The EU is launching the European External Investment Plan to mobilise resources for Africa and countries bordering the EU to meet the SDGs. It has three pillars, with the first involving blending. The second pillar concerns technical assistance and the third focuses on creating conducive local environments for investment, including relevant legislation and anti-corruption measures.

The plan aims to invest in priority sectors for meeting the SDGs, as well as challenges such as climate change and digitalisation. Public investment policies in education and health are essential and will continue to be supported by ODA. But it is important that measurements are available to assess the efficiency of these investments and indicate where improvements can be made.

Lack of information about potential beneficiaries of foreign investment can be a problem. It is not always easy to find the right entrepreneur with the right ideas and track record. Investors may be interested but they are cautious.

Each of the SDGs offers a business opportunity and can help to create jobs, particularly for the young. But reacting successfully to these opportunities will require a change in mindset among development organisations, investors and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), according to one panellist said. Investments need to look more to the longer term and be inclusive, reaching out to the poorer sections of society and particularly women.

The Middle East has the highest level of youth unemployment in the world. This has become a national security issue for the region. It also has the highest level of unemployment among women. Research shows that involving women in the economy more effectively can boost output by over 33 %. But governments cannot bring about the needed changes; only the private sector has the capacity to react fast enough to the challenges.

Insight

ODA must support sustainable business practices; it must promote green economies.

→ [Investing in creativity, the future is now](#) (Special event)

Organised by Culture & Développement

Speakers

- Edouard Matoko Firmin, Assistant Director-general, Africa Department, UNESCO
- Giro Mario, Vice minister of Foreign Affair and International Cooperation, Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo
- Sarr Felwine, Maître de Conférence Agrégé, Directeur de l'UFR de Sciences Economiques et de Gestion, Université Gaston Berger Saint-Louis du Sénégal
- Traoré Rokia, Singer, Fondation Passerelle
- Ville Jean-Louis, Acting Director of Human Development and Migration, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Chris Burns, Journalist and Annabelle van Nieuwenhuyse, TV and radio presenter

Key Points

- Cultural expression is a form of societal glue that acts as a key to development.
- Red tape in obtaining funding puts off young artists who are disinclined to fill in a lot of forms without being sure of approval.
- There are now artists who have decided to take the bull by the horns and tackle the problem themselves if they do not have access to adequate funding.
- The private sector should consider culture and creative industries a profitable economic sector, as it creates work for many people.
- Economic aspects alone should not dominate the societal importance of cultural and creative development.

Synopsis

The intrinsic links between culture and development efforts have been recognised for many years. Considered as “societal glue”, cultural goods and the corresponding creative industries can have a significant impact on countries’ economic growth, environment, equality, security, education and governance.

As both a driver and enabler of sustainable growth and employment, promoting cultural expression through creative industries is now regarded as indispensable for achieving the EU’s strategic development aims.

But while this change in thinking within the development community is welcome, it does not mask that fact that the same painful problems remain: access to funding is still a significant obstacle for artists and those working in the creative industries.

The red tape involved can be off-putting. Young artists have to spend considerable time filling in forms without being sure they will win approval for

their projects. Clearly a change in approach is needed when a problem as seemingly trivial as the lack of a qualified sound or lighting engineer can be a barrier to launching creative projects.

In Africa, for example, some people feel that international funding structures can both inhibit creativity and contribute to a talent drain. Individual artists are forced to go abroad to allow their creativity, whether in writing, music or the performing arts, to flourish. Some of these artists return later on, others never do. Their loss is significant, considering the associated employment and education opportunities they can provide in the technical and production fields.

Some artists have now decided to take the bull by the horns and tackle the problem themselves if they do not have access to adequate funding. Award-winning Malian singer, songwriter and guitarist, Rokia Traoré, has used her own success to fund artists, helping pay for childcare and allowing mothers to get back to work.

But development in creative industries must go beyond subsidies and include private investment. This can offer a healthy return, which is not always recognised by the business world.

But stakeholders warn that the old ideas of return on investment need to be re-framed to include the deeply human experience that the trade in cultural goods entails. The creative industries are not just selling simple products – they reflect ways of life, value systems, traditions and beliefs.

Creating the right investment environment is important. One possible way forward is for donor organisations to act as a kind of guarantor, encouraging private stakeholders to take risks on projects that might otherwise not meet the threshold for mainstream finance.

Economic aspects alone should not be allowed to dominate the societal importance of cultural and creative development, though; the stakes are too high for that, particularly when cultural industries can help resolve conflict and foster dialogue between opposing groups.

As this new investing environment develops, the warning from stakeholders is simple: rules should not be imposed on artists that inhibit creativity and productivity.

Insight

While talk now centres on private sector involvement in developing cultural programmes, the old idea of return on investment needs to be revised. Investors in culture must be aware that art is a laboratory – there will always be a result, even if it is not the expected one. Rules should not be imposed that limit creativity.

2.1.2 DEBATE LABS

Youth in agribusiness: Promoting job creation in Africa

Organised by CTA

Speakers

- Jallow Alieu, EDD Young Leader, Gambia
- Luke Mbewe Dalitso, Director, Tapera Industries
- Mojaboswa Stimela Thato, Managing Director, Brastorne Enterprises
- Rebergen Christiaan, Director General for International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands
- Walz Mara, Board Member, German National Young Farmer Association

Moderator: Leonard Mizzi, Head of Unit C.1 - Rural development, food security and nutrition, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- Governments need to improve the business climate by, for example, making it easier to start a business, making it easier to access finance and investing in infrastructure such as roads.
- It is important to invest in agriculture, to invest in skills and in vocational 'on the job' training.
- Entrepreneurship needs to be encouraged by adding business-related classes in educational systems and via business incubation centres.
- Modern technology needs to be harnessed to make agribusiness more attractive.

Synopsis

Young people could be a significant asset for Africa if they had more opportunities in agriculture and agribusiness.

Governments need to improve the business climate by, for example, making it easier to start a business and access finance, and by investing in roads and other infrastructure. The best way for people to escape poverty is to enter the value chain. One example is a programme run by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where Dutch farmers help agricultural organisations in developing countries create cooperatives.

An earlier conference on boosting youth employment in Africa revealed that around 80 % of people in the continent work in agriculture, hence the need for investment in the sector. The majority of farmers are smallholders and so the focus needs to be particularly on access to finance and skill enhancement.

Most vocational programmes are not very effective because they assume people have at least primary education, which is not always the case. On-the-job training needs greater focus in these vocational programmes.

In addition, modern technology should be harnessed to make agribusiness more attractive. In Botswana, an entrepreneur with information technology skills has created an application that farmers can access through their mobile phones. Since the Internet is currently too expensive for most people, the application uses Short Message Service (SMS) and Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) technology. Users pay a small fee, and state their name, location and type of crop they are producing and then receive local advice about weather and soil conditions.

The entrepreneur has increased the number of users from 2,000 to 250,000, with about 500 new ones signing up each day. A major factor in this success is that his application has a social element, allowing users to “chat” with each other, and access Wikipedia and their emails. The target is 500,000 users and to add more services, including insurance, crop protection and weather updates, to make the application available on the internet as data processing costs decline, and to expand the service to other countries. Education systems should teach all the skills needed for running a business, such as profit and loss statements and balance sheets.

In Zambia, a Young Emerging Farmers’ Association facilitates access to finance, land, training, markets and technology based on farmers’ needs. Some young farmers are working 50 or 100 hectares of land, but have no title to them and therefore cannot obtain finance. The Association helps them create a business to enable them to raise investment.

Insight

Governments should create a framework to encourage the private sector to come up with business ideas and develop them.

→ **The market system approach: A path towards harnessing sustainable investment**

Organised by Nathan Associates

Speakers

- Braswell Jen, Manager Corporate Strategy, CDC Group
- Elekwachi James, Market Development Project Manager, Niger Delta Partnership Initiative (NDPI) Foundation
- Samarasinghe Buddhika, Director, Nathan Associates London Ltd.
- Toll Salina, Operations Director, Windward Strategic Ltd.

Moderator: Suba Sivakumaran, Head of Private Sector Development, Nathan Associates London Ltd.

Key Points

- The overarching aim of the market system approach is to enhance the ways that the poor interact with markets.
- Poor people are dependent on market systems in various ways.
- A market system lens can channel sustainable investments and complement the aim of impact investors.
- One aim should be to change the dynamics of the market and make a more meaningful contribution.
- Small and medium-sized enterprises have to change their business model in such a way that they better attract investment.

Synopsis

Participants discussed the added value of what is known as the market systems approach (M4P) in reducing poverty. Making markets work for the poor, or M4P, is a practical approach to reduce poverty, grounded in best practice. The overarching aim of M4P is to enhance the ways that the poor interact with markets.

One approach focuses on systemic action: understanding where market systems are failing to serve the needs of the poor and acting to correct those failings. Another is pursuing a large-scale goal, which is targeting intervention that benefits large numbers of poor people.

One panellist noted that poor people are dependent on market systems in various ways. Changing market systems to work more effectively and sustainably for the poor will improve their livelihoods and, consequently, reduce poverty.

Another panellist described the work of a development finance institution that invests public money in developing countries and emerging markets across seven sectors, including financial services, health and education and infrastructure.

More recently, its focus has shifted to the most fragile economies in Africa and South East Asia with the aim of channelling capital where it was most needed. The institution now invested in 1,200 businesses in 73 countries and had increased its commitment on a significant scale.

Another panellist explained the work of Nathan Associates of London, which had used the M4P approach to achieve positive changes in the annual incomes of thousands of smallholder farmers and small-scale entrepreneurs. One aim was to change the dynamics of the market.

Nathan employs tools and approaches to assist micro-enterprises that may not have a regular cash flow. Anyone working in this field also had to accept being in it for the long haul.

As an example of leveraging M4P and convincing companies to deepen innovation, the speaker cited a livestock project in Malawi, in particular the introduction of a new breed of cattle.

At the start, the company working with Nathan thought that merely introducing a breed was all that was needed. However, much more was required to make a success of such a venture, such as a full traceability system.

The company had originally invested US\$300,000 in the livestock project but this had led to a further US\$5 million investment from elsewhere, turning it into a real success story.

One challenge for the future is to encourage SMEs to change their business model to better attract investment. This might include relatively simple solutions such as using the mobile phone as a scanner, which can be used to create a cash flow statement for a bank.

Insight

The mass market in Southern Africa represents a significant opportunity but patience is needed to allow this potential market to grow over time.

→ [**Sustainable investments in developing countries by the private sector**](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Hakim Marrakchi, CEO, Maghreb Industries
- Hargitai Zsuzsanna, Director of EU Funds Co-Financing & Financial Instruments, EBRD
- Mulliez Amaury, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Operations in Africa and the Middle East, PROPARCO

- Ridolfi Roberto, Director for Sustainable Growth and Development, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Nanno Kleiterp, Chairman of the Board of Directors of EDFI, European Development Finance Institutions

Key Points

- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) require massive investment, which can only be mobilised if the private sector is involved.
- There is a current debate about opportunities and risks of blended finance.
- Blended finance should reinforce the market and support viable businesses.
- Sustainable investment requires an enabling business environment.

Synopsis

Meeting the SDGs will require trillions of euros in investment over the coming years. These ambitious goals can only be met with private sector involvement, notably through foreign direct investment. Development actors, including the European Commission and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), have increasingly focused their attention on ways in which to mobilise private sector finance in pursuing development goals.

This is especially important at a time when official development assistance (ODA) flows to developing countries are not increasing. However, European ODA has risen thanks to a rise in the cost of caring for asylum-seekers in Europe.

Blending – the strategic combination of European Union grants with loans or equity from public and private finance – helps to unlock investment and increases the impact of development aid. At the same time, donor funding will work best if it follows some basic principles. It should bring additional value-added to the investment (impact) and support commercially viable businesses; tackle an investment bottleneck (risk); and be additional (not distort) to the market. The key development outcome of such investment is the creation of decent jobs.

The main blockage to investment is frequently not the availability of finance but the local business environment. Since the Lisbon Treaty, the EU has been in a unique position in that it can launch a political dialogue with a partner government about issues such as the rule of law, an instrument that no development bank has at its disposal.

These dialogues are a forum to address the main constraints to investment and to promote good governance. In addition to transparent regulation, private sector actors also require security and safety to operate, and hard and soft infrastructure, from transport and energy to health and education.

This is why the EU's External Investment Plan (EIP), adopted in September 2016, operates as a three-pillar structure: the European Fund for Sustainable Development; technical assistance to develop financially attractive projects; and the promotion of a conducive investment climate.

The EIP is expected to leverage €44 billion to €50 billion in investment with €3.5 billion in grants. Guarantees from the European Fund for Sustainable Development serve to reduce the risk for private investors and absorb potential losses. The EIP is currently focused on Africa and the European neighbourhood but could include other regions in the future.

Likewise, the EBRD invests €1.3 billion-€1.5 billion in the southeastern Mediterranean, focused on private sector development, largely through financial intermediaries.

Insight

The panel highlighted examples of successful private businesses that were able to scale up their operations in a sustainable way using renewable energy, thanks to grants and loans from multilateral development banks.

2.1.3 PROJECT LABS

→ **Boosting Investment for ACP Inclusive Trade and Development**

Organised by Trade Com

Speakers

- Coke-Hamilton Pamela, Executive Director, Caribbean Export Development Agency
- Gurib-Fakim Bibi Ameenah Firdaus, President of the Republic (video contribution), Republic of Mauritius
- Kayizzi-Mugerwa Steve, Independent Evaluation Office, International Monetary Fund

- Marobela Masego, Managing Director, Botswana Bureau of Standards
- Ridolfi Roberto, Director for Sustainable Growth and Development, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Viwanou Gnassounou, Assistant Secretary General, African, Caribbean and Pacific Secretariat

Podcast

→ Innovative start-ups improving lives

Organised by European Investment Bank

Speakers

- Blauboer Eline, Co-founder and Managing Partner, Africa Tech Ventures
- Bosire Peris, Co-founder, Farmdrive
- Ravacchioli Paola, Senior Investment Officer, European Investment Bank
- Sum Ido, Co-founder, TLcom TIDE Africa Fund
- Yeo-Dembele Mariam, Investment officer, Financial Inclusion & Intermediation Division, African Development Bank

Moderator: Shirin Wheeler, Principal Advisor on International Media, European Investment Bank

Podcast

2.1.4 WEB-SEMINARS

→ Investing in Space for AgriFood

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Derksen Harry, Board Member, Waterwatch Cooperative
- Fernandes Tony, Social Equity Fund
- Hak Jan, Founder, Hak & Partners
- Mitu Nicolae, Legal Officer, European Commission - DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Moderator: Isolina Boto, Manager, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation

Moderator: Rogier Elshout, Moderator

→ [Europa, cerca de tí](#)

Organised by EEAS

Speakers

- Agüero Maria Dolores, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MFA – Honduras
- Chévez Edgardo, Director, Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo Integral de Honduras
- Espinoza Marisela, Manager, Mancomunidad Higuito
- Manzanares Karla, Regional Employment Coordinator, Ministry of Employment, Government of Honduras
- Ordóñez Osmán, Executive Manager, ADELSAR
- Ortega Hector, Administrator, Eurosan
- Rodríguez Ivan, Country Director, Swisscontact

Moderator: Jolita Butkeviciene, Director for Development Coordination - Latin America and Caribbean, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Ketil Karlsen, Head of Delegation, Delegation of the European Union to Honduras

2.2 Domestic resource mobilisation

Domestic public finance should be at the heart of all governments' efforts to achieve inclusive growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development. The Collect More, Spend Better approach supports developing countries in improving domestic resource mobilisation, more effective and efficient public expenditure and debt management. It focuses on tax evasion, tax avoidance and illicit financial flows as well as on the efficiency, effectiveness and fairness of tax systems and of social protection financing. It promotes sound public expenditure management to convert revenues into public goods and services, through fiscal discipline and the strategic allocation of resources and the use of eGovernment systems for efficient tax collection and transparency in use of public funds.

Official Development Assistance (ODA) continues to play an important role. By better linking budget support and blending, the EU and its Member States can

contribute to improving public investment efficiency in partner countries, by supporting macroeconomic and fiscal stability frameworks, sound sector policies and reforms, comprehensive annual and medium-term budgetary frameworks and sound public financial management systems, including transparent procurement.

2.2.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ Fostering inclusive growth and tackling inequality

Organised by International Monetary Fund

Speakers

- Duncan Daniel Kablan, Vice-President, Ivory Coast
- Dziku Richard, EDD Young Leader, Ghana
- Karimi Farah, Executive Director, Oxfam Novib
- Lagarde Christine, Managing Director, International Monetary Fund
- Selassie Abebe Aemro, Director of African Department, International Monetary Fund
- Vestager Margrethe, Commissioner for Competition, European Commission - DG for Competition

Moderator: Zain Asher, Journalist, CNN

Key Points

- Developing countries must raise at least 15 % of their GDP in tax revenues to start delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals. Aid alone will not be enough.
- Governments need to expand the net to tax new populations and companies. Excessive reliance on trade taxes and customs is not sustainable.
- Corporate tax avoidance costs Africa US\$50 billion a year. Developing countries should stop offering foreign companies tax incentives as it harms domestic businesses.
- The benefits of growth and taxation are not shared equally. Civil society needs to get engaged with governments on how tax revenues are spent. People need educating in why paying taxes can benefit society.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) assists developing countries in tax collection, advising many of them to lower rates but widen the base. The EU is targeting tax havens and big corporations for minimising taxation through state aid tools.

Synopsis

While developed countries raise on average 40 % of their GDP through tax revenues, many developing countries are in single digits – Somalia generates just 2 %, the Democratic Republic of the Congo 6 %, even Nigeria only 6 % to 7 %. For developing countries to start converging with richer economies, they should aim to raise 15 % to 20 % of GDP from taxation. This will be critical to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will need trillions of dollars in spending between now and 2030. Aid alone will not provide enough resources.

Traditional tax collection has focused too much on trade taxes such as customs duties – easy to levy because of the tight windows through which goods pass. But this is not sustainable. Governments need to throw the net wider to capture new populations, including the informal economy, and companies of all sizes. It's challenging work, because corporations are good at avoiding tax – costing Africa around US\$50 billion a year in lost revenues.

Attracting foreign investment with tax breaks needs to stop – the companies will invest anyway if the opportunity is good. Offering tax breaks just makes it harder for local businesses to compete.

As well as getting better at collecting taxes, governments need to ensure the revenues are well spent. While many countries in Africa have enjoyed strong economic growth over the past decade, the impact on poverty has remained modest. Where is the money going?

There is a pressing need for civil society to get engaged, both to hold governments to account on spending and to explain to reluctant populations the benefits of paying taxes. Citizens who understand the cost to their country of corporate tax breaks, tax avoidance and corruption are more likely to pressure their politicians for change.

The free healthcare, free education and social safety nets common in European countries won't come without higher tax revenues. Better civil society engagement is vital to secure the social contract between citizens and state on which tax collection depends. Paying taxes and resisting corruption are values that need to be taught in school.

The IMF is helping countries improve their tax regimes. In Senegal, for example, the IMF launched a targeted programme to collect taxes through electronic payments, dramatically reducing fraud and increasing revenues. Rather than increasing customs duties and tariffs, the IMF maintains that it often makes sense to reduce tax rates but enlarge the base. Adding a few percentages of GDP through strengthening domestic tax institutions is often doable, although changing policy is more difficult as it requires political will.

Meanwhile, the European Commission has passed legislation to improve transparency and information exchange between tax authorities and is engaging with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and others to target tax havens and create a global alliance for fair taxation.

One key principle is that companies – especially huge players such as Starbucks, Fiat and Apple – should pay the right amount of tax in the countries where they transact their business. The Commission has successfully fined those companies shifting profits to other countries offering tax concessions so low that they constitute state aid.

Insight

In countries where growth is driven mainly by natural resource extraction, such as Mozambique, the benefits of that growth do not reach the poorest in society. But in countries with diversified economies, such as Uganda, the benefits of growth reach all sectors of society. Countries with more inclusive growth also tend to sustain that growth for longer.

2.2.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [Tax justice for development](#)

Organised by EURODAD

Speakers

- Gerretsen Erica, Head of Unit - Budget Support and Public Finance Management, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Miyandazi Luckystar, Tax Power Campaign Africa Coordinator ActionAid International, ActionAid International
- Christensen Martin Brehm, Independent researcher and consultant
- Gupta Sanjeev, Deputy Director of the Fiscal Affairs Department, International Monetary Fund
- Ryding Tove, Director of Policy and Advocacy, EURODAD

Key Points

- Developing countries need additional tax revenues to fund sundry demands.
- Often questionable tax avoidance practices by companies and individuals severely cut into revenues in developing countries.
- The tax policies of the EU and Member States can affect tax revenues of developing countries. Called the 'spill over effect', it entails losses that amount to more than total official development assistance (ODA) outlays.
- There are several strategies that developing countries and their international partners can adopt to begin to tackle this problem.

Synopsis

Developing countries are beset with growing demands to provide public services, promote development and inclusive growth, grapple with climate change, uphold human rights, encourage equality, and more. To meet these needs, governments need to bolster tax revenues more than ever.

As a result, there has been increased scrutiny of the sometimes-questionable methods used by some companies and individuals to reduce their tax liabilities.

Analysis of this phenomenon has come to encompass something called the 'spill over effect' – essentially how the policies of the European Union and its Member States affect the levies on taxpayers in developing countries. The amount lost due to spill over surpasses European outlays in official development aid, according to studies by international organisations.

The difference between potential and actual tax revenues can be attributed to two factors, according to a report by the International Monetary fund: (1) a policy gap – meaning that laws need improving; and (2) a compliance gap – whereby taxpayers get away with paying less than they should. The compliance gap accounts for a larger slice of the shortfall.

Tax avoidance comes in many shapes and sizes. Sometimes firms skate past their obligations by obfuscating the identities of the true owners and their real tax liabilities. Some international companies use a tactic called 'profit shifting'. This entails the declaration of profits in low tax-rate countries, followed by the provision of intra-corporate loans, or 'transfer funds', to subsidiaries in high tax-rate countries to guarantee cash flow.

Both developed and developing countries offer incentives to companies that install operations within their borders. However, developing countries lose 30 % more in revenues to such targeted tax breaks, called "base erosion", than their developed nation counterparts. In addition, studies show that 90 % of the time executives would have invested anyway, even without the incentives.

International norms for taxes are often set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the G20. By definition, developing

countries are frozen out of these rich country debates. But they are generally pushed to comply nevertheless.

Panellists offered practical tips on ways to start tackling this problem. They included: (1) transparent accounting rules; (2) transparent budgets – which would include details of tax incentives; (3) transparent identification of the true owners of companies; (4) coordination between European and developing country tax officials; (5) careful analysis of bilateral and multilateral tax treaties and their costs and benefits; (6) strengthening of tax administration institutions and capacity building for tax officials in developing countries; (7) limits on 'profit shifting' and 'transfer funds'; (8) better use of withholding taxes; and (9) royalties over taxes for natural resource extraction to reduce "profit shifting".

Some panellists believed that the technical solutions could just be pulled off the shelf. What is lacking is the political will to reach for them.

Insight

Tax experts in developing countries talk about a "tax triangle": collection, allocation and spending. African countries are trying to determine how much they are losing in terms of collection.

→ [Territorial innovation policy: The promising area for Africa-EU cooperation](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Dosso Mafini, Economic Analyst, Joint Research Centre
- Ladrix Osés Carlos, Director of Strategic Programs, Chilean Economic Development Agency CORFO
- Luca de Tena Soledad, Consultant, Reknewable
- Ntale Alex, CEO, ICT Chamber
- Rodriguez Clemente Rafael, Researcher, Spanish National Research Council

Moderator: Uzo Madu, Producer and Presenter

Key Points

- Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) help regions focus on their strengths.
- S3 are relevant to issues like climate change, population growth, urban development and human capital development.
- Africa and Europe are both still at the 'learning by doing' stage on S3.
- Africa-EU cooperation on S3 should be boosted.

Synopsis

Smart Specialisation Strategies (S3) boost regional innovation to achieve economic growth and prosperity. They help regions to focus on their strengths. This approach recognises that spreading investment too thinly across several technology fields may limit their impact in any one area.

The African Union and the EU both consider locally based innovation as key to sustainable socio-economic success. Yet Africa-EU partnerships in territorial innovation still need to be developed. So how can African-led Smart Specialisation help meet the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and boost Africa-EU cooperation?

This will be an important topic at the 5th Africa-EU summit in November 2017. S3 have a strong bearing on issues ranging from climate change and low-carbon economics to population growth, urban development, and human capital development at local and regional levels.

Approaches to smart specialisation will vary, but most participants agreed that a mix of top-down/centralised and bottom-up/decentralised innovation is likely to work best. It should be applied mainly at the regional level.

On S3, both Europe and Africa are still very much at the "learning by doing" stage. Networking is an important element, but is not an automatic process. A lot of work is needed to get this "social technology" across to planners, technologists and others. Another prerequisite is the political will to decentralise, and this is not always easy to achieve.

Two examples from South Africa show smart specialisation at work on very different scales.

A large infrastructural project started as a renewable energy response to the country's serious power supply problems. In just five years, from 2011 to 2016, the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme raised the share of renewable energy in South Africa's electricity mix from zero to 5 %. To achieve that, 194 billion rand (more than €13 billion) was invested in 92 different renewable energy projects, with a total power output of 6376 megawatts. The aim now is to get that share up to 20 %.

On a more modest scale, but no less important, the Mankosi community in the Eastern Cape has set up its own telephone and Internet cooperative. This is an area with 93 % unemployment, where many people survive on just one dollar a day. Yet, with some help from researchers, local people have built a network where local calls are free and others cost as little as one-third of the standard charge. Internet access is available at just a 10th of the market rate.

The network also provides much-needed direct employment and training for people in the community. Local businesses can now advertise and sell online. By 2019, the cooperative aims to extend its coverage to 10 communities, with 50,000 people, 20 schools and a wide range of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Insight

All of the participants agreed that building trust is vital to a successful S3. The approach must be both participative (local “ownership” of the specialisation is important) and entrepreneurial.

2.2.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Improve water mobilisation and irrigation in Tunisia](#)

Organised by CNH Industrial

Speakers

- Chourabi Hassen, General Director of Ministry of Agriculture, Government of Tunisia
- Daniela Ropolo, EMEA Sustainable Development Initiatives Manager, CNH Industrial
- Lattanzio Elisabetta, Free-lance journalist and photographer
- Skjoldager Sorensen Lars, New Holland AG Harvesting Product Manager, CNH Industrial

Moderator: Sarantis Michalopoulos, Journalist, Euractiv

[Podcast](#)

2.3 Trade and fair globalisation

Globalisation has created developmental opportunities for countries through diffusing technology, widening markets for goods and services, expanding investment, and internationalising businesses and business processes. Fair globalisation has to do with harnessing the benefits of globalisation, while promoting sustainable economic and social development.

The EU has a strong record in opening its markets to least developed countries, and will continue to promote trade as a key driver of growth and poverty reduction in developing countries.

In line with the European Commission's proposal on a new Consensus on Development, and with the Trade for All Communication, the EU and its Member States will support their trading partners to fulfil their commitment under the Addis Ababa Action Agenda: to integrate sustainable development at all levels of trade policy and to achieve progress in a broad range of Sustainable Development Goals.

The EU and its Member States will coordinate development cooperation programmes with trade policy tools, in support of partner countries' capacity to benefit from them. They will combine the skills and resources of the private sector with supportive trade policies and instruments, Aid for Trade and economic diplomacy, which will promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and help third countries adopt growth models that take account of resource scarcity and climate change action.

Aid for Trade can materialise trade's potential for supporting sustainable trade (fair and ethical trade, responsible management of supply chains, inclusive business models, gender, human and labour rights, environment and climate change) and continue to address important and more traditional trade-related matters (trade policy, trade facilitation, and sanitary and phytosanitary measures).

Aid for Trade, and more particularly Trade-Related Assistance, can help partner countries take advantage of opportunities created by unilateral, bilateral or multilateral trade openings; it is an important tool to facilitate trade reforms, improve the business environment, support regional integration and provide opportunities to integrate into global value chains (GVCs).

International rules, standards and regulations make GVC-related transactions easier and foreign direct investment, which tends to be very sensitive to policy barriers and red tape, is a key vehicle of GVC participation. Efficient services play a pivotal role in facilitating GVC participation and in transforming it into more beneficial forms through process or product upgrading. Export competitiveness is inextricably linked to having access to competitively priced intermediate imports.

2.3.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATE

→ [Africa Renewable Energy Initiative](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Abou-Zeid Amani, Commissioner for Infrastructure & Energy, African Union Commission
- Andrews Oliver, Executive Director and Chief Investment Officer, Africa Finance Corporation
- Bensasson Bruno, Chief Executive Officer Africa, ENGIE
- Collet Brigitte, Ambassador for Climate Change Negotiations, Renewable Energy and Climate Risk Prevention
- Condé Alpha, President, Guinea - Chairperson of the African Union
- Gehle Courtney, EDD Young Leader, South Africa
- Guislain Pierre, Vice-President for Private Sector, Infrastructure and Industrialization, African Development Bank
- Lazzaroli Luca, Deputy Head of Operations, European Investment Bank
- Mimica Neven, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission
- Pistelli Lapo, Executive Vice-President International Affairs, Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi
- Royal Ségolène, President of UNFCCC COP21

Moderator: Stefano Manservigi, Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- The top priority is to light up Africa; this can only happen by increasing renewable energy.
- The first 19 projects have been approved under Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI).
- Power is needed in rural areas – 70 % of increased generation for off-grid and mini-grid will be from renewables
- The cost of renewables is falling, reducing need for investment grants
- Governments have to create an enabling policy and regulatory environment where the private sector can step in

Synopsis

The Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) aims to enable the installation of large-scale renewable energy capacity in Africa by 2020, which would have

a considerable impact on reducing greenhouse gases emissions in the continent.

At least US\$5 billion in public and highly concessional finance between 2016 and 2020, from bilateral, multilateral and other sources, including the Green Climate Fund, will be needed to leverage a further US\$15 billion in other investments, for a total investment of at least US\$20 billion pre-2020.

AREI is led by the African Union's Commission, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Agency, the African Group of Negotiators, the African Development Bank, the UN Environment Program (UNEP) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

AREI aims to achieve at least 10 GW of new and additional renewable energy generation capacity by 2020. It acknowledges the renewable resource potential in Africa, which the IRENA Africa REmap 2030 estimates as sufficient to generate at least 300 GW by 2030.

Africa has resources but lacks infrastructure and electricity. The population expects access to electricity, and the electricity gap must not widen as population grows. The top priority is to light up Africa. This can only happen by increasing renewable energy. With renewables, it is imperative to replicate what happened in telecoms and the mobile area.

It is necessary to look beyond the standard grid itself. There are important off-grid and mini-grid solutions that are highly suited to generating power in rural areas. And 70 % of increased generation for off-grid and mini-grid will be from renewables.

The AREI is seen as a precious tool that can help to achieve these objectives. This model can be a game-changer in unlocking investment. Some 450 applications have been received in the first two rounds of the initiative and the AREI board has agreed on the first 19 projects.

For this programme to succeed, governments need to continue taking political ownership, making access to affordable growth and sustainable development. Along with public utilities, they have to play their part in the transition to renewables, moving towards cost-reflective tariffs and the removal of fossil-fuel subsidies to free up funds for renewable energy investments.

Governments also have to create an enabling policy and regulatory environment, where the private sector can step in.

Also important in the development of renewables are the human resources needed to maintain this infrastructure. These are new technologies for Africa. Thought has to be given to changing the educational curriculum to integrate this new learning. Experienced professionals must provide the necessary training and create the skilled workforce for building, operating and maintaining energy infrastructure.

There is an urgent need to ensure that high-level quality standards are enforced, sound quality control systems are in place, and that governments and civil society build consumer awareness. This means taxpayers, companies and individuals purchasing energy services or equipment can trust they are getting maximum value for their money and that the society makes a durable and reliable return on investment.

Thanks to solar and wind power, prices are going down. This is good news for Africa. It also means that the need for investment grants is going down.

Insight

The AREI could be a game-changer for Africa. Renewables, particularly off-grid and mini-grid, can be a solution for rural areas.

2.3.2 DEBATE LABS

→ **Building on EPA opportunities: Economic Partnership Agreements in practice**

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Acconcia Diana, Head of Unit, Economic Partnership Agreements, European Commission - DG for Trade
- Bembatoum-Young Shade, CEO, African Sustainable SME Export Trade Solutions
- Coke-Hamilton Pamela, Executive Director, Caribbean Export Development Agency
- Gravellini Jean-Marc, Vice-President for Africa, Compagnie Fruitière
- Ismail Salim, Group chairman & chief, Executive officer, Group Socota
- Tagwa Batsweletse, Plant General Manager, Kromberg & Schubert Botswana (PTY) Ltd

Moderator: Amanda Sunasse-Lam, Senior Partner, Linking African Markets and Partnership

Key Points

- Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) will not come alive on their own – they need to be harnessed.

- The volume of trade between African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries themselves is very low.
- Although ACP exports have had preferential access to EU markets for the last 30 years, the volume of their exports has gone down.
- Market access provided by EPAs adds value but the EU must continue to support ACP countries.
- Many ACP countries lack the basic infrastructure to trade with each other.

Synopsis

This debate focused on the opportunities – and challenges – created by EPAs. These are trade deals that have development as their main objective. EPAs create opportunities for ACP countries to export to the European market without paying duties.

The session heard that 39 of the world's 49 least-developed countries are ACP countries, most of them in Africa. Taken together, the EU and ACP account for 1.35 billion people, 20.1 % of the world's total landmass and €80 billion in trade, with the EU which imports €40.2 billion from the ACPs and exports €39.7 billion.

The aim of the session was partly to allow those who have benefitted directly from EPAs to give advice to would-be applicants.

The ACP-EPA countries group themselves into seven regions: five in Africa, one in the Caribbean and one in the Pacific. The oldest of the EPAs is the Caribbean region, which has been in force since 2008. The focus now is to move to full implementation of these agreements and put in place support measures.

One of the key messages was that the opportunities provided by EPAs will not be realised on their own – they need to be harnessed and exploited by the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

One speaker said that West African EPAs could help countries and companies in the region move up the global value chain. These include SMEs in Nigeria where one problem is that many firms are not well structured or ready to engage with partners abroad. One benefit of EPAs is that they can encourage SMEs to build their capacity so that, for example, they better structure their companies, write business plans and present bankable projects.

It was stressed that with its EPA, Nigeria stands a better chance of becoming an export-led, non-oil-dependent economy.

EPAs can create a more reliable and sustainable business environment and look after the interests of an investor. They can be a win-win solution for both a country and investor.

A speaker from the African private sector, whose company exports 500,000 tonnes of fruit, said access to European markets was vital to the success of his

business. One example was the recent development of organic bananas, which had been made possible by the EPA Ghana had signed with the EU.

EPAs have helped producers to up their game and raise the bar to help production reach a higher level. The trade preferences and market access provided by EPAs add value but the EU must continue to support ACP countries.

Other speakers pointed out that ACP countries need to ensure their exports comply with changing EU standards, for example, on food safety and animal welfare.

For that reason, EPAs include technical support and training, and measures to promote knowledge transfer and strengthen public services.

Examples include the EU pesticides programme for the horticulture sector, an EU fish health project and training in food safety and quality control for more than 200,000 family-run fresh fruit and vegetable businesses.

Insight

EPAs help by stimulating competition and reducing border delays but to exploit to the full the opportunities that these agreements offer, ACP countries need to take ownership of their development and design their own strategies for growth and prosperity.

→ **Promoting inclusive trade in Africa**

Organised by CTA

Speakers

- Doens Koen, Director East and Southern Africa and ACP coordination, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Manservisi Stefano, Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Matsuert Frank, CEO, TradeMark East Africa
- Muchoki Lucy, Chief Executive Officer, Kenya, Pan African Agribusiness and Agroindustry Consortium
- Ngombalu Janet, Regional Programme Coordinator, Eastern African Grain Council (EAGC)
- Nsengimana Hermogene, CEO, African Organisation for Standardisation

Moderator: Isolina Boto, Manager, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation

Key points

- Some 72 % of African employment is in the informal sector.
- Women and young people dominate informal cross-border trade, but information about simplified trade regimes to cut the cost of their businesses has yet to trickle down.
- Barriers to cross-border trade include harassment, conflict near border posts and inadequate training for customs officials.
- Premium prices are key to persuading small farmers to adopt common trading standards for staple grains.
- Trade policies focused on women are a priority in EU development agenda.

Synopsis

Women and young people who make a living buying and selling small-volume, low-value consignments largely carry out Africa's cross-border trade. Despite official agreements to simplify the custom rules that apply to their businesses, information about new simplified trading regimes (STRs) has yet to reach many border posts. This means small traders continue to face harassment, customs duties, corruption, impounded goods and unnecessary paperwork.

While traditional infrastructure projects to improve roads and ports remain essential to regional trade, STRs are now also embedded in regional trading arrangements. These STR programmes aim to boost employment in the informal sector by lowering the cost of trade and simplifying border crossings. In East Africa, up to 25,000 women are already involved in trading groups created to spread the message that duties need no longer be paid on small consignments. Efforts are also underway to automate and further simplify border procedures.

In areas of chronic political instability, such as the border between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda, security measures for women are also being put in place. These include safe spaces for women traders subjected to sexual harassment, fast-track processes and training for male custom officials.

The Eastern Africa Grain Council is focusing its efforts on promoting trade in staple grains, which are collectively the biggest commodities traded in the region. Not only is the grain trade key to fostering rural development but cross-border flows will also increase regional food security by encouraging imports from areas of surplus to countries experiencing harvest shortfalls.

To this end, the council has established an online bidding and settlements system based on certified warehouse stocks. It encourages small farmers to

take part by offering premium prices for produce that meets their quality standards.

For development agencies, including the European Commission, trade programmes that target women and young people maximize the impact of development spending by boosting the income of the most vulnerable groups in a visible and direct way.

Further Commission support for trade initiatives is expected to play a greater role in the European Union's work towards the sustainable development goals, with gender issues increasingly central to development policy decision-making.

Insight

Enthusiasm for the STRs and other regional trade initiatives was tempered at times by the inherent conflict between open borders and regulations to ensure food safety and to prevent the spread of diseases.

2.3.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Smart toolboxes for impact: Leveraging global business for development impact](#)

Organised by Global Value

Speakers

- Munrat Sabeth Hasnain Ahmed, Assistant Manager, Partnerships and Fundraising, BRAC Bangladesh
- Temmes Armi, Professor of Practice, Corporate Sustainability, Aalto University School of Business
- Voillat Nicole, Sustainability Director, Bata Brands SA
- Wiman Adele, Research Fellow, Institute for Managing Sustainability, Vienna University of Economics and Business

Moderator: André Martinuzzi, Head of the Institute for Managing Sustainability, Vienna University of Economics and Business

[Podcast](#)

2.3.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ [The Emperor's New Clothes](#)

Organised by UNECE

Speakers

- Eder-Hansen Jonas, Chief content officer, Danish Fashion Institute
- Gnassounou Viwanou, Assistant Secretary General, African, Caribbean and Pacific Secretariat
- Goggi Fabrizio Alessandro, Global Communication Director, REDA Group
- Karhunen Antti, Head of Unit Private Sector Framework and Trade, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Mueller Markus, Director Industry Engagement Apparel & General Merchandise, GS1 Global Office
- Rees Dan, Branch Chief, International Labour Organisation
- Romana Rinaldi Francesca, Director of the Master in Brand & Business Management, Milano Fashion Institute
- Souque Maylis, Secretary General of the French OECD National Contact Point (NCP) for Responsible Business Conduct, Ministry of Economic and Finance of France
- Vazirani Rakesh, Director, TÜV Rheinland

2.4 Digitalisation

Digital technologies and services are being adopted in the developing world at an unprecedented rate. Information and communications technology, as well as resilient and efficient infrastructure networks, offer major opportunities for progress across sectors. They are proven enablers of sustainable development and inclusive growth. They can be key to improving lives, in particular by empowering women and girls, enhancing democratic governance and transparency, and by boosting productivity and job creation. However, lack of connectivity, mainly in Africa, and limited competition make digital technologies unaffordable for the majority of the population.

For this reason, the need to further mainstream digitalisation in EU interventions for sustainable development and economic growth has been strongly highlighted in the Commission Communication, which proposes a new Consensus on Development. The Commission proposes Digital4Development as the appropriate framework for mainstreaming digital technologies, contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and ensuring an effective delivery. It will allow the EU to address the challenges linked to four main priorities of the EU development policy: Job creation and

link with the External Investment Plan, Gender, Migration and Sustainable Energy and Climate Change.

In the context of Digital for Development, the European Commission will support enabling environments for the digital economy by enhancing free, open and secure connectivity, digital entrepreneurship, innovation and job creation, and will promote the use of digital technologies in various areas such as energy, governance, agriculture, education or health. The Commission will also support digital literacy and skills to empower people, including the most vulnerable.

2.4.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ [Digitalisation](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Abou-Zeid Amani, Commissioner for Infrastructure & Energy, African Union Commission
- Ansip Andrus, Vice President for the Digital Single Market, European Commission
- De Croo Alexander, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services, Government of Belgium
- Ezeakor Chinenye, EDD Young Leader, Nigeria
- Sabbagh Karim Michel, President and CEO, SES S.A.

Moderator: Nivi Sharma, Managing Director of BRCK and co-founder of eLimu

Key Points

- Africa is leapfrogging the rest of the world on digitalisation and is primed to continue.
- A predictable regulatory environment is essential.
- The harmonisation policies on a regional level can help fuel the process.
- Young people, especially girls, need to be encouraged to go into careers in technology to take advantage of future employment opportunities.

Synopsis

If the nations of Africa can ensure a predictable regulatory environment and work to harmonise their policies, they might be able to turbocharge their nascent efforts to leapfrog past the rest of the world in digitalisation, e-commerce and e-governance.

While Kenya's M-Pesa mobile financial scheme garners much of the attention, other examples abound. Online retailer Jumia has expanded beyond its home

base in Nigeria to supplant Amazon.com in over a dozen countries. Burkina Faso, Morocco, Rwanda and Senegal count among the nations making rapid strides in different areas. Borrowing a page from Estonia, Egypt saved billions of euros a year by adopting a single e-identification system.

With the moves forward in Africa, globalisation is becoming more of a two-way street where Europe can learn and borrow from experiences in Africa and other parts of the world. This can encourage greater cooperation between the European Union and the African Union. Indeed, Africa and Europe face similar challenges in creating single digital marketplaces in their respective regions.

Young people need to be trained to take advantage of the growing job opportunities that will be engendered by digitalisation across all sectors of the economy. Girls, especially, should be encouraged to go into the STEM disciplines: science, technology, engineering and maths. Burkina Faso just entered into a public-private partnership (PPP) to boost e-governance, e-education and other e-public services in 13 provinces.

Opportunities range beyond employment. E-governance offers enormous potential. However, countries need to embark on a wide-ranging overhaul of bureaucratic processes. Just pushing old procedures on to the Internet will not do the job. One positive example comes from Nigeria: a simple software program allowed the government to cross-check data about civil servants and the postal system – thereby producing huge savings that dwarfed the original investment in technology.

Fears about job losses due to new technologies are not unfounded, but the panellists seemed to agree that new opportunities would outdistance them. However, governments need to be prepared with safety nets and training programmes for those left holding the short sticks.

If African nations can guarantee sufficiently stable regulatory environments and work together to create larger regional markets, angel investors, venture capitalists and private sector investors (many keen on PPPs) will not be far behind.

Africa is not, of course, monolithic. Some countries, sectors and businesses have advanced more than others. Regional policy-makers want to spread the lessons learned in the pockets of excellence so that benefits accrue to the entire continent.

Insight

Just as globalisation shows signs of becoming more of a two-way street between developed and developing nations, many politicians are gaining traction by denouncing internationalism.

One strategy to encourage girls to go into STEM disciplines: replace the 'hierarchical' educational approach with hands-on, practical experiences where students can learn by doing.

2.4.2 DEBATE LABS

→ **Digital disruption of development: The impact on inclusive healthcare**

Organised by PharmAccess Foundation

Speakers

- Antwi Maxwell, Country Director, Ghana, PharmAccess Foundation
- Behrens Alec, Co-founder, Booking.com
- Crow Laura, Principal Product Development Manager M-Pesa, Vodafone PLC
- Docter Hans, Director, Sustainable Economic Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

Moderator: Alexander Kohnstamm, Director Advocacy, Joep Lange Institute

Key Points

- Can new technology make healthcare more accessible?
- How can technology from one field be exploited to increase healthcare outcomes
- Can technology be exploited to fill some of the healthcare gaps?
- Private versus public sector?

Fifteen per cent of the world's poorest people live in Africa; Africans bear 25 % of global diseases and receive only 2 % of total global healthcare. If we can harness new technological developments, we can ameliorate these figures and make positive changes to people's lives.

This session brought together a range of providers with different experiences who are using technology to create change in Africa. M-Pesa, the mobile money facility developed by Vodafone, began in Kenya but is now live in 10 countries and serves 29.5 million customers.

This technology platform is being exploited and extended into the healthcare sector. The company has found that once people become familiar with the basic money-sending service, they are more likely to tap into other financial services. It is now possible, for example, for people to use the platform to save for

healthcare. It can also be used to pay for specific treatments and services; for instance, to pay ambulance drivers to take pregnant women to hospital.

Mobile money was also used to good effect during the Ebola crisis, to send payments to people working in isolated areas who were conducting burials or digging graves. It is thought this had an important role in helping to bring the crisis under control. M-Pesa has been extraordinarily successful. Recently published independent research by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, carried out over several years, puts the poverty reduction effect of this technology at 2 % across Kenya. And it has also benefited the company's bottom line.

New technology is also being developed to help train surgeons: 150 million people in Africa are not getting the surgery they need. It is now possible, using a variety of methods and training programmes that are accredited and regulated, to bring those skills to a greater number of medical personnel.

In Ghana, technology is being exploited to improve efficiency and transparency in the healthcare system. The most successful examples have been in the private sector, where it makes up 40 % of the sector but delivers 45 % of the positive outcomes. In this case, "smart money" can be used both to provide money to people who have delivered a healthcare service but who are awaiting payment and to provide a "cash advance" for services not yet delivered.

During the session there was some debate as to the merits of private versus public healthcare providers in their ability to exploit technology and bring improved services to market. Panellists all found private sector solutions more flexible and open and less prone to corruption. However, it was thought that the public sector also had a lot to offer in terms of partnerships and in providing the necessary regulatory frameworks.

Questions were asked about privacy and access to medical records once they were held electronically. However, while these could be seen as an issue, the benefits were considered to outweigh the disadvantages.

The advent of "block chain", sometimes described as the second era of the internet, was also debated. Participants generally thought it seemed interesting but it was not yet clear how it could be successfully exploited in this sector.

Insight

If developed appropriately and exploited effectively, technological advances could be a real game-changer in access to and delivery of healthcare services in Africa.

→ **Putting digital into development: Connecting people's potential**

Organised by European Investment Bank

Speakers

- Bonadonna Lisa, Vice-President - Head of GSK-Save the Children Partnership, GlaxoSmithKline
- De Croo Alexander, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services, Government of Belgium
- Van Ballekom Pim, Vice-President, European Investment Bank
- Yunus Muhammad, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

Moderator: Shada Islam, Director of Policy, Friends of Europe

Key Points

- Technology can open up isolated communities.
- Digital connectivity can facilitate data collection and analysis.
- New technology opens up new avenues for health care.
- Connectivity can help create economic growth and counteract poverty.

Synopsis

The tale of Africa leap-frogging the western world in mobile telephony is only the beginning of the story. Today, mobile telephony accounts for 7 % of Africa's GDP and is likely to grow alongside technological advances. Already mobile technology is used for payments, to improve healthcare and to monitor the effectiveness of health programmes.

Recognising the huge potential for connective technology, the Belgian government now includes it as a basic requirement for organisations seeking development funding. The rationale is that it will make for a more effective use of resources, shifting evaluation for the government to outcomes rather than on spending as a percentage of GDP.

A programme by Africa Mobile, a company that partners with local network providers, is bringing connectivity to rural areas. This is improving many lives, promoting social inclusion and opening up employment opportunities. The huge potential for connective technologies in Africa has meant an increase in private

sector interventions in areas more traditionally covered by public bodies or NGOs.

Africa Mobile is working with the European Investment Bank, which considers it as a viable business opportunity with social goals. To be successful, the company has to work with organisations at a local level to support infrastructure building and licensing, and also provides local employment and training opportunities in areas where they are scarce.

Delivering healthcare in Africa is very challenging: lack of trained staff and medicines, or medicines used inappropriately mean that people are not receiving the care they need. Mobile technology is being used to help improve health care.

GSK, partnering with the World Health Organization, has an extensive child immunisation programme. It is currently studying health outcomes in 160 rural healthcare centres, half of which are being tracked using mobile technology. Data from the 40 families in each of the other 80 centres in the control group is collected only once a year.

Nobel prize winner Professor Muhammad Yunus, Bangladeshi creator of microcredit, described a healthcare project he is supporting for pregnant women in rural Bangladesh. The women wear a health monitor in the form of a bangle, which tracks key health indicators and sends an alert if anything abnormal is detected.

Yunus also sees entrepreneurship as an important part of development in Africa, empowering women and young people and enabling them to achieve greater independence. An early method of increasing mobile phone penetration was for women in local communities to sell network cards and airtime. Following on from this, many have gone on to develop other small business activities.

Insight

Connective technologies have a huge potential to improve lives in Africa, however, they should not be seen as a universal panacea.

2.4.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Making justice digital: Enhancing trust, attracting investments](#)

Organised by Net Group

Speakers

- Alan A. Awilkadir, Steering Group Member, Kurdistan Electronic Court Project
- Frank K. Tumwebaze, Cabinet Minister of Information Technology and Communications, Government of Uganda
- Juan Navas-Sabater, Lead ICT Policy Specialist, World Bank Group
- Priit Kongo, CEO, Net Group Ltd

Moderator: Colin Stevens, Publisher/Editor, EUReporter

Podcast

→ **Working with big data and innovative data sources in Africa**

Organised by Pulse Lab Kampala

Speakers

- Foubert Thierry, International Sector Expert in TVET, Belgian Development Agency
- Kibira William, Junior Assistant Software Developer, Pulse Lab Kampala
- Kuner Christopher, Co-Chair of Brussels Privacy Hub, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- Mukooyo Edward, Assistant Commissioner of Health Services, Resource Centre, Ministry of Health, Government of Uganda

Moderator: Paula Hidalgo-Sanchis, Manager, Pulse Lab Kampala

Podcast

2.5 Decent jobs

Economic growth is lasting and more beneficial to the poorest when it is inclusive and creates decent jobs, particularly for women and youth, that respect the fundamental human rights as well as the rights of workers in terms of conditions of work safety, remuneration, physical and mental integrity. The EU and its Member States will meet this key challenge in the 2030 Agenda by supporting national development paths that maximise positive social outcomes

and impacts and that pay due attention to better sharing the benefits of growth, the creation of wealth and decent jobs and of improved access to factors of production, such as land or finance. They will promote policies that promote access to quality basic services for all, in particular to quality education, health services and sanitation, and act to reduce inequality of outcomes and opportunity for all. By doing so, they will assist the poorest sections of society directly and also help to promote more inclusive, sustainable growth that does not compromise future generations. They will aim to develop agricultural value chains, which benefit the poor and encourage agro-industry to generate jobs and added value.

Sustainable development and corporate social responsibility commitments need to be built into business models as a matter of course. Inclusive sustainable growth builds long-term resilience in partner countries, by creating opportunities for vulnerable population groups and those most at risk, to participate in, and benefit from, wealth and job creation. The EU and its Member States will continue to support responsible business practices and responsible management of supply chains, integrating human and labour rights, financial probity and environmental standards and accessibility. They will work to prevent human rights abuses and promote the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. They will promote labour standards that ensure decent employment conditions for workers, as defined by the International Labour Organisation, both in the formal and informal sector, including by supporting the transition from the informal to the formal economy. The EU and its Member States will seek collaboration with the private sector and promote the mobilisation of private resources for development in areas with significant transformation potential for sustainable development.

2.5.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATE

→ [**Making it happen through jobs and entrepreneurship**](#)

Organised by MACH Consulting

Speakers

- Acouetey Didier, CEO, AFRICSEARCH
- De Croo Alexander, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services, Government of Belgium
- Jallow Alieu, EDD Young Leader, Gambia
- Kuniyoshi Hiroshi, Managing Director & Deputy to the Director General of UNIDO, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

- Poivey Florence, President of the Committee on Education and Training and, Integration and member of the Executive Committee of the MEDEF (Mouvement des entreprises de France)
- Shah Vimal, CEO, BIDCO Africa
- Uwitonze Marie Chantal, CEO, MACH Consulting

Moderator: Cheikh Ibrahima Diong, CEO, Africa Consulting and Trading

Key Points

- Africa should be seen as an opportunity and not a problem.
- Education and training must be overhauled to address the needs of the 21st century.
- Small companies and entrepreneurs, especially women and youth, need a favourable business environment to thrive.
- At the international level, partnerships should replace donor-recipient relationships.
- Members of the diaspora can play major roles both as investors and as educators to help build capacity.

Synopsis

Africa should be viewed as an opportunity instead of a problem. Many questions remain, but anything is possible. That business-friendly message summed up the consensus view among the panellists.

However, everyone recognised the amount of work left to be done. Much of the discussion revolved around practical ideas about how to get from here to there. They included:

- Adapting to emerging technologies;
- Education and training for the 21st century;
- Creating a favourable business environment, especially for SMEs and entrepreneurs;
- Focusing on women and youth;
- Recognising the importance of value chains; and
- The role of the diaspora.

Many observers believe that Africa is primed to become the world's next manufacturing powerhouse. But it will not be outmoded, low-tech manufacturing. It will be cutting edge high-tech production that will require higher skills on the shop floor. Another example would be auto mechanics who must wipe the grease off their hands and get up to speed with high-tech diagnostics.

Industrialisation can create jobs, but education and training schemes will need to keep pace. Traditional schooling, including university degrees, may lose prominence to lifetime, on-the-job learning. Knowing "how to do something"

will become less important than knowing “how to learn” new skills. Sectors such as agriculture, health, and logistics will need specially trained employees. Young people can more easily develop the flexibility needed to fulfil the needs of this new-fangled labour market.

Africa must improve its competitiveness if it wants to stop importing and produce for domestic markets – let alone international ones. Digital and logistical linkages must be made between people and markets. Otherwise Côte d’Ivoire will keep importing beans from Holland instead of from neighbouring Niger.

Development cannot happen without business, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) make up the lion’s share of the private sector. Entrepreneurs stand ready to start new firms. Both groups need support in areas such as financing and tax reform. Women and young entrepreneurs depend on policy coherence more than anyone. Women deserve special attention. For example, they often face legal barriers to obtaining financing or opening bank accounts.

Africa needs to diversify along entire value chains in various sectors. For example, agriculture is not just about farmers. It is also about chemicals, processing, transportation and sundry other activities. If there are half a-million mobile phones but scanty mobile services, huge opportunities loom on that horizon.

Africa needs more partnerships and fewer donor-recipient relationships. Members of the diaspora can play major roles both as investors and as educators to help build capacity.

Insight

French business delegations bring educators along on missions to Africa to facilitate cross-border partnerships in education and training. International internships for students can help in this regard as well.

2.5.2 DEBATE LABS

→ **The central role of water for inclusive and sustainable growth and the creation of decent jobs**

Organised by UNESCO

Speakers

- Ciccarelli Paolo, Head of Unit, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Gilquin Céline, Head of Water Unit, Agence Française de Développement
- Minelli Lucilla, Programme Officer, United Nations World Water Assessment Programme of UNESCO
- Uhlenbrook Stefan, Coordinator, United Nations World Water Assessment Programme of UNESCO

Moderator: Eric Beaume, Deputy Head of Unit Water, DG for infrastructures and cities, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- Some 30 % of the global workforce is directly employed in water-dependent sectors, such as agriculture, fisheries and forestry.
- Investing in water is investment in jobs.
- Water scarcity is an important driver of migration and war, and has a strong gender dimension.
- Tens of thousands of preventable deaths are due to water scarcity and poor hygiene.
- Wastewater is a valuable resource, yet globally more than 80 % is released without treatment.

Synopsis

There is a strong correlation between the availability of water and economic development, especially in low-income countries. Water management and job creation go hand in hand. More than 30 % of the workforce worldwide is employed in the core water-dependent sectors of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. If the energy, construction and other sectors are added, the share rises to more than 50 %. Indirectly, some 75 % of jobs globally are water-dependent.

The potential employment effects of investment in water are considerable. Water treatment plants, for example, directly employ engineers, administrative staff, security guards and indirectly, many more. Crucially are the induced and growth-related jobs in the wider economy that are made possible by investment in water.

Water scarcity, by contrast, is not only the cause of tens of thousands of preventable deaths and a brake on development, but is also an important driver for migration and war. Syria, for example, underwent its most severe drought ever in the years preceding the outbreak of war.

Water scarcity also tends to affect women and girls first by preventing them from entering education or joining the workforce. In Africa, it is estimated that women and girls spend the equivalent of one year's worth of work by France's

entire workforce on collecting water every year. Worldwide, some 2.4 billion people still need access to better sanitation, with almost 1 billion lacking access to sanitation.

Wastewater is a valuable resource rich in water, minerals and fertiliser, yet an estimated 80 % of wastewater in the world is released into the environment without any treatment. In the Least Developed Countries, the figure is typically 100 %.

Treating wastewater is good for the environment and has the potential to create jobs directly and indirectly. The United Nations World Water Development Report 2016 noted that one study estimated that every US\$1 billion invested in water supply and sanitation networks in Latin America would directly result in about 100,000 jobs. In Kinshasa, small water systems operated by local communities have created 400 local sustainable jobs.

However, in the current programming cycle and following the end of the EU's Water Facility, fewer than 10 countries in Africa have designated water as a focal sector, which reduces opportunities for obtaining funds for blending under the African Investment Facility.

Insight

Water is a horizontal concern that cuts across gender equality, economic development, health and climate change. Might this be the reason why it appears to no longer receive the attention it requires?

2.5.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [How to create decent jobs in the global supply chains?](#)

Organised by International Labour Organisation

Speakers

- Yvetot Christophe, Director of UNIDO Liaison Office to the European Union, United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- Rees Dan, Director of the Better Work Programme, International Labour Organization
- Elkin Michael, Chief Technical Adviser of the SCORE programme, International Labour Organization
- Berset Bircher Valérie, Deputy Head International Labour Affairs, Swiss State Secretariat of Economic Affairs

Moderator: Francoise Millemam, Deputy Head of Unit, Human Development and Migration, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

[Podcast](#)

[Innovative and effective approaches to refugee employment](#)

Organised by UNHCR

Speakers

- Christ Heidi, Artisan value Chain Expert, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- Courteille-Mulder Claire, Director of the ILO Office for the European Union and the Benelux countries, International Labour Organisation
- Heisey Janet, Director of Technical and Strategic Alliances, Trickle Up
- Isler Lorenz, Sustainability Manager, IKEA Switzerland

Moderator: Ziad Ayoubi, Senior Livelihoods Officer/Head of the Livelihoods Unit, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

[Podcast](#)

2.5.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ [Work 4 Progress](#)

Organised by La Caixa Banking Foundation

Speakers

- Espiau Gorka, Director of International Affairs at the Michael Young Foundation
- Rodríguez Elena, CEO and co-founder, Authenticitys
- Solsona Marta, la Caixa Banking Foundation
- Verma Kanika, Program Director the Sustainable Enterprise Domain, Development Alternatives

→ [Tackling Youth employment in the Southern Mediterranean Region](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Abu Lail Dareen, NET-MED Youth National Project Officer, UNESCO
- Al Damrawy Ahmed, Regional Team Leader, ENPI - Civil Society Facility South
- Elya Carine, Employability Expert, Founder and Chairperson, Quality for Development
- Laryea Guggi, Partnerships: Youth Employment and Empowerment, Governance, ECA Stakeholder Engagement, World Bank Group
- Mrad Jihen Boutiba, General Secretary of the MED Regional Employers/Enterprises Organization , BUSINESSMED – Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises
- Ricklin Laetitia, Directorate-General Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR)

3. Investing in Peace and Partnership



'Peace: We are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies, which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.'

'Partnership: We are determined to mobilize the means required to implement this Agenda through a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people.'

(The Preamble of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)

3.1 Partnering with the private sector

Inclusive societies and accountable, democratic institutions are preconditions for sustainable development and stability. An empowered civil society is a crucial component of any democratic system and is an asset in itself. The achievement of most of the Sustainable Development Goals will depend on the active involvement of local authorities. A successful implementation of the SGDs will require forging stronger partnerships beyond governments.

Therefore, the EU and its Member States will deepen their partnerships with all components of civil society organisations (CSOs), and Local Authorities (LAs), so they can play their full role as actors of governance, advocates and implementers. They will promote an open and enabling space for CSOs and LAs, to participate and play a full role, in inclusive approaches and transparency in decision making at all levels.

They will continue to support capacity building of relevant stakeholders. They will support global and multi-actors partnership, including between various CSOs categories such as social partners, or between national, sub-national and local governments. They will support CSOs and LAs commitments to effective, transparent and results-oriented development cooperation.

The EU and its Member States recognise that the success of engagement depends on cooperation with local CSOs and LAs based in developing countries and their ownership of the process. It also depends on addressing in

partnership with them the new challenges of crisis, migration and jobs, gender and climate change.

In this respect, the European Commission has signed 29 Framework Partnership Agreements with networks of CSOs and LAs supporting their global strategies and further strengthening cooperation ties.

3.1.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ Small businesses giant players in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals

Organised by UNDP

Speakers

- Ava Tasneem, EDD Young Leader, Bangladesh
- Bikpo Felix A., Chief Executive Officer, African Guarantee Fund
- Gnassounou Viwanou, Assistant Secretary General, African, Caribbean and Pacific Secretariat
- Pesce Monteiro Barbara, Director, United Nations Representation Office Brussels
- Sachs Jeffrey, Sustainable Development Goals Advocate and Professor Columbia University
- Yunus Muhammad, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and Sustainable Development Goals Advocate

Moderator: Marjeta Jager, Deputy Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- Development assistance alone will not deliver the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We need private sector innovation and investment. But do not let governments off the hook of financing universal healthcare, education and infrastructure.
- While much global economic growth is driven by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), this is not the case in Africa, where SMEs face a US\$155 billion funding gap.
- Conventional banks are not structured to lend to the poor and are unlikely to change. We need more revolutionary lenders, such as Grameen Bank, designed to lend small amounts of capital to the unbanked and unemployed.
- The private sector will not automatically create inclusive, decent jobs. As smart global citizens, we need to embrace ethical consumption.

Synopsis

The 2030 SDGs will not be achieved through development assistance alone. We need private sector innovation and investment. While small businesses have an important role to play, medium and large businesses are equally significant.

But we should not be naïve. The private sector does not care much about poor people or universal coverage. The best way to provide healthcare, education and infrastructure remains the public financing model, and we should not let governments off the hook.

The major obstacle to the growth of start-ups and SMEs remains access to finance. In the United States, half a century of venture capital has helped deliver finance to new businesses and also provides oversight of how that money is spent. However, venture capital is rare in other parts of the world.

In Africa, SMEs are starved of capital by a financing gap estimated at US\$155 billion. Banks do not understand the realities on the ground, especially in sectors such as agribusiness, which provide work for 70 % to 80 % of the workforce in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries.

Conventional banks need educating to understand better the perceived risks around investing in micro, small and medium sized businesses. Another approach is to leverage the resources of the public sector to create a lower risk environment in which banks can lend.

However, conventional banks will find it hard to adapt. They are structured to lend to the rich, not the poor; to men, not women. Bangladesh's Grameen Bank is a celebrated exception, flying in the face of convention by lending US\$2.5 billion annually to poor women with no collateral and no legal paperwork.

Grameen, whose founder calls finance the "economic oxygen for people", has followed this model successfully for more than 40 years. Without that oxygen, people cannot contribute to society. By investing in individuals, Grameen enables poor people to escape from a system that exploits workers with low wages and dangerous working conditions.

Meanwhile, Grameen has invested in joint venture social businesses – non-dividend companies set up to solve social problems. For example, in partnership with Danone, a global food giant, Grameen has created a low-cost, fortified yoghurt drink packed with vitamins and minerals which can lift children out of malnutrition within seven or eight months.

Just as important is the role that consumers play. Bangladesh has long been a centre for low-cost garment manufacturing. The tragic human cost of that industry was embodied by the 2013 collapse of the Rana Plaza garment factory, with the deaths of 1,134 low-paid workers.

A new start-up in Bangladesh is lifting garment makers out of poverty by connecting them with ethical fashion brands, a US\$48 billion global market that pays a fair price for clothes. As smart global citizens, we can help improve lives by embracing ethical consumerism.

Insight

People without education and the skills that come from education are not going to make it out of poverty, no matter what kind of structure or invention one has.

Opening session EU-Africa Business Forum (Special event)

Organised by EU-Africa Business Forum

Speakers

- Dewij Mohammed, CEO, MeTL Group
- Fayolle Ambroise, Vice President, European Investment Bank
- Gattaz Pierre, President, MEDEF - French Business Confederation
- Kwesi Quartermey Thomas, Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission
- Mimica Neven, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission
- Shah Vimal, CEO, BIDCO Africa
- Stromeier Rebecca, Founder, eLearning Africa

Moderator: Chris Bishop, Managing Editor of Forbes Africa Managing Editor, Forbes Africa

Key Points

- Africa's population will double to 2.4 billion by 2050. This demographic boom is driving domestic demand and creating great supply-side opportunities.
- Sub-Saharan Africa needs to create 18 million new jobs a year. Investing in SMEs and entrepreneurs is the key to success.
- Banks and investors need to re-evaluate their perceptions of risk in Africa and make working capital more easily available to entrepreneurs. Angel investment is currently non-existent.
- Education is vital, not only in schools, but lifelong learning in technical, managerial and financial skills. Africa should make use of online learning tools, focusing on women and girls.

- Governments must reduce the risks for investment through better infrastructure, legal certainty, fair rules, anti-corruption measures, tax breaks and blended finance.

Synopsis

More than half of the world's population growth to 2050 will be in Africa, which will see its population double to 2.4 billion. By mid-century, Africa will be the only region in the world with a population younger than it is today. This demographic boom is driving private consumption, creating a €2 trillion domestic market by 2025. Seven of the 10 fastest growing countries in the world today are in Africa.

With so much demand, the supply side opportunities for investment are enormous. While agribusiness, sustainable energy and digital technologies have been defined as key sectors for investment, every single challenge in Africa brings an opportunity to create jobs.

Half of all Africans are under 25 years old. Their hunger for change risks turning to anger if there are not enough jobs. Sub-Saharan Africa needs to create 18 million new jobs every year until 2035. The revolution in digital and mobile technologies is enabling more young people to become entrepreneurs. But they lack access to capital. Angel investment is non-existent.

The African Development Bank, with the European Commission, will soon launch the Boost Africa fund, which aims to finance venture capital in specific countries. But commercial banks and investors need to re-evaluate their perceptions of risk in Africa and make working capital more available to entrepreneurs.

There is potential to create a "Silicon Savannah" in Kenya, a Silicon Valley-style cluster of entrepreneurs with ideas and expertise. But banks currently demand assets as collateral for lending; instead, they need to move towards a Western model of investing in business plans.

Many young Africans lack the financial literacy to write a decent business plan. They need to learn the basics, like how to create a profit and loss statement (P&L), and how to write a marketing plan. They need training in soft skills and creativity to give them the confidence to take risks. Much of the void in the labour market is not the lack of jobs, but a lack of skilled people. Lifelong learning is required – and it needn't just come through formal education. Google, YouTube and MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) offer great opportunities to learn. Educating African women and girls is a particular priority. Even once they are underway in business, entrepreneurs need mentoring to succeed.

Governments need to create a more attractive investment environment, reducing the risks that put off many international investors and businesses.

Better infrastructure is vital – for example, the Mombasa-Nairobi-Addis transport corridor. Governments need to root out corruption, improve legal certainty and ensure fair rules for business across the board.

Governments can help create jobs by offering tax incentives to big business to contract out to entrepreneurs. And governments should seize the opportunities offered by blended finance to reduce the risk of doing business in the 20 of Africa's 54 states defined as fragile.

The African Development Bank, which invests just 4 % of its resources into fragile countries, is keen to scale up this investment but needs governments' help to tackle the risks. One practical measure would be to increase access for businesses to local currency financing.

Insight

We talk a lot about South-South cooperation. But Africa can learn a lot from Europe's achievements integrating over the last 60 years. By stitching together lots of small countries, too tiny to compete globally, the European Union has transformed Europe. African regional integration could follow a similar model. To grow, Africa needs to free up the flow of goods, people and capital within the continent.

3.1.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [Public private partnership in conservation as an intervention for peace](#)

Organised by African Parks

Speakers

- Languy Mark, Director Central Africa, World Wide Fund for Nature
- Maziz Leila, Project Officer Africa Unit, UNESCO
- Michel Baudouin, Head of Operations, African Parks Network
- Ndoutoume Omer Ntougou, Executive Secretary, Gabon, Réseau des aires protégées d'Afrique Centrale

Moderator: Philippe Mayaux, Team Leader Biodiversity and Forests, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- Conservation of biodiversity central to development and increased prosperity in Africa.
- Linkages between security and conservation are set to become more and more important in central and West Africa.
- Negotiating conservation accords can bring warring factions together where talks about security would be impossible.
- Conservation programme in areas of political instability, weak government and violence must benefit and involve local people.
- Public-private conservation partnerships in Africa must avoid being seen as neo-colonialist organisations, particularly where protected national parks were established before independence.

Synopsis

In areas of central and west Africa where weak governance and recurrent violence have contributed to massive losses of wildlife and natural habitats, public-private partnerships (PPPs) to protect and manage beleaguered national parks have attracted international funding from the European Union and United States among others, plus support from UNESCO and park management roles for wildlife charities such as the World Wide Fund for Nature.

Advocates of these PPPs say the benefits include greater financial and technical resources for conservation than could possibly be provided locally, well as employment opportunities for local communities and a wider tax base for the state. Where local populations see direct economic benefits from the parks, and cooperate closely with park rangers, PPPs can also improve security.

In parks in neighbouring Sudan, for example, local people have provided early warnings of armed groups approaching the border, allowing security forces to prepare. Negotiating conservation accords can also provide a forum where warring factions are willing to talk despite their ongoing and deep-seated rivalries.

The long-term viability of conservation PPPs depends in part on their perceived legitimacy among government officials and the local communities, particularly where national parks were colonial creations. One way to avoid suspicion of neo-colonialist interference by outsiders is to employ Africans in key conservation roles, rather than expatriates. Good communications from the outset is essential to assure national partners that their private sector and NGO colleagues don't have hidden agendas.

Equally, in regions where human rights abuses are frequent and widespread, conservation partnerships cannot ignore the underlying causes of the violence that led to the degradation of national parks in the first place. These may well include armed conflicts rooted in competition for access to natural resources, especially water and land.

The political complexities of running conservation PPP in unstable political areas were recently illustrated by an incident in the Chinko National Park in the Central African Republic, when Muslim families took refuge from Christian marauders seeking to kill them. The park manager was accused of taking sides in the conflict, requiring the operational manager of the African Parks Network, the PPP which runs Chinko, to act as a go-between.

Separately, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has been accused of supporting anti-poaching eco-rangers involved with human rights abuses of the hunter-gatherer Baka people of Cameroon's rainforest. The complaint brought against WWF by Survivors International is being mediated by a Swiss government official under guidelines from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Insight

The perilous mix of a rapidly expanding population, fierce competition for natural resources and the availability of sophisticated weaponry in many parts of Africa looks set to raise many more complex questions about wildlife and habitat conservation, and challenge simplistic assumptions.

→ **Harnessing the power of the private sector to achieve the health SDG**

Organised by Stop Aids Alliance

Speakers

- Docter Hans, Director, Sustainable Economic Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
- Irrgang Ewout, Director, Advisory Services, PharmAccess Foundation
- Mboya Susan, President, The Coca-Cola Africa Foundation
- Van Deth Louise, Executive Director, Aidsfonds

Moderator: Christoph Benn, Director of External Relations, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Key Points

- Many people in Africa are so impoverished they do not have the financial means to access healthcare.
- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can be achieved but everyone has to play their part.

- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is a classic public-private partnership.
- Different forms of cooperation and community-based entrepreneurs can help tackle the issue.
- Future challenges include getting quality healthcare to the most marginalized communities.

Synopsis

This debate focused on how forging partnerships with the private sector can help tackle HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Eradicating these diseases is one of the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the urgent need to do more in this area is clear from latest statistics.

In low-income countries, one child in 10 dies before the age of five, whereas in wealthier nations this number is only one in 143. The lifetime risk of dying in pregnancy and childbirth is one in 22 in Africa, one in 120 in Asia and one in 3,800 for a 15-year-old girl in developed countries.

The aim of the debate was to learn about what can be done to achieve the health-related SDGs, particularly through closer cooperation with the private sector.

The Global Fund, set up in 2002 primarily to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic, is a classic public-private partnership and a good example of how the private sector can be engaged in this area.

One speaker noted that the key issue is finding new and innovative ways to leverage investment for development from the private sector.

An official from the Dutch foreign ministry explained why this is so important in eradicating health inequalities, highlighting the innovation the private sector can bring.

Many people in developing countries are forced to pay illegally when they seek health treatment. This is where health financing and health insurance can play a part, enabling people to access high-quality healthcare, the discussion was told.

There is a need to engage the private sector much more than at present so that it takes a lead.

A speaker from Coca-Cola told participants how her company is actively engaged in health development in Africa, something she said had previously been seen as the domain of the state.

This changed, she said, when the company partnered with the Global Fund to work with health systems in Africa. Coca-Cola had the advantage of already having an elaborate distribution system in Africa, which enabled it to get into places that are often beyond the reach of others. Development in this field has now become one of the core competencies of her company.

She highlighted Project Last Mile, which works to improve availability of essential medicines and medical supplies in Africa. The project is a partnership between the Global Fund, the Coca-Cola Africa Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

It is just one illustration of how the private sector can contribute in different ways, not least because it has unique expertise and innovation.

Another Africa-based speaker spelled out how different forms of cooperation and community-based entrepreneurs can help reach those people who are in greatest need.

The ongoing problem in Africa is that while people obviously want to access healthcare, they are often so impoverished they do not have the financial means to do so, for even basic medicines.

Future challenges include getting healthcare to the most marginalised communities and, on this, the Coca-Cola distribution model could be used by others to take drugs to far-flung clinics.

Even so, there is limited funding available, which illustrates the need to look for more innovative types of financing access to healthcare.

The overall aim, everyone agreed, has to be to directly involve communities themselves and ensure that the poorest people are not left without quality healthcare.

Insight

Reaching the most vulnerable populations will require a broad partnership and a more innovative approach. The private sector can play its part in transferring its skills but public sector leadership is also needed.

→ [Responsible mining – partnership to help achieve the SDGs](#)

Organised by FTI Consulting

Speakers

- Dechambenoit Lawrence, Vice President Corporate Relations Africa, RIO TINTO

- Karhunen Antti, Head of Unit Private Sector Framework and Trade, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Lust Herbert, Vice-President and Managing Director Europe, Conservation International
- Nkosi Zama, Private Sector Expert, ACP Young Professionals Network
- Piazzardi Sergio, Sustainable Growth and Development, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Sanoussi Bilal, Head of the Economic Transformation and Trade Programme, European Centre for Development Policy Management

Key Points

- Few people realise the benefits mining companies bring to the countries where they operate.
- Mining companies such as Rio Tinto have gone from 'licence to operate' to 'partnership to operate'.
- There is a need to think more holistically about partnerships.
- Partnership does not mean partners have to agree on everything all the time.
- Partnerships should be multilateral not bilateral.

Synopsis

The mining industry often gets a bad and unfair press. But the positive dimension should not be forgotten, as mining provides employment for local communities and often also provides basic needs such as free electricity in areas where governments do not.

Mining companies are increasingly keen to become involved in partnerships to promote development in the countries where they operate. Although there is no secret recipe as to how the mining industry can contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), all agree that partnerships are essential because no one can work in isolation, especially when all stakeholders aim to achieve the SDGs.

Partnerships, however, cannot be just bilateral; they must involve not only the private sector and NGOs but also the local community. Partners are not equal, as they do not have the same resources. Partnerships are important to protect the environment, ensure transparency and fight corruption, but also for developing skills, jobs and enterprise creation in all countries where there is a mining industry.

The European Commission points out that partnerships work when all stakeholders want them to. A top-down arrangement does not work, and it must be recognised that not everyone around the table has the means or the ability to bring solutions. This is why partnerships must be flexible, and allow

for different opinions as partners have different mandates. This is not a problem, as long as the dialogue never breaks down.

The European Commission is keen to boost partnerships because it realises that SDG targets will be impossible to reach with Official Development Assistance (ODA) alone. The Commission points out that the approach has to be changed to include the private sector that generates 90 % of all jobs in developing countries.

Another top priority for the European Commission is to ensure that natural resources, which generate the biggest revenues for developing countries, are properly exploited.

This is the only way to ensure sustainable development and reduce migratory pressure.

Insight

Mining is particularly important for youth, especially in African countries where there is extremely high unemployment, as it can provide up to 15 % of direct and indirect jobs. The industry is changing and is becoming increasingly mechanised, which means it is no longer a net job creator. One result is that African youths are turning to artisanal mining instead of agriculture for their livelihood. This is an issue that needs to be addressed as it has some serious consequences in terms of environmental degradation.

→ **De-risking and scaling up sustainable investments in the African power sector – the Africa GreenCo model** **(EABF Special event)**

Organised by Africa Green Co

Speakers

- Clubb Chris, Managing Director, Convergence
- Connaker Adam, Program Associate, Rockefeller Foundation
- Hajduka Ana, Founder & CEO, Africa GreenCo
- Nafo Seyni, Chair of the African Group of Negotiators at UNFCCC, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Ridolfi Roberto, Director for Sustainable Growth and Development, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Penny Herbst, Non-Executive Director, Africa GreenCo

Key Points

- The need for additional electricity generation in Africa is vast and to achieve this will require up to € 90 billion investment up to 2025.
- The creditworthiness of utilities is a big issue as is the fact that up to 70 % of revenue from energy consumption is not collected.
- The current project-by-project approach to electrification of the continent is unsustainable.
- Solving the Africa energy challenge will need bold, innovative and serious ideas, all executed passionately.
- Rehabilitating utilities is key, but sustainable and material improvements can only occur in the medium to long term.
- Putting the burden on governments to provide explicit and implicit guarantees or counter-guarantees shifts the creditworthiness issue to the sovereign level.

Synopsis

This panel debate focused on the need for significant additional electricity generation capacity in Africa and the current lack of a viable power market to sell electricity production.

Both of these factors present serious obstacles to achieving sustainable power sector development in Africa's energy markets. Participants were told that the current weak financial position of utilities and a limited choice of an alternate buyer often deter private capital.

One speaker said that an intermediary aggregator between buyers and sellers could help attract sustainable investments in the power sector.

One member on the six-strong panel reminded participants that Africa is not a single country, of course, but a continent of 54 countries, each with a regulatory policy framework.

A lack of creditworthy counterparties for generation projects is only one problem facing the energy sector and the current project-by-project approach to electrification of the continent is unsustainable. No single project, however, is enough to shift the attitude of commercial investors to bankability; a systemic and structural change is required.

One current example of best practice, and a particular success story in Sub-Saharan Africa, is Africa GreenCo. This project aims to increase private sector investment in energy generation in Sub-Saharan Africa by mitigating the credit risks associated with the current lack of creditworthy off-takers.

The aim is to increase the supply of, and demand for, finance for energy projects and to mobilize private sector capital more quickly.

The role of Africa GreenCo as a financially sustainable intermediary off-taker and power trading company can stimulate regional electricity trading and facilitate more efficient use of available and new resources, one speaker said.

The discussion was told that this initiative can address several critical issues, including reducing pressure on utilities as well as financial liabilities for governments. Unlike current development efforts that mostly focus on project preparation, advocacy or capacity building, Africa GreenCo has introduced a principal in the market that addresses the core issue of creditworthiness of off-takers and the lack of a viable power market to sell electricity production.

Africa GreenCo, it was noted, represents an ambitious attempt to help increase the liquidity and scale of regional power trade and develop the power pools in Sub-Saharan Africa. It does so by providing the first ever government co-owned, independently managed and financially sustainable electricity service provider.

The debate also touched on what is known as blended finance, which exists to establish risk return profiles. This can help secure more investment that, in turn, might achieve at least some of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The theme was picked up by another speaker who said there is currently a significant funding gap in achieving the SDGs, which means more needs to be done to engage the private sector, including the big investment banks, in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Financial engineering is not necessarily the answer but, rather, more work is needed to address the underlying myriad risks facing Africa's energy market.

Insight

Regional integration and renewable generation will reshape the energy landscape in Sub-Saharan Africa over the next 25 years.

→ **Investment pitches: Government and investors engagement to foster the investment environment (EABF Special event)**

Organised by Absolute Energy Capital

Speakers

- Colle Chantal, Entrepreneur and Presidential Advisor to H.E. Alpha Konde

- Duncan Daniel Kablan, Vice-President, Ivory Coast
- Karangwa Umulinga, PTA - COMESA, Investments
- Ruettggers Heike, Head of Mandates Management, European Investment Bank
- Shah Vimal, CEO, BIDCO Africa
- Zegers Robert, AfDB

Moderator: Riccardo Ridolfi, Absolute Energy Capital LLP

Key Points

- African governments and foreign private and public investors must find common ground in their expectations.
- Peace and stability are vital, but are only a starting point.
- Countries are investing heavily in transport and energy infrastructure.
- Investors need details of minimum investments and land guarantees.
- Female entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are key to the future.

Synopsis

Ministers from Guinea, Uganda and the Côte d'Ivoire described their countries' heavy investments in road and energy infrastructure to a panel of some 11 investors from the private and public sectors, including the European Investment Bank, during a session of the EU-Africa Business Forum.

The three governments, having achieved a degree of peace, security and stability that are essential for further foreign direct investment (FDI), are trying to promote their countries on the strength of improved road, rail and sea transport links as gateways to eastern and western Africa. In response, investors questioned them about land rights, credit for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), repatriating profits versus reinvestment, and the opportunities for female entrepreneurs.

Uganda, the only land-locked country, stressed the construction of a new railway system that will cut some freight journeys from 21 days to just three. One Indian private investor said this would be a game changer.

Guinea pointed to its 2,000 rivers as potential source of hydro-electricity as well as transportation, while Côte d'Ivoire pointed to the country's two ports and Uganda singled out roads as part of a bid to encourage its burgeoning tourism industry to travel by land rather than air, so as not to miss out on the landscape and nature.

The investment panel of bankers and private businessmen and women were keen to hear from each country about any rules on minimum foreign investment, and how secure their land and tenancy rights were.

The three ministers stressed there was no minimum investment requirement and that property rights, both for purchases or rentals, were protected, whether for a few hundred acres or hundreds of square miles of agricultural land. In terms of red tape, all three stressed the simplicity of setting up a business, in as little as a day, compared with up to 12 months in the past.

Conscious of the civil wars and unrest elsewhere in Africa, the ministers were keen to stress that their countries were peaceful and secure. One noted that investment capital can run away at just one gunshot. Several investors were keen to be reassured that SMEs were as welcome as huge multinational corporations.

In terms of gender equality and female entrepreneurship, Côte d'Ivoire has a US\$17 million fund set up by the First Lady, which has already benefitted 110,000 businesswomen – with an apparent default rate lower than that of male-run businesses.

Insight

While Uganda, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea might lag behind Kenya and Rwanda as favoured destinations for FDI, they are probably the next rung of the ladder and possibly offer greater investment possibilities.

→ **Bridging the digital divide in Africa (EABF Special event)**

Organised by SES

Speakers

- Acoleyen Koen Van, Direction Générale de la Coopération au Développement et de l'Aide Humanitaire, Belgium
- Collar Steve, CEO, SES Networks
- Elvinger Marc, Chair, Friendship Luxembourg
- Heinanen Ossi, CEO, Plan International Finland
- Heneveld Travis, Director United Nations and International Accounts, Motorola Solutions
- Janssens Laurence, Country Manager, Microsoft Indian Ocean Islands Ltd
- Leurquin Christine, Session Chair - Vice President, SES Networks
- Mayer Walter, Founder and CEO, PROGIS Corporation
- Reveyrand Michel, Advisor to Orange Chairman & CEO, in charge of international relations, Orange
- Scheijgrond Jan-Willem, Vice President Global Government and Public Affairs, Royal Philips
- Spiess Andreas, CEO, SOLARKIOSK

Moderator: Alexander De Croo, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services, Government of Belgium

Key Points

- The technology solutions for bringing connectivity to Africa exist and can help bring the economic and social advantages of the connected world.
- Digitalisation can provide new cost-effective solutions to many enduring problems and can help drive inclusion by removing physical boundaries between people.
- A public-private partnership to build a network needs a sustainable plan to permit a long-term commitment by the private sector. Quick returns cannot be expected.
- Solutions need to be scalable and adaptable or reusable over time.
- There is an important need for ICT services to be developed at the local level. This will make the network sustainable over time and generate employment.

Synopsis

The technological solutions for bringing connectivity to Africa are already available using satellite and ground-based systems. Digitalisation can provide new cost-effective solutions to many enduring problems and can drive inclusion by removing physical boundaries between people.

Nationwide digital networks have to be sustainable over time and scalable so that new areas of application can be progressively incorporated.

It is important to have both public and provider networks using the same backbone as far as possible. Creating a strong ICT backbone can be a key part of infrastructure development in sectors such as water, electricity, agriculture, finance, and even interactive apps for disaster response.

The Luxembourg satellite company SES, for example, has effective solutions based on satellite networks and ground infrastructure that can provide tailored solutions to the requirements of different countries.

The use of cloud technology eliminates the cost of setting up and operating local data centres. Cloud can be easily scaled up to meet the needs of business.

But while cloud computing averts the need to build complex data centres, it still requires the development of local ICT services and computing skills.

This offers considerable employment potential. With about 1 million young people a year in Africa looking for jobs, they can provide the ICT service sector

with the staff they need. And the needs will grow as the networks are applied more widely to areas such as education, health, and agriculture.

The relationship with governments to make the investment succeed remains the challenge. One of the main impediments to implementation is red tape and the degree of authorities' willingness to allow nationwide digitisation by private companies.

Indeed the key elements needed for a public-private partnership are fair competition, transparency, and a clear role for private sector actors to develop services for everyone.

The involvement of government at the outset can help make the economics of the project work. Once launched, the same infrastructure can be scaled up and expanded more broadly to other areas.

National governments may need help to push a public-private partnership through. Committing to a major expenditure can be difficult politically. The private sector can help by assuming a lot of the risk.

A key conclusion of panellists was that any projects implemented had to become self-sustainable and scalable over time. The private sector's commitment has to be long term -- it can take up 15 years to recoup investment.

The key is not to try and do everything at once. The initial approach should focus on core applications for the government using a system that can be scaled and applied to other areas.

It is important to look at the overall Ecosystem rather than at just one or two players. Any partnership that does not involve local African partners is likely to fail. It is important to involve the local community to develop local skills.

The conclusions of the session will be presented at the 5th EU-Africa summit in Abidjan in November 2017.

Insight

The private sector has to think of a 15-year timeframe for a public-private partnership in Africa to bring a return. It may need to assume a lot of the financial risk to be acceptable politically to national governments.

→ [Innovative agriculture for next-generation farms](#) (EABF Special event)

Organised by Edelman

Speakers

- Dzelzkalēja Maira, Vice President, Copa
- Ekeke Ndubuisi, Founder and Chairman, First Atlantic Semiconductors & Microelectronics
- Hailu Michael, Director, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
- Nwanze Kanayo F., Member of the Global Agenda Council on Food Security, World Economic Forum
- Senhadji Karim Lotfi, OCP Africa CEO, OCP Group
- Wozniak Joseph, International Trade Centre

Moderator: Lanre Akinola, Editor, African Business

Key Points

- Unlocking Africa's potential is key to feeding the world.
- So-called smart farming can deploy technology to make farmers more competitive.
- Agricultural development could also help create badly needed jobs.
- Decisions on technological change must be taken locally and not in the capitals of developed countries.

Synopsis

Unlocking Africa's potential is key to feeding the world in the decades to come. African agriculture faces considerable challenges, given the poverty of much of its soil. The continent has huge amounts of unused land and untapped reserves of water. It also has the youngest population of any continent. With the number of jobs being created each year running at less than a third of those needed, a vibrant agricultural sector could help to bridge this employment gap.

Participants heard about two examples of how high technology can be used to boost the productivity of African agriculture. The Nigerian company Zenvus has developed technology that allows farmers to monitor their crops and land more efficiently, registering the state of the soil or the threat from pests, telling them when to irrigate or when to use fertiliser. The technology can make it easier for farmers to raise credit with banks, something that can be difficult because credit institutions have an independent means of verifying the information that farmers provide.

The Geneva-based International Trade Centre, a joint venture of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization, presented its soon-to-be launched Sustainability Network, through which users can share their business and sustainability profiles with buyers, traders, standards organizations, certification bodies, financiers and others.

But there is a paradox in the emphasis placed on high technology as the solution to Africa's agricultural problems. There are already many means available to boost farm productivity, one panellist noted, but farmers continue to ignore them. One example is better-quality seed, which, although available, is not used.

Another example is fertiliser. In some parts, farmers could triple their output with a small addition of fertiliser. The problem is not technology, the panellist said explained. It is access to markets. Farmers are not interested in producing more if they cannot sell the additional output.

African agriculture needs the creation of an enabling environment, including better access to markets and better infrastructure. Only then will technological innovation have a significant impact. This requires leadership, such as that shown by the Rwandan government over the past 10 years, during which its output of crops such as coffee and tea has soared. African agriculture needs to become more business-oriented.

The formation of cooperatives can strengthen the market bargaining power of farmers. Latvia offers an example. The country exported no grain or milk until a group of farmers came together 15 years ago to form a cooperative. Production has tripled and Latvian grain is sold on the international market.

Panellists agreed that decisions on technological change must always involve local communities and cannot be imposed from outside. Technology must always work to the benefit of the farmer. The solutions to Africa's development issues will not be decided in Paris, London, Washington or Geneva: They can only be taken in Africa by Africans.

Young people are attracted by technology and technological innovation could be a means to draw young people to agriculture, or to keep them from leaving the farm, so helping ease Africa's unemployment problem.

Insight

Not all innovation is technological. Technology can help address a range of development problems, but it is not a silver bullet. Education and training are also important.

3.1.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Informing more inclusive labour markets: Lessons learned and future opportunities](#)

Organised by Children in Crisis

Speakers

- Hayter Lucy, Global Head of Programmes, Leonard Cheshire Disability
- Sehnalova Olga, Member, European Parliament
- Stewardson Gail, Programme Funding Development Manager, Children in Crisis

Moderator: Marion Steff, SDGs Coordinator, European Disability Forum

Podcast

→ **Index Insurance: An Innovative Tool for Risk Management and Resilience Building**

Organised by IFC

Speakers

- Aghoghovbia Ken, Deputy Managing Director/Chief Operating Officer, African Reinsurance Corporation
- Derieux Philippe, Head of P&C New Business Models, AXA Global P&C
- Ndiaye Amadou Ndiouga, General Director, The National Agricultural Insurance Company of Senegal
- Speckhardt Olga, Head of Global Insurance Solutions, Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture

Moderator: Fatou Assah, Program Manager, Global Index Insurance Facility, World Bank Group

Podcast

Financial Education for the promotion of social and financial inclusion

Organised by BBVA

Speakers

- Becerra Basterrechea Beatriz, Member, European Parliament
- Gibbons Helen, Board Member, Better Finance
- Jacob Ralf, Head of Unit, Retail Financial Services and Payments, European Commission - DG for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union
- Mijs Wim, Chief Executive of the European Banking Federation, European Banking Federation

Moderator: Antoni Ballabriga, Global Head of Responsible Business, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria

Podcast

3.1.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ Improving governance for responsible business

Organised by Öko-Institut

Speakers

- Alexa Noemi, Central European University
- Martinuzzi André, Head of the Institute for Managing Sustainability, Vienna University of Economics and Business
- Munrat Sabeth, Assistant Manager, Partnerships and Donor Liaison Office, BRAC Bangladesh
- Schönherr Norma, Project Manager, Vienna University of Economics and Business
- Wolff Franziska, Head of Division Environmental Law & Governance, Oeko-Institute e.V.

→ Inclusive Business and the Creation of Development Ecosystems

Organised by Agenzia Italiana per lo Sviluppo

Speakers

- Dal Negro Lucia, Founder of De Lab | Solutions about inclusive business
- Frigenti Laura, Director of the Italian Agency for International cooperation
- Jahn Christian, Executive Director, Iban
- Van Seters Jeske, Head of Programme Private Sector Engagement Economic and Agricultural Transformation Programme, European Centre for Development Policy Management

3.2 Partnerships for CSOs and local actors

Inclusive societies and accountable, democratic institutions are preconditions for sustainable development and stability. An empowered civil society is a crucial component of any democratic system and is an asset in itself. The achievement of most of the SDGs will depend on the active involvement of local authorities. A successful implementation of the SDGs will require forging stronger partnerships beyond governments.

Therefore, the EU and its Member States will deepen their partnerships with all components of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and Local Authorities (LAs), so they can play their full role as actors of governance, advocates and implementers. They will promote an open and enabling space for CSOs and LAs, to participate and play a full role, in inclusive approaches and transparency in decision making at all levels.

They will continue to support capacity building of relevant stakeholders. They will support global and multi-actors partnership, including between various CSOs categories such as social partners, or between national, sub-national and local governments. They will support CSOs and LAs commitments to effective, transparent and results-oriented development cooperation.

The EU and its Member States recognise that the success of engagement depends on cooperation with local CSOs and LAs based in developing countries and their ownership of the process. It also depends on addressing in partnership with them the new challenges of crisis, migration and jobs, gender and climate change.

In this respect, the European Commission has signed 29 Framework Partnership Agreements with networks of CSOs and LAs supporting their global strategies and further strengthening cooperation ties.

3.2.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATE

→ **[Yours and mine – Investing in development is everyone's business!](#)**

Organised by Habitat for Humanity

Speakers

- Banskota Nishchal, EDD Young Leader, Nepal

- Modéer Ulrika, State Secretary for International Development, Government of Sweden
- Najeh Tijani, Acting Director of Operations, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
- Prins Jeffrey, Program Manager, Ikea Foundation
- Ries Roland, Mayor of Strasbourg
- Van der Meer Rob, Director of Public Affairs & Climate Change, HeidelbergCement

Moderator: Deepali Sood, Director, Resource Development, Habitat for Humanity International

Key Points

- Putting people and the planet before profit should be the new norm for the private sector if development aims are to be achieved.
- Young people are passionate about socially responsible businesses that connect them as the ultimate consumer with primary producers, such as tea growers and farmers.
- The era of the public sector versus the private sector is becoming a thing of the past. They no longer have to view each other with suspicion but look for areas where they can collaborate together.
- Public officials must be prepared to take risks and accept criticism if they are to convince the public to accept what may on the face of it seem unpopular programmes.

Synopsis

The role of the private sector in driving the agenda for change is a reflection of the times. As the development community looks to the future, corporate responsibility is emerging as a new force in social investment. Such participation would not have seemed possible even in the recent past, but it is now seen as the way forward for sustainable development. In short, putting people and the planet before profit must become a mantra for businesses.

The desire for the private sector to take action is strongest when viewed in terms of modern pressures such as climate change and poverty alleviation. Take the Ikea Foundation, for example. It started by looking at the position of children and how to help them out of poverty. In doing that, they realised there was a knock-on effect in tackling climate change.

A clean cooking initiative was developed to improve the health of women and children who suffered by meals prepared in smoky environments. Households spend up to 15 % of their limited income on kerosene and other fuels that give off fumes responsible for more deaths a year than malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS combined. By investing in clean cooking stoves and solar energy, the Ikea Foundation's programme has made a contribution to combatting climate change.

The Nepal Tea company started by encouraging local farmers to pool their land for a tea plantation and now employs more than 600 farmers. The full-time farmers are given free housing and subsidised necessities, and the company has now invested in a cow bank. The project started by providing 34 cows to community farmers. This provided an extra source of income, enabling the farmers to sell the dairy produce to local markets and the manure to the Tea Company. The only condition is that farmers were asked to donate the first-born calf to the bank. As a result, the bank has been able to provide cows to 176 farmers.

To create such opportunities requires removing unwarranted middlemen from the business chain and connecting the primary producers to the final consumers. The profits generated saved can then be used for social investment in the farmers themselves. These are the values that young people, the millennials, are passionate about.

The success of encouraging companies to build sustainable development into their business model does not absolve public authorities of their legislative or regulatory responsibilities; they are still required to set the framework within which responsible businesses operate.

However, it does require the public sector to take risks. Elected representatives have to be brave enough to not go with the flow and sometimes allow criticism if they are to convince the public to accept the long-term benefits of what might seem on the face of it to be unpopular programmes.

Insight

While the era of private versus public sector is over and businesses are investing in socially responsible programmes, local authorities still need to create the developmental framework within which businesses operate.

3.2.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [Towards a territorial approach to economic development:](#)
[How to foster inclusive partnerships that can support the implementation of the SDGs?](#)

Speakers

- Dall'Olio Roberta, Vice President, European Association of Development Agencies
- Iacop Franco, Rapporteur on SDGs, European Committee of the Regions
- Marta Stefano, Economist, Policy Research and Advice, OECD
- Thirion Marie-Cécile, Agronomist and project coordinator, Agence Française de Développement
- Valette Elodie, Researcher, Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement

Moderator: Johannes Krassnitzer, International Coordinator, United Nations Development Programme

Key Points

- The focus of implementing the Sustainable Goals for Development (SDGs) is moving towards a territorial approach that emphasises economic development at the local level.
- Local policymakers are in a key position to develop measures that ultimately should bring about the SDGs by 2030.
- Decentralised cooperation should be the new key concept.
- Despite an enhanced focus on the territorial approach, there should not be a shift from decision-making at the national level, as problems cannot be solved only locally.

Synopsis

The territorial approach aims to bring together different regions and local communities to enhance the potential for development. The challenge is to connect the work of the national government to the local level to ensure inclusive development.

The European Committee of Regions (CoR), an EU body made up of regional representatives, will be closely involved in supporting EU action in the territorial context. But there was criticism of the European Commission's development approach for not sufficiently taking local actors into account.

A new approach is needed to involve regional and local authorities in development. Action needed to achieve the SDGs is often local in nature, such as social welfare policies and improved urban planning and mobility.

Applying the territorial approach requires a better understanding of which sectors should be involved. Implementation tools are key. But the real challenge is to assess the achievements at the local level, which requires better indicators. The real difficulty is that there is no single development model that could be applied across the board at the local level, although local success stories can provide valuable lessons that can then be scaled up.

Involving small and medium-sized enterprises in the implementation of the SDGs and the political process guiding it are of outmost importance. Policies that promote investment, such as education and welfare policies, must be integrated at territorial level.

Territorial development means applying multilevel governance rather than only local governance. The UN's 2030 SDGs agenda should also imply a shared responsibility at local level. There is a need to monitor the achievements of the SDGs at local level, as the previously, the Millennium Development Goals were mainly monitored at national level. That requires work programmes on SDG indicators at regional and local level. Latin America is a good example of regional cooperation that works, e.g. between regions in Colombia, Peru and Ecuador.

Hunger can only be ended through addressing food security and that requires investment in agricultural production and processing, marketing and transport.

With a large increase in population, rural areas have to provide jobs with a prospect of reasonable revenue for young people.

Insight

Implementing the development goals should involve all levels of administration, as difficulties cannot only be solved locally. The territorial approach is therefore only part of a solution that focuses on a bottom-up approach and increasingly on decentralisation.

→ [**Global Climate Change Alliance plus \(GCCA+\): The role of CSOs supporting climate change and the sustainable development agenda**](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Bento Pais Rosario, Head of Unit Civil Society, Local Authorities, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Gaston Buh Wung, Coordinator Geotechnology, Environmental Assessment and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Nera-Lauron Maria Theresa, CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness
- Oxley Marcus, Executive Director GNDR, Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction
- Zaccheo Felice, Head of Unit C.6 - Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Guido Corno, Climate Change Policy Expert, Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+)

Key Points

- The role of civil society in disaster risk reduction is increasingly being recognised by national authorities and international policy-makers. The GCCA+ further underscores that role.
- Civil society actors help connect local communities and governments, share relevant knowledge, monitor the various policy frameworks, and advocate for solutions.
- Citizen participation is crucial given the size and complexity of the climate change challenge, especially at the local level.
- It is particular challenge to coordinate local initiatives and ensure their influence at national level.
- People become vulnerable when they are excluded from policy-making and other processes.

Synopsis

Civil society organisations (CSOs) have been at the forefront of climate action for decades, pushing governments to take action. But now the role of CSOs is increasingly being recognised nationally and internationally beyond general advocacy on climate.

This includes articulating the needs of local communities, linking them to policymakers, implementing and monitoring specific actions, facilitating the sharing of relevant information and local-level knowledge.

This development follows the proliferation of CSOs active on climate policy, as the effects of climate change on local communities come into sharper relief. The EU Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) flagship initiative, for example, is currently studying how to deepen its cooperation with CSOs.

CSOs have historically been involved in planning processes at local level. They reflect and articulate the needs of wide cross-sections of society, including groups that have been marginalised in policy-making. They help influence policies through participatory processes such as local budgeting. But at the nexus of climate change adaptation and sustainable development, national-level coordination is still not fully developed, and the field experience of local CSOs has typically not been fully harnessed.

The expertise of groups with field-level insights could be maximised with the proper national-level coordination. One example is in the development of climate vulnerability analyses, stakeholder coordination, and climate information management.

Local CSOs are also conduits for national policies and their translation into action on the ground. They provide an important monitoring function for field-level implementation.

The systemic inclusion of CSOs in climate policy-making is a step towards inclusive risk governance, the area where climate resilience, disaster resilience, and conflict resilience overlap. This interconnectedness is especially salient at local level, where communities are faced with interlocking resilience challenges.

CSOs have a crucial role to play in integrating disaster risk reduction and resilience building in climate adaptation strategies. Local communities become even more vulnerable when they are excluded from the policy process.

Insight

Not all countries offer an enabling environment for civil society. In such cases, the EU can help CSOs by entering into political dialogue with a partner government and advocating on behalf of civil society

3.2.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Protecting human rights defenders as a development strategy](#)

Organised by ProtectDefenders

Speakers

- De Marco Liliana, Executive Director, Protection International
- Neira Sandra Lorena, Coordinator of the project of construction of a protection plan in rural communities - Northeast Antioquia Colombia, Comité Permanente por la defensa de los derechos Humanos - CPDH Colombia
- Rinaldi Sarah, Deputy Head of Unit - Human Rights, Gender, Democratic Governance, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Schaeffer Anne-Sophie, Programme Director, Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders

Moderator: Antoine Madelin, International Advocacy Director, International Federation for Human Rights

[Podcast I](#)

Podcast II

→ The role of cities in implementing the migration-related targets of the SDGs

Organised by UNDP

Speakers

- Ceriani Filiberto Sebregondi, Head of Division - Development Cooperation Coordination, European External Action Service
- Lanneau Geertrui, Senior Specialist on Labour Mobility and Human Development, International Organization for Migration
- Turine Sarah, Deputy Mayor of Youth, Social cohesion and prevention and Intercultural Dialogue, City of Molenbeek
- Velasquez Ante Lee Sally, Mayor, City of Sorsogon, Philippines

Moderator: Cécile Riallant, Programme Manager, Joint Migration and Development Initiative

Podcast

3.2.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ Moving towards an Inclusive, Participatory and Representative Implementation of the Agenda 2030

Organised by European Network of Political Foundations

Speakers

- Beyne Jan, Program Manager, CIFAL Flanders | UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research)
- Kammel Arnold, PolAk, Austria, European Network of Political Foundations
- Šepić Senad, Independent politician
- Wetzig Sidonie, ENoP Chair of Working Group on Development Cooperation, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
- Wollaert Peter, Fellow of UNITAR and Managing Director of CIFAL Flanders

3.3 Engaging with Middle Income Countries (MICs)

Since 2005, over half a billion people have escaped from extreme poverty and hunger, mostly in East Asia. Less than 10 % of the world's population lives in extreme poverty, the majority concentrated in fragile and conflict-affected states and in sub-Saharan Africa, although substantial pockets of poverty remain in some middle-income countries. Reaching the poor in such divergent situations requires differentiated approaches.

More advanced developing countries need fewer or no concessional forms of assistance, but are crucial for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. They still have high numbers of people living in poverty within their borders and are often characterised by high levels of inequality. They have important impacts and influence within their regions. The EU and its Member States will engage in development policy dialogue with these countries and across a range of policies through combinations of political, security, economic, scientific, technical, technological and adapted financial cooperation.

The policy dialogues will promote mutual interests and identify common priorities and partnerships. They will support the implementation of the SDGs, which provide a common and integrated framework for cooperation, and will help address global public goods and challenges including climate change. Cooperation could take place in the partner countries themselves, in their respective regions, in third countries or globally.

South-South cooperation with other developing countries is rising rapidly and represents an important proportion of all international cooperation. The EU and its Member States will engage with those Middle Income Countries which are becoming emerging donors to exchange best practices, promote South-South and triangular cooperation and work together to support less advanced countries in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

3.3.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ [**Development Today: Do middle-income countries lead the way? A close look to the South-South cooperation**](#)

Organised by Secretaria General Iberoamericana

Speakers

- Agüero Maria Dolores, Minister of Foreign Affairs, MFA - Honduras
- Butkeviciene Jolita, Director for Development Coordination - Latin America and Caribbean, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

- Flores Silvia, EDD Young Leader, Peru
- Grysnpán Rebeca, Secretary General, Secretaria General Iberoamericana
- Pezzini Mario, Director, OECD Development Centre
- Tejada Luis, Director, Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation

Moderator: Cristina Manzano, Editor at "ESGLOBAL" and "Pensamiento Iberoamericano"

Key Points

- South-South cooperation is on the rise, especially in Latin America.
- So is triangular cooperation, which adds partners from the developed world.
- Many Latin American countries are being reclassified as 'middle income', which can make them less likely to receive official development assistance (ODA) from rich countries.
- The European Consensus on Development, the European Union's latest framework document for development policy, could open the door for a shift from aid to cooperation.

Synopsis

South-South development cooperation is increasing, especially in Latin America. The same goes for so-called triangular cooperation, which adds a developed world component to the equation.

The traditional donor-recipient relationship is also being transformed as many Latin American countries have been reclassified according to international norms as middle income – a category that can mean they are less likely to receive ODA from rich countries.

Honduras, now a considered a lower-middle income country, remains acutely vulnerable to the effects of climate change and faces huge food security challenges. Reclassification extends beyond Latin America. Now the small African nation Cape Verde has become a middle-income country, a minister remarked to one of the panellists: "But nothing has changed!"

The European Consensus on Development, the EU's latest framework document for development policy, could open the door to a shift from aid to cooperation and perhaps create more space for triangular cooperation. The minimalist equation development = ODA no longer adds up.

While the financial component could be diminished, European cooperation in Latin America is likely to continue in areas such as climate change, trade, security and technical assistance.

All Latin American nations both provide and receive international assistance. Most have specific agencies responsible for their ODA outlays and related cooperation, and all operate mostly within the region. Honduras is working with Ecuador in the coffee sector, for example.

Often this work is undertaken as part of triangular agreements that include EU member states, notably Spain and Portugal. Some Latin American countries, such as Brazil, have begun to provide assistance to countries in Africa.

Despite gains in per capita income, the battle against poverty is not over in Latin America. It has just become more complex. Nearly three-quarters of the world's poor are reported to live in middle-income countries. In addition, many members of the so-called new middle class remain vulnerable to falling back below the poverty line.

The institutions of many countries in the region, such as tax administrations, need to be strengthened. Corruption needs to be tackled, and education systems must be modernised to meet the needs of 21st century students, many of who will become entrepreneurs instead of employees. Women need to be empowered, climate change must be addressed, and the list goes on.

In this context, some observers believe that per capita GDP should be abandoned as the main indicator of well-being and, by extension, qualification for international cooperation.

Even as they boost South-South relations, Latin Americans worry that the widespread reclassifications could exclude them from the broader development cooperation scene. Dialogue, partnerships and alliances should be used to reach the goal of cooperation rather than aid.

Insight

With rapid growth in many developing countries, and the continued emergence of China as an economic powerhouse, the world's centre of gravity has shifted away from the Atlantic Ocean. The repercussions for development are multifold, and include China's investments in infrastructure in Africa.

For example, the Chinese led the way in building the recently inaugurated Nairobi-Mombasa railway. But its growing role abroad offers a new twist as China still faces enormous development challenges at home, including poverty, insufficient infrastructure and uneven regional development.

3.3.2 DEBATE LABS

→ Public expertise and capacity transfer for deeper impact

Organised by Belgian Development Agency

Speakers

- Castillo Cecilia, Head of Brussels Office, Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas
- Foubert Thierry, International Sector Expert in TVET, Belgian Development Agency
- Oroz Laura, Head of Unit Regional cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean, Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
- Péry Jean-Pierre, Project manager, Public Finance Unit, French Ministry of Economy and Finance

Moderator: Monika Hoegen, Media trainer, Communication for Development

Key Points

- Peer-to-peer public sector expertise programmes offer the chance for a transition from aid to partnership.
- A demand-driven and flexible approach without predefined frameworks creates the most benefits for both sides.
- Changed realities in third countries demand the adaptation of practices and programmes.
- Peer-to-peer cooperation enables a shared feeling of belonging to an international community of public sector professionals.

Synopsis

Four examples of public expertise and capacity-transfer programmes were introduced and discussed. Two of them are managed by Spanish agencies, indicating the leading role Spain is playing in this relatively new field of development policy.

The first one, conducted by the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAP) and funded by the European Union, is an extensive programme of public sector cooperation and reform with the Cuban government. The three-year programme started in January 2014 and involved two Cuban ministries – Economy and Planning, and External Trade and Foreign Investment – but also several federal agencies.

A Cuban embassy official participating in the session enthusiastically confirmed the claim by FIIAP's representative on the panel that the programme, with its openness towards the reform demands of Cuba and its flexible approach, constituted a transition from a donor-recipient situation to a true partnership. Progress on a much-needed tax reform for Cuba was mentioned as a particular success.

The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) presented its public expertise programme, Intercoonecta. It is the result of a survey the agency carried out with Latin American and Caribbean partners, to reflect the new reality of the region, with many countries having moved into middle-income country territory.

Intercoonecta, established in 2106, takes advantage of the Spanish legal provision for its civil servants to be able to participate in substantial missions abroad. It has helped to 'internationalise' the country's civil service as well as helping partner countries make their public institutions stronger and more resilient.

The Belgian Development Agency successfully introduced e-learning and information and communication technologies (ICT) into 288 Palestinian schools during a four-year programme between 2011 and 2015 using peer-to-peer collaboration. The 'triangulation' of technical expertise and pedagogical experience was key to success.

Expertise France, the French agency for international technical assistance, presented its programme of public service cooperation with the government of Lebanon. Set up together with Italy, and as part of the European Commission's Twinning instrument for institutional cooperation between public administrations, it was aimed at developing a new strategy for public finance reform for Lebanon.

An "ambitious, expansive and sensitive" project, it perhaps illustrates best the added value of peer-to-peer collaboration. In the absence of a budget that is subject to parliamentary scrutiny or external auditing, it is particularly important for the 'small and short-staffed' units of the Lebanese finance ministry to feel part of an international professional community, and to be able to develop a strategy that would deliver a national budget of international repute.

Insight

During the discussion, representatives of consultancy firms questioned the 'magic' qualities of peer-to-peer capacity transfer and pointed to their industry's professionalism and expertise. The panel responded – unanimously – by claiming that it was not an either/or question whether consultants or peers were better capacity builders but that they could very well, and in practice often do, work together.

3.3.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Strengthening Youth and Community Resilience in Tunisia, Morocco and Lebanon](#)

Organised by British Council

Speakers

- Hamdane Mohammed, Coordinator, Civil Society Council of Beni Makkada (Morocco)
- Mehrez Souzan, Community Coach
- Moussa Dima, Field Coordinator, Strengthening Resilience Project, British Council
- Woley Khaled, Deputy Mayor, City of Tripoli

Moderator: Andy Hansen, Head of Society Programmes, British Council

[Podcast](#)

3.4 Building global partnerships

A realignment of global resources and investment is needed to achieve sustainable development and support greater economic growth and more job creation. The development landscape is expanding, encompassing more and new actors and innovative solutions. The private sector is increasingly a key partner in fostering more sustainable models of development. Combining public and private resources to leverage more investments is allowing to step up engagement, also in challenging environments. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda, as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, sets a new paradigm for implementation and a global partnership encompassing policy and financial means, to achieve the SDGs. The 2030 Agenda is also complemented by the Sendai framework on disaster risk reduction and the Paris agreement on Climate Change, which provides a binding framework with universal commitments.

Alongside the new European Consensus on Development the EU and its Member States will also support the Addis Tax Initiative and OECD/G20 work to address base erosion and profit shifting and on tax information exchange while pursuing coherence between their tax policies and their effects on developing countries. Blending public grants and loans, in close partnership with the European Investment Bank and other international financial institutions, is another important means to implement the 2030 Agenda. Blending, using innovative financial instruments to help attract more private finance, covers all regions of EU external cooperation in sectors including

energy, transport and water infrastructure and is a major component of the proposed European External Investment Plan.

The Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy provides a vision for Europe's engagement throughout the world but notably in Africa. The EU and its Member States will promote peace, state-building, transparency, accountability and access to justice, by engaging with all stakeholders in conflict-prevention, peace-keeping and peace-building processes. They will support transitional justice through context-specific measures promoting truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence. In post-conflict situations, partnerships with regional stakeholders in civil society and the private sector will help bridge the gap between conflict resolution and longer term reform processes taking hold and build trust between government and population. Early engagement and close cooperation of political and development actors will complement and build on the humanitarian emergency and early recovery interventions, in line with the commitments made at the World Humanitarian Summit in May 2016.

3.4.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ **Towards a new partnership with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries: Delivering on global challenges and mutual interests (Special event)**

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Granger David, President, Guyana
- Manservigi Stefano, Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Michel Louis, Co-Chair, ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly
- Mushikiwabo Louise, Minister of Foreign Affairs – Rwanda, MFA – Rwanda
- Ribeiro Teresa, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation, Government of Portugal

Moderator: Patrick Guillaumont, President, Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international

Key Points

- The world has changed enormously since the Cotonou Agreement was signed.
- How can we ensure we have a new agreement that is fit for purpose?

- Should the revised agreement be based on something more than economic drivers?
- How can any new agreement embrace global issues such as climate change and terrorism?

Synopsis

The partnership between the European Union and the African Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP) is long established, with the original agreement set up in 1978. The world has changed considerably since then and while the Cotonou Agreement began in 2000, its expiry date in 2020 is a good opportunity to ensure that a new framework is established that can build on lessons learned, be appropriate for today's climate and be flexible enough to respond to future challenges.

Trade continues to be important – with 25 % of trade from ACP countries going towards the European Union. Today, European countries spend less than they did 25 years ago in ACP countries but they remain as important partners. Growth in the ACP countries has not been even; some countries have taken significant strides in development, but for others, steps have been small. This raises questions as to whether the current agreement should be abandoned or built on.

There are also issues as to whether the current geographical designations are still appropriate. Many small island states, for example, are not part of the ACP countries group, although they bear the brunt of some of the effects of climate change.

The main European Commission proposal on the table for discussion was a new agreement acknowledging the differences in the three regions and enabling different actions where appropriate. The approach would give the European Union more of an "umbrella" role. This was seen as something that could enable countries to meet more of today's challenges, such as globalisation, climate change and the growth of terrorism.

While this "umbrella" approach was not ruled out by other panellists, it was clear from the discussion that participants of the ACP countries wanted to ensure that sufficient time was available to discuss any realignment of relationships and to look closely at how best to respond. Poverty, population growth and migration were identified as key issues that would shape the agenda in the future. There was some concern as to how any new agreement would align with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris climate change agreement.

All of the panellists stressed the need for an open dialogue, engaging a wide range of stakeholders. There was some support for the involvement of non-state actors who would bring alternative perspectives to the table. Issues of

capacity building were raised and the need for mechanisms to be established that would enable real partnerships to be forged.

Insight

The tensions evident between the key players make it difficult to see how an agreement can be reached despite a willingness to look for bold solutions.

3.4.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [Bringing health services to reach migrant mining populations](#)

Organised by Humana People to People

Speakers

- Guerrero Olga, Programme Manager, TIMS Programme Management Unit, Humana People to People
- Sah Sameer, International Programme Director, TB Alert

Moderator: Poonam Dhavan, Migration Health Programme Coordinator, International Organization for Migration

Key Points

- Action is needed to achieve global goals for tuberculosis (TB) eradication.
- TB drug resistance is a growing problem.
- Targeted proactive case handling offers a pathway to success.
- A multistakeholder approach is the best way forward.

Synopsis

While the threat of tuberculosis (TB) is recognised globally, the prevalence of the disease is often under-appreciated, according to the EDD2017 discussion

panel. With 10.4 million new cases worldwide in 2015 and a death toll of 1.4 million, TB very much remains a significant global public health concern.

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals target the end of the global TB epidemic by 2030. Similarly, the World Health Organization's End TB Strategy is aimed at a 95 % reduction, by 2035, in the number of TB deaths compared with 2015, alongside a 90 % reduction in the TB incidence rate.

Achieving these ambitious targets will require significant effort and cooperation. The panel noted that the global response to the TB epidemic has been comparatively slow and too heavily slanted towards a biomedical approach.

While free treatment is essential, it is not enough as accessing local clinics is not cost-free for people and local healthcare provision can be inadequate and compromise the quality of care. Civil society actors are bridging this gap by stepping in to combat the spread of TB and organising follow-up visits to ensure better treatment outcomes.

A rise in drug resistance is one of the challenges in the treatment of TB. Although prevention is possible via vaccination, it only works for certain strains of the disease. If the patient is not drug-resistant, a six-month treatment will cure TB. Where there is drug resistance, the treatment is much harder on the patient. Therefore, patient-level support to improve completion of treatment is vitally important.

An effective pathway to combating TB is to target at-risk groups with a proactive approach. Rather than wait for the patient to present with debilitating symptoms, the objective is early diagnosis and the prompt initiation of treatment. Such intervention makes sense in certain settings; for example, for miners in South Africa who have the highest rates of TB in the world due to occupational risk factors, mobility levels and discontinuity of care.

A Global Fund TB in the mining sector programme in the Southern African Development Community SADC region is delivering good results. This civil society approach involves three steps:

- Social mobilisation – led by trained field staff and community volunteers – to raise awareness and create demand.
- Facilitating diagnosis – involving household screening to ascertain risk factors, collecting and testing of sputum samples and providing feedback.
- Patient-based support, including counselling and preventive treatment for family members.

A number of key learnings have emerged. Targeted screening requires careful planning with all stakeholders. Workplace activity should be combined with household visits. A grassroots approach helps to ensure acceptability of

screening and testing, thus overcoming fear of social stigma that can prevent some from seeking treatment. TB diagnosis requires substantial follow-up and patient-level support is key to treatment completion, particularly when it is combined with vulnerable and food-insecure settings.

The mining sector example above is illustrative of how the most effective way to tackle the challenge of TB is to use a multistakeholder approach. Local NGOs, mine-workers' unions, mining companies large and small, government agencies and health clinics need to work together to tackle this societal problem.

Insight

Dealing with illnesses such as TB or HIV requires the trust of workers, communities and mining companies – and establishing this trust takes time. Yet treatment programmes typically don't fund the pre-launch cooperation activity that would allow the programme to hit the ground running.

→ [Can we achieve sustainable development results in cooperation programmes?](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Beier Christoph, Vice-Chair of the Management Board, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Conzato Franco, Deputy Head of Unit for Quality and Results, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Engberg-Pedersen Poul, Policy Adviser Results-based Decision-making, The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD)
- Silfverstolpe Alexandra, Founder and Managing Director, Data Act Lab
- Toth Izabella, Senior Policy & Advocacy Strategist, Cordaid

Moderator: Anders Henriksson, Principal Adviser for Policy Definition, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their targets, plus the 2030 Agenda, provide a good framework for collecting data.
- To collect results, donor countries need to strengthen partner countries' ability to build up their own data collection systems.
- Multistakeholders (governments and others) in development partner countries must be strengthened so that they can hold their governments to account in general and on how they report on the SDGs in particular.

- Data must be presented in a way that the public in both donor and development-partner countries can understand. They must include criteria such as gender, age, employment and human rights.
- The processes involved in implementing the SDGs, such as bringing in stakeholders, are as important as any concrete results of the SDGs themselves.

Synopsis

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their 169 targets, as well as the general aspiration to leave no one behind, provide a good framework for delivering results. While some of the targets are broad and aspirational, at least 80 of them contain concrete objectives. Development practitioners can use these in their work with partner governments to focus on lessons to be learnt and the direction for implementation.

Development partners need to adopt an efficient method for data collection and tabulation in order to demonstrate the results of development initiatives and funding. Where this is lacking, part of the donor countries' role is to help governments build the requisite data-collection system.

As well as including data that is relevant to the SDGs, systems must be more flexible manner so they can include people's perception of what they want. This can often bring surprises. In one country it was found that people were more interested in land rights than the delivery of services involved in a particular development programme.

To accurately reflect the results of development programmes, collecting data must be conducted from the bottom-up and closely involve all the different stakeholders in development partner countries. Local business and civil society organisations must be included, as they connect with people on the ground. In addition, governments must empower these groups to ask questions and must support them in ensuring accountability. Unfortunately there were no representatives from the "global south" on the panel to develop this theme.

One of the current failings in presenting data is that it is often difficult to retrieve by the general public. Results collected must be accessible to both the local population and to donors. Local people must be able to put this data to practical use, while donors, both at the organisational and individual level, have the right to know how their money is being spent.

This is why it is important to devise systems of data collection that are transparent and can be aggregated to demonstrate the effects of development programmes on different sections of the population according to criteria such as gender, age, employment and human rights.

While it is important to present results that demonstrate how countries are progressing towards the SDGs, the spin-offs are as important as the goals

themselves. As part of their data-collection role, governments must engage other stakeholders and encourage them to become a permanent feature of the development landscape. A second spin-off is to stress the importance of value for money in development programmes. Both these aspects are crucial to development policy and programmes.

Insight

Development activists' long-term aim should be to make development programmes and initiatives so successful that they make themselves obsolete.

→ [Global partnerships supporting smallholder farmers](#)

Organised by CABI

Speakers

- Groot Maaik, Company Representative Europe, East-West Seed
- Msatilomo Henry, Chief Agriculture Extension Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development
- Otieno Washington, Plantwise Programme Executive Director, CABI
- Ridolfi Roberto, Director for Sustainable Growth and Development, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: Nick Ishmael Perkins, Lead Technical Advisor - Development Communication & Extension, CABI

Key Points

- Public-private partnerships must begin at the farm gate.
- Smallholder farmers face problems of resilience and scaling.
- Education is part of overcoming ignorance or entrenched attitudes.
- Donors are not ATMs, but they can have different agendas.
- World food production may have to double – then double again.

Synopsis

Smallholder farmers – typically taken to mean those with less than one hectare – produce 70 % of the world's food production. But with future population growth output, this may have to double by 2030 and then double again by 2050.

Yet with 70 % of the world's poor living in rural areas, many smallholder farmers struggle to keep up with the latest improvements or innovations in farming – which is where public-private partnerships (PPPs) come in.

However, these partnerships need to start at the farm gate, not in Brussels or the remote headquarters of multinational pharmaceuticals, if real progress in living standards and benefits from the value chain are to be achieved.

Genuine partnerships are the key to achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, but farming receives less media attention than poverty or migration – despite having a strong impact on both.

Safeguards are required when working with the private sector but, when successful, they can help 150 000 fruit and vegetable growers, as in Malawi in the past year.

Companies can provide tropical vegetable seeds, which cost about 5 % of farm costs, but can more than double or treble income. Alternatively, with the growth of smartphones and tablets, farmers can send pictures of diseased crops to remote “plant doctors”, with a 92 % success rate in diagnosis.

Early warning of a particular banana pest, for example, can be transmitted to 50 million smallholder farmers at the touch of a button.

But just as donors are not just cash machines, farmers are not just guinea pigs for trial experiments. It is a dignified role – the foundation of all human life – but remote rural farmers often need education to help articulate their needs and eradicate pockets of ignorance.

For example, in some developing countries, a farmer is not considered “a man” unless he grows maize – even though it requires heavy rainfall and maize is often not as profitable as other crops, such as cashew nuts.

For any PPP to be successful its entry point must be the local village and its success must start at the farm gate. That means increasing productivity and access to markets, which in turn build up income and resilience – a virtuous circle where a farmer can then afford more seeds or technology.

One common complaint is that the internal subsidies under the Common Agricultural Policy within the EU for European farmers provides an uneven playing field for farmers in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries trying to export.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution for PPPs – different regional fruits, vegetables, tastes and specialities – but farmer cooperatives can help smallholders when dealing with the private sector. Farmer cooperatives can

also help to scale up enterprises in what will always be a largely private sector activity, whether large or small.

Insight

Good PPPs work for smallholder farmers when companies are with the community for the long haul, from five to 10 years, listen to the farmers and help them articulate their needs and demands.

→ **The Grand Bargain: implementing a humanitarian deal to leave no one behind**

Organised by NGO Voice

Speakers

- Sultan-Khan Alexander, Desk Officer, Federal Foreign Office of Germany
- Kaminara Androulla, Director of Directorate C, Africa, Asia, Latin America, Caribbean and Pacific, European Commission - DG for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
- Srodecki Julian, Director of Innovative Financing - Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs, World Vision International
- Schick Kathrin, Director, Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies
- Kyi Win Tun, National Director, Karuna Mission Social Solidarity (KMSS) – Caritas Myanmar

Moderator: François Goemans, International Director, Donor Relations, Action Contre La Faim

Key Points

- The Grand Bargain is a timely response to the significant increase in demand for humanitarian aid and the subsequent financing gap.
- At the same time, the Grand Bargain attempts to reform humanitarian and development efforts in terms of transparency, inclusiveness, effectiveness and efficiency.
- The role of local responders needs to be taken more seriously and be better recognised.
- Consensus on Grand Bargain principles is welcome, but practicalities and continued implementation have still to validate the outcome.

Synopsis

When the Grand Bargain was struck a year ago at the Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul by more than 30 of the world's biggest donors, it could not have come too soon.

Although worldwide deaths from famine had fallen dramatically until very recently – despite the devastating 2011 famine in Somalia – no less than four famine crises have emerged this year, with about 20 million people at risk of starvation in Nigeria, South Sudan, Yemen and Somalia, according to the UN. At the same time, man-made crises in Africa and the Middle East are far from subsiding.

With its 10 work streams, or series of tasks for reform, from 'greater transparency' to 'enhanced engagement between humanitarian and development actors', and its 51 commitments, the Grand Bargain aims to deliver an extra US\$1 billion over five years for humanitarian aid, as well as greatly enhanced development efforts.

The big donors have formed teams of two for groups of three work streams. The Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission (ECHO) has funded an independent report assessing the Grand Bargain's first year, set to be published on 20 June 2017.

Germany's priorities are increased use and coordination of cash-based programmes, harmonisation and simplification of reporting requirements, and more support and funding for local responders. All three priorities play important roles in humanitarian fieldwork. Germany has started pilot projects in Iraq, Somalia and Myanmar to implement envisaged reforms.

In Myanmar, it is clear that the principles and commitments of the Grand Bargain are a welcome change, but there is still some way to go until they become reality on the ground. Stringent and complex reporting requirements prevent an average of two-thirds of local responders to show they qualify for the direct funding promised by the Grand Bargain. More flexibility and simplified reporting will have to be introduced before this can be improved.

At the moment, only 0.4 % of all humanitarian aid goes directly to local and national NGOs. The Grand Bargain promises to raise this to 25 % by 2020.

Insight

The Grand Bargain needs to open up to more than just the big players that it currently includes to implement the reforms it promises.

→ [Beyond Election Day: Best practices for follow-up to election observation missions](#)

Organised by EEAS

Speaker

- Akinduro Olufunto, Head of Department Elections and Political Processes, Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa
- Leffler Christian, Deputy Secretary General, European External Action Service
- Nassar Yara, Executive Director, Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections (LADE), Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections
- Weber Renate, MEP, European Parliament

Key Points

- The EU sends missions to countries around the world to monitor and assess elections. But proper follow-up is needed. What happens to the observers' recommendations? How far are they implemented?
- The EU now sends out follow-up missions. At EDD2017, the EU launched Beyond Election Day, a best practice collection that can serve as a tool for follow-up.
- Follow-up has already improved the effectiveness of EU electoral monitoring in some countries.
- The formula for successful electoral monitoring could be summed up as continuity, partnership and ownership.

Synopsis

The EU has deployed 138 Electoral Observation Missions and Election Assessment Teams in 68 countries worldwide since 2000. Invited in by governments, the observers and experts are there not only to contribute to the transparency of elections but also to provide all relevant actors with an informed assessment of the process.

But elections are not isolated events. They are just one moment in the democratic process, and they should be part of a continuum. Similarly, election observation and assessment must go beyond the election itself. There must be proper follow-up on what happens with the recommendations that the observers make.

From 2011 onwards, the EU has also sent out Election Follow-Up Missions. At the European Development Days 2017, it launched *Beyond Election Day*, a collection of best practices for follow-up to EU election observation missions, as well as to those of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights.

Beyond Election Day is available both on paper and on USB. The EU was keen to collect participants' views on its use as a tool to support partner country efforts towards democratisation and sustainable development. While the EU has already been working on governance support for many years, it can do so on a stronger basis now that the importance of governance to development has been recognised in the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Panellists welcomed the new toolkit and said that it could also be used by other national and continental-level electoral observers. From an African point of view, the recent EU emphasis on follow-up has already improved the effectiveness of its electoral observation missions.

Recommendations should be good and clear, and they should be owned by civil society in the country concerned. Coordination is needed among the various national, regional and international electoral observation bodies, so that governments cannot cherry pick recommendations.

EU recommendations have greatly assisted Lebanese civil society in election campaigns. The fact that the recommendations came from the EU helped to convince Lebanese politicians of the need to reform the electoral process.

During the wide-ranging debate, it was pointed out that since EU observers must be invited in by national governments, are the governments that do not issue invitations hiding something? Once a follow-up mission by the EU has presented recommendations, how far should implementation be linked to other issues such as development assistance and technical assistance?

The formula for successful electoral monitoring could be summed up in three headings:

- Continuity of action both before and after the election itself;
- Local ownership of the process and the follow-up; and
- Partnership with key actors and broader society.

Insight

"We don't come with a European model for elections, because there isn't one," said Christian Leffler, the European External Action Service's Deputy Secretary.

3.4.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Learning for development: networking and innovation for sustainable results](#)

Organised by Belgian Development Agency

Speakers

- Lisa Monica, Programme Officer, International Training Center of the ILO
- Repanšek Jana, Deputy Director and Learn4dev Chair, Center of Excellence in Finance
- Verdejo Miguel Exposito, Deputy Head of EuropeAid's Knowledge Management Unit and Learn4dev Expert Groups Coordinator, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Zenker Mareike, Advisor, Global Leadership Academy

Moderator: Robin Poppe, International Consultant, Learning and Capacity Development (former Head of Learning and Communication Service at ITC ILO and Learn4dev Core Group member)

Podcast

Public Private Engagement in the GPEDC – Fit for partnering?

Organised by German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Speakers

- Kanyije James, CEO, KK Fresh Produce Exporters Ltd, Uganda
- Kwakkenbos Jeroen, Policy and Advocacy Manager, European Network on Debt and Development
- Müller Christian, Global Compliance Officer, SAP SE
- Petri Gornitzka Charlotte, Chair, OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC)
- Rudischhauser Klaus, Deputy Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Wenn Bruno, Chairman of the Management Board, German Investment Facility (DEG)

Podcast

3.4.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ **There is no sustainable development without shared science**

Organised by CIRAD

Speakers

- Ortiz Etxeberria Auxtin, Director, World Rural Forum
- Bureau Catherine, Deputy Director for Programs, Fondation Avril
- Amaral Cristina, Director FAO Liaison Office with the European Union and the Kingdom of Belgium, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

- Lasbennes Florence, Director of the SUN Movement Secretariat, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement
- Dzikunu Richard, EDD Young Leader, Ghana
- Flores Silvia, EDD Young Leader, Peru
- Thanisawanyangkura Sornprach, Acting Vice President for Planning, Kasetsart University

3.5 Fragility and resilience

By 2030 the majority of the world's poor will be concentrated in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. Poverty, violence, conflict, fragility and forced displacement are inter-linked and must be addressed in a coherent and comprehensive way. Fragility intensifies poverty and undermines the opportunities for individuals and societies to escape poverty. On the other hand, poverty increases vulnerability and high levels of vulnerability aggravate the chronic effects of poverty. According to the OECD, the number of people living in extreme poverty will fall globally, but the number of extremely poor people living in fragile contexts will increase by 2035.

Protracted crises and conflicts place a huge burden on national and international resources and on the fulfilment of human rights. The Global Strategy for EU external action supports resilience at all levels, addressing the ability of states and societies to withstand and recover from internal and external shocks and crises. It will also reflect that, echoing the SDGs, resilience is a broad concept, encompassing all individuals and the whole of society and, consistent with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the Paris Agreement on climate change, involves dealing with vulnerability to risks from socioeconomic conditions and climate change as well as disasters and conflicts.

The EU has a major global presence through its extensive diplomatic networks, including in post-conflict and fragile contexts. It will use the whole range of tools at its disposal to prevent, manage and help resolve conflicts and crises, meet humanitarian needs and build lasting peace and good governance, focusing on fragility, human security and recognising the nexus between sustainable development, peace and security. The EU and its Member States will also work with security sector actors, including military actors under exceptional circumstances, towards the achievement of peaceful and inclusive societies. They will also focus their efforts on preventing and countering violent extremism by strengthening the resilience of individuals, communities and states to the appeal of radicalisation and violent extremism, including through fostering religious tolerance and inter religious dialogue. They will make efforts

to tackle urban crime and violence and continue to support the principle of responsibility to protect and prevent atrocity crimes.

While promoting and protecting human rights, democracy, rule of law and good governance, the EU will seek to improve partnerships and coordination, including a deeper exchange of information, efficient donor coordination, joint analysis of risks and vulnerabilities, joint programming, transition strategies and conflict prevention.

3.5.1 HIGH LEVEL PANEL DEBATES

→ **Leveraging political consensus on promoting resilience through post-crisis recovery (Special event / World Reconstruction Conference 3)**

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Ahmed Zainab S., Honorable Minister of State, Ministry of Budget and National Planning, Government of Nigeria
- Glasser Robert, Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Gnassounou Viwanou, Assistant Secretary General, African, Caribbean and Pacific Secretariat
- Kumar Suman, EDD Young Leader, Nepal
- Mimica Neven, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission
- Pesce Monteiro Barbara, Director, United Nations Representation Office Brussels
- Wahba Sameh, Director, DRM and Resilience, World Bank Group
- Warren Wade, Acting Administrator, United States Agency for International Development

Moderator: Nigel Fisher, Former Assistant Secretary General, United Nations

Key points

- Disasters are increasing in frequency and intensity. Recovery processes have to be more effective and efficient.
- The recovery process is an opportunity to address risks, reduce vulnerabilities and strengthen resilience.
- The real challenge is that the hazards are increasing through climate change.
- US\$50 trillion investment is planned in infrastructure by 2050 and all of it must be resilient.

Synopsis

The scope of the European Commission approach to resilience is being expanded to cope with different type of risks and pressures. Eight hundred practitioners attended the World Reconstruction Conference 3 about resilience and reconstruction. The conference's conclusions were presented at EDD17 to give the European Commission the opportunity to discuss a strategic approach to resilience.

The recovery process after a disaster is a time to address risks, reduce vulnerabilities and strengthen resilience for the future. As disasters and other crises continue to increase in frequency and intensity, it becomes even more necessary to develop effective and efficient recovery processes.

A positive trend has been observed over the past decade in building capacities for managing recovery as an increasing number of governments are developing policies and institutional mechanisms, formulating recovery guidelines and finding internal resources for recovery.

This positive development supports Priority 4 of the Sendai Framework, which set the world on a clear path for enhanced disaster resilience. The Action Plan, covering a five-year period, is the basis for a disaster-risk-informed approach to policymaking.

Today's challenge is the implementation of all of the Sendai priorities. Only political will can make this happen. However, it is necessary to pay greater attention to institutional and financial aspects of recovery, developing tools and methodologies to strengthen this practice further and maintain the commitment of national governments and the international community to dedicate resources and efforts.

The partnership with local actors must be improved. It is always local people who respond first. It is important to help locals to help themselves. They must be equipped with the appropriate resources.

Institutional and financial systems are important, but funding is vital. There is always a gap. Resources are limited. There is a need for more flexible instruments. Donors now have to work together in smart ways and mobilise domestic resources.

Huge progress been made in the Sendai Priority 4 on the strengthening of preparedness. Early warning systems are improving, even for earthquakes. The real challenge is that the hazards are increasing through climate change. Infrastructure investment of US\$50 trillion is planned by 2050, all of which must be resilient. This is a huge opportunity to channel investment towards resilience.

The scope of the European Commission approach to resilience is being expanded to cope with different type of risks and pressures and to make EU external action more responsive, flexible and efficient. Programmes have to be country-owned and country-led. Building resilience is not easy. The issue involves all sectors and all government departments.

It is particularly important to strengthen resilience in urban areas where a lack of planning can expose citizens to great risk. More than just build new roads, today it is necessary to ensure that the socio-economic context is re-established to make the economy sustainable over time. It is necessary to support SMEs within 30 days or else they will go under.

Disasters are not inevitable, but they are not going away soon. The sobering fact is that headline disasters account for less than 10 % of the more frequent events that do not make the news.

Insight

Climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of disasters. Recovery has to be properly planned so that socio-economic life can be resumed.

3.5.2 DEBATE LABS

→ [Protecting history and identity: Global partnerships for the protection and promotion of cultural heritage in fragile contexts](#)

Organised by British Council

Speakers

- Bevan Robert, Journalist and Author
- Desmarais France, Director of Programmes and Partnerships, International Council of Museums
- Marani Diego, Policy Officer, European External Action Service

Moderator: Sarfraz Manzoor, Journalist, author, broadcaster

Key Points

- Attacks on people are often part of a process that also attacks their cultural heritage.
- It is difficult to communicate the importance of heritage protection when more basic human needs are not met.
- Helping to restore and nurture cultural heritage can demonstrably tie in with wider development goals.

- The International Council of Museums (ICOM) has set up red lists to help vulnerable countries prevent the looting of cultural heritage.

Synopsis

History has shown time and again that human conflict played out on a physical level often has a corresponding cultural agenda. This is the case in genocidal situations. The Holocaust was preceded by the destruction of synagogues in the “Kristallnacht”. As the Ottoman Empire persecuted the Armenians, it tried to destroy all evidence of Armenian cultural existence in Turkey.

The destruction of heritage should be included in the CPPCG’s definition of genocide, although this was not done at the time. Given the recurring pattern linking attacks on people with their heritage – most recently during the ISIS assault on the Yazidi people of Iraq and Syria – the importance of cultural protection and restoration should be evident.

Donors are much more ready to help people in conflict zones who lack basic needs such as shelter, food, and education, than they are to help those whose cultural heritage is at risk. It would be counter-productive if cultural heritage were somehow seen as more worthy of protection than human lives. An unfortunate, if unplanned example of this was given by a panellist describing a large and desolate camp of internally displaced people in Herat, Afghanistan, situated only metres away from five newly restored minarets in the Musallah complex.

Participants also learned about a remarkable heritage protection project, again in Afghanistan. The UK charity Turquoise Mountain helped restore and regenerate Murad Khani, the old town of Kabul. The organisation trained almost 500 artisans in traditional arts and crafts, and restored 112 buildings. As a result, Murad Khani is now once again a thriving cultural hub. It houses not only important communal institutions such as a market, a school and a clinic, but also a crafts industry which is successfully tapping into the export market, selling to Europe, the US and the Gulf states.

But a more vibrant and liberalised arts market also poses a threat to cultural heritage in regions vulnerable to looting. The International Council of Museums (ICOM) has compiled 15 “red lists” for 35 countries. Working with INTERPOL and UNESCO, ICOM has recovered and returned over 1,500 artefacts.

The cultural heritage of a country and a people can be seen negatively when it is manipulated by nationalist ideologies. It can be seen positively in instances like the spontaneous formation of a human chain one night during the Egyptian uprising in 2011 to protect the Egyptian Antiquities Museum on Tahrir Square.

Insight

Pride in the community and its traditions might be harder to quantify than schools built or food rations delivered, but it is no less important for the regeneration of a community, a country and a people.

→ [How to invest in resilience to support system transformation?](#)

Organised by Oxfam Intermon

Speakers

- Henrike Trautmann, Head of the Specific Thematic Policies unit, European Commission - DG for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
- Jacobo Ocharán, Head of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, Plan International
- Maria-Manuela Cabral, Head of Unit for Fragility and Resilience, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Virginie Le Masson, Research Fellow, Social Development / Risk and Resilience, Overseas Development Institute

Moderator: Siphokazi Mthathi, Executive Director, Oxfam South Africa

Key Points

- With nearly 40 frameworks on resilience in circulation today, the concept has become meaningless jargon for too many people. This has led to confusion and misunderstanding.
- Panellists agreed that building real resilience requires tackling systemic, root causes instead of just dealing with the consequences.
- Too often politics gets in the way of building resilience because the decisions involved can be difficult, expensive and unpopular.
- More coordination among partners is needed to harmonise investments in resilience, especially related to ecological threats.

Synopsis

What really is resilience and what investments will make vulnerable communities more resilient? Panellists from the European Commission and leading non-profits wrestled with these tough questions in a standing-room only auditorium.

Finding common agreement on the meaning of 'resilience' appeared elusive. With nearly 40 frameworks on resilience in circulation today covering diverse topics from energy and climate to economics and conflict, the British Overseas

Development Institute argued that the concept has become meaningless jargon for many. Inevitably, this has led to some confusion and misunderstanding.

Panellists agreed that building real resilience requires tackling systemic, root causes of challenges instead of just dealing with the consequences. With the United States pulling out of the 2015 Paris climate change agreement, Oxfam noted that investments in resilience that meet this threshold just became even more important and probably more difficult.

Too often politics gets in the way of building resilience, argued Plan International. Politicians – typically focused on the short term – often lack the incentives to take the sometimes difficult, expensive and unpopular decisions that are needed. Plan called for more bold leadership from policymakers at every level, encouraging them to dare to be resilient themselves in the face of pressure.

All panellists called for greater coordination. With the EU, OECD, NATO, the United Nations and the World Bank all operating within their own frameworks, national governments get pulled in too many different directions. Not only is this inefficient, but it undermines trust in governments when programmes that are spread too thin fail to meet the public's expectations.

The European Commission believes coordination has improved since it published its 2012 Communication and Action Plan on resilience. Spokespeople on the panel believed that together these strategic documents have laid the foundations for programmes that can realistically promote long-term resilience in vulnerable communities, and fill the previous gap in political engagement.

When polled, the overwhelming consensus from the audience was that more investment in resilience is needed, especially in innovation to make communities more resistant to ecological crises. This was a sentiment strongly shared by the South African moderator representing Oxfam.

The moderator challenged the audience to consider the South African government's struggle to respond to a water crisis that has been festering for decades. If we are not good at managing the risks we are aware of now, how will we respond to the unknown ones we face on a warming, increasingly unpredictable planet?

Insight

This is not a debate for Europe alone. This is a debate that partner countries need to own. They need to identify their problems, and prioritise the biggest ones for them. All countries have unique characteristics they can leverage to build resilience.

→ **APF support to the African Peace and Security Architecture: Successes and challenges**

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Doens Koen, Director East and Southern Africa and ACP coordination European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Hauck Volker, Head of Programme - Conflict, Security and Resilience, European Centre for Development Policy Management
- Hemou Jonas, Representative to the EU, ECOWAS
- Vervaeke Koen, Managing Director Africa, European External Action Service

Moderator: Shada Islam, Director of Policy, Friends of Europe

Key Points

- The African Peace Facility (APF) has been a welcome success since its launch.
- The financing of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) is changing to reflect an autonomous Africa in a multipolar world.
- The nature of conflict is changing in Africa.
- More needs to be done to address the root causes of conflict and to bring civil society into peace process.

Synopsis

The African Union (AU) has always seen peace and security as a priority issue. The African Peace Facility (APF), created in 2004, has been the backbone of the EU-Africa partnership on peace and security, and its funding has steadily increased over time.

Recognised as a game changer by African and European leaders, the APF is built on three pillars:

- Capacity building: strengthening basic institutional capacities as well as making the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) operational;
- An early-response mechanism to provide funding for initial first stages of prevention, management and resolution of crises; and
- African-led peace support operations.

A notable APF innovation is channelling financial support directly into needs identified by African countries themselves. The panel highlighted the stronger

emphasis on coherence and complementary between continental and regional actors in peace and security.

Geopolitical and economic pressures have prompted changes in ASPA's terms of financing. Europe wants a stronger emphasis on financial burden sharing for long-running peace operations. The AU, both through its Peace Fund and through its Agenda 2063 commitment to silencing the guns by 2020, is signalling its desire to take ownership and be more proactive.

A multisource approach to funding is more likely even if the EU is expected to remain the most important partner for African peace and security. The upcoming 5th Africa-EU Summit, which will be held in Abidjan in November 2017, will consider future peace and security operations and the financial framework.

The nature of conflict in Africa has changed. While the overall level of conflict is lower than before, today's security threats are often transnational in nature, creating spillovers well beyond the source of the conflict and even beyond the continent.

Peace and security policy needs to be recalibrated to meet the new challenges, such as radicalisation, terrorism and people trafficking. Some intractable problems, notably in the Sahel region, show the need to address the root causes of conflict. The panel emphasised that winning the peace is as important as winning the war. Access to water, energy, education and jobs can counteract these root causes and are closely linked with development policy.

The panel highlighted the importance of the post-conflict phase. This is at the nexus of peace, security and development. More needs to be done to bring civil society organisations into the conversation in Africa, at national, regional and continental levels.

Civil society provides a vital link to the day-to-day problems affecting people on the ground and can enable better institutional effectiveness. Where fragile populations and transnational threats exist, civil society actors are especially important sources of information. In conflict prevention situations, the role of NGOs was also highlighted, including examples where women mediators have been successful in brokering peace.

Insight

The policy shift from non-interference to non-indifference relates to improved governance by AU member states and a lower level of conflict.

→ **Conflict prevention and sustainable peace: The role of food security and agriculture**

Organised by UN Food and Agriculture Organisation

Speakers

- Babst Stefanie, Head, Strategic Analysis Capability for the NATO Secretary General and Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, NATO
- Burgeon Dominique, Director of Emergencies and Strategic Programme Leader on resilience, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation
- Guarnieri Valerie, WFP Regional Director for East and Central Africa, UN World Food Programme
- Larivière Renée, Deputy Director General, Interpeace

Moderator: Leonard Mizzi, Head of Unit C.1 - Rural development, food security and nutrition, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- More dialogue is needed with stakeholders if we want to reach the Sustainable Development Goal of eradicating poverty by 2030.
- There is a clear link between conflict and food security issues.
- Conflict is the leading cause of hunger.
- Hunger leads to conflict: a hungry man is an angry man.
- Resilience is not a buzzword. It is the only way to stop disasters turning into catastrophes.

Synopsis

We all know that armed conflict leads to death and destruction. We are often less aware of its devastating impact on farming. The destruction of agricultural and irrigation infrastructures, stocks, supply chains and support services to farmers hampers their ability not only to provide adequate and sufficient food, but also to get what food is produced to the market.

The Second Global report on food crises, published in March 2017, found that 10 of the 13 worst food crises in the world are conflict related. The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) has made food security a priority. Humanitarian and development agencies must focus on enhancing the resilience of farmers and their market systems. It is simply unacceptable in the 21st century to still have people dying of hunger. Not enough has been done to invest in agriculture in developing countries.

Conflicts lead to food scarcity, price hikes, hunger, malnutrition and displacement. Conflicts also undermine aid agencies, which can no longer reach the most vulnerable. This means more hunger and more conflict. In 2016, 40 countries experienced riots linked to rising food prices.

One way to break this vicious circle is for agencies to 'come out of the silos' and work with each other. They also need to learn from mistakes: they must analyse the roots of the conflict, including how they are influenced by access to land, water and pasture. Agencies must engage communities, strengthening their resilience and their ability to deal with conflict prevention.

No matter how bad a situation is there is a strong capacity in society to stop making it worse. It should not be about the west telling people how to do things, but more about helping them cope better in a crisis.

Food prices rises are a problem. One way to deal with this is to create cooperatives. Another is by increasing the number of storage facilities, so farmers wait until the right time to sell produce on the market. Mitigating tension between cattle breeders and farmers and negotiating migration routes would also go a long way towards resolving conflicts.

Meanwhile, aid agencies need to be careful of how they plan their support and interventions so as not to exacerbate the situation for women, minorities and other vulnerable groups. They must also seize opportunities to build bridges and peace initiatives.

Insight

Partnerships are key to dealing with conflict. Humanitarian and UN agencies should cooperate with all the important organisations. Renée Larivière, Deputy Director General of peacebuilding organisation Interpeace, admitted that she had never considered working with NATO, but having shared a panel with an alliance representative, she saw some benefits in building a partnership.

→ [Resilience debate: What can we do to make recovery resilient?](#)

Organised by World Bank Group

Speakers

- Al-Alaq Mahdi, Secretary General of the Council of Ministers, Government of Iraq

- Qasas Hiba, Chief of Crisis Prevention, Preparedness and Response, UN WOMEN
- Scheuer Jo, Director, BPPS, United Nations Development Programme
- Wahba Sameh, Director, DRM and Resilience, World Bank Group

Moderator: Nigel Fisher, Former Assistant Secretary General, United Nations

Key Points

- 'Build back better' after disasters is about more than just buildings.
- Yesterday's crises provide lessons – but tomorrow's will be different.
- Climate change is already provoking conflicts.
- Countries immune to rising sea levels and water shortages may be hit by "climate refugees".
- Women and girls bear the brunt of crises, but are not represented at national or local levels.

Synopsis

Women and children, especially girls, bear a disproportionate brunt of natural disasters and the aftermath of conflicts, but are barely represented at peace-building level, either nationally or locally.

Women and children accounted for some 90 % of the deaths in the 1991 Bangladesh cyclone, and 70 % of them in the 2004 Asian earthquake and tsunami, yet the lessons are only slowly being learned. Women's groups are on the frontline of coping strategies, but their voices on preparedness are hardly listened to. In Bangladesh, these groups have strong recommendations for saving lives in future floods. These recommendations should be heeded and acted upon.

As a result of conflicts, there are 5 million widows in Iraq, and 30 % of the displaced in Yemen are female-led households. Yet, only 4 % of peace treaties have female co-signatories.

In Iraq, the immediate priority is to address the urgent needs of the internally displaced people (IDPs) in camps in "hot" regions, but the longer-term requirement is for schools, livelihoods, ethnic reconciliation and mine clearing.

While debate continues about the causes of current conflicts, climate change is already leading to water shortages and 'climate refugees', the stresses of which will hit states not directly affected by rising sea levels or drought. The US military predicts that climate change will be a major security challenge for decades to come.

The "build back better" mantra is a fine rule-of-thumb, but new housing for displaced persons is of little use without immediate food and water and the

prospect of an economic livelihood. Meaningful livelihoods are about more than just clearing up rubble.

Meanwhile, urbanisation in Africa is occurring on a scale never seen before in human history. Yet these millions are trading liveability for the possibility of a livelihood, living at the margins in slums at the risk of flooding and landslides.

Although not every disaster or conflict is the same as those that preceded them, proper planning, flexible solutions and financial investment can improve recovery resilience. It is estimated that India avoided 99.6 % of casualties in the 2014 cyclone after having invested some US\$250 million in shelters and evacuation planning after the 2000 cyclone.

Lessons must be drawn from previous crises, but they are not a template for every disaster or conflict. Complex emergency planning, which should include the full involvement of women, is not an optional extra, but part and parcel of a resilient recovery. The last crisis is never the same as the next one.

Insight

Crises can be opportunities for the future, but the “build back better” model needs to incorporate more than just housing for displaced people – food and water security, nutrition and livelihoods are essential, and will only be achieved by fully involving women in preparedness and reconstruction.

→ [To achieve Agenda 2030, give peace a chance](#)

Organised by GIZ

Speakers

- Cabral Maria-Manuela, Head of Unit for Fragility and Resilience, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
- Dechambenoit Lawrence, Vice President Corporate Relations Africa, RIO TINTO
- Ghodsinia Farahnaz, EDD Young Leader, Philippines
- Lambrecht Hannes, Advisor, Sector Programme Peace and Security, Disaster Risk Management, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Llorente María Victoria, Executive Director, Fundación Ideas para la Paz
- Ray Olivier, Head of Sector, Crisis Prevention and Post-Conflict Recovery, Agence Française de Développement

Moderator: Shada Islam, Director of Policy, Friends of Europe

Key Points

- Learn from follies in Afghanistan and Iraq by ensuring security and allowing development specialists to focus on their respective strengths. Soldiers should not be delivering aid, just as aid workers should not be responsible for security.
- Security and development specialists should coordinate their efforts to deliver “peace dividends” as rapidly and extensively as possible.
- Companies can help secure peace through jobs and employment, but risk-averse companies need stronger incentives to invest in countries transitioning out of conflict.
- We need to reimagine the future to meet the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, challenging preconceived ideas and beliefs about the relationship between security and development.

Synopsis

We cannot have peace without development by 2030, and we cannot have development without peace. This is the dilemma that DG DEVCO used to set the tone for the panel discussion in a room full of enthusiastic participants.

The panellists have all confronted this challenge, but in different settings ranging from negotiating tables with world leaders and corporate boardrooms to the communities where peace is fragile and conflict runs ‘hot’.

The failures of Afghanistan and Iraq hung heavy in the room. These situations were compared to an emergency hospital room, where too many doctors operate in isolation performing surgery outside their specialties. The lesson is to let each specialist do what they are trained to do and prepare to be part of a coordinated team. Soldiers should not be delivering aid; just as aid workers should not be responsible for security.

Instead, each specialist should focus on their strengths, leveraging their competitive advantage to deliver peace dividends at the greatest possible speed and on the widest possible scale. These sentiments resonated with a peacebuilding leader working in La Paz, Columbia.

While Columbia has transitioned from a failed to fragile state after nearly two decades of civil war, the so-called peace dividends have yet to reach many Columbians. In many rural areas, government services are still non-existent. Vigilante law continues to reign supreme, undermining peacebuilding efforts. Political leadership could help to turn Columbia’s peace agreement from paper into practice.

The EDD Young Leader on the panel nodded in agreement as an advocate for ethnic and religious minorities in a fragile region of the southern Philippines.

She is shining a spotlight on the inequities at the heart of this conflict for the Muslims in a majority Christian nation. Securing peace, in her view, requires delivering the peace dividends of respect and opportunity they have long sought.

The representative from GIZ offered his perspective on the fragility of peace from the Palestinian territories where GIZ has supported programmes to turn combatants into police officers. While the region remains “hot”, giving these former soldiers employment and a sense of purpose under Palestinian law has helped to cool tensions and restore some confidence in government.

With conflicts raging worldwide around natural resources such as gold and diamonds, the representative from Rio Tinto faced a sceptical audience about one of the world’s largest mining companies. The real troublemakers, he argued, are not publicly listed companies such as Rio Tinto, which are beholden to risk-averse shareholders and lawyers. Instead, it is the small firms that operate with impunity in countries such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, fuelling conflicts or worse and profiting from the situation.

When companies such as Rio Tinto re-enter a fragile state, this should be seen as a sign of progress and stability. Companies can help secure peace through jobs and employment, but risk-averse companies need stronger incentives to invest in countries transitioning out of conflict.

The moderator concluded by encouraging panellists and audience members to reimagine the future based on this debate. Everyone needs to challenge their preconceived ideas and beliefs to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the original inspiration for the session.

Insight

“My guys know how to win the war, but they don’t know how to win the peace” is an often-quoted statement from the French military. It is a sentiment shared by American defence leaders who warn that if funding for the US State Department – which includes humanitarian aid – is cut, they will need to buy more ammunition. Both the French and the Americans have made the case for world leaders to help development practitioners do their jobs because ultimately they are the exit strategy.

3.5.3 PROJECT LABS

→ [Bridge building towards young responsible and resilient citizens in our global village](#)

Organised by Communication Package

Speakers

- Corao Carlos, Managing Director, Communication Package
- L'Ami Jean Charles, Film Director, LuloMotion
- Van Dael Joris, Founder - Creative Director, Kidscam

Moderator, Patricia Rodriguez, Communication expert

[Podcast](#)

→ [Supporting partnerships for sustainable peace in the Central African Republic](#)

Organised by Open Society Platform

Speakers

- Koni-Zeze Georges Petro, Ministre Haut-Commissaire à la primature chargé de la décentralisation et régionalisation, Government of Central African Republic
- Kouzoundji Eloi, President of the Commission Economique et Environnementale, Groupe de Réflexion sur la Démocratie et le Développement Economique et Social (GRDDES-Centrafrrique)
- Moloua Felix, Minister of Economy and Planning, Government of Central African Republic
- Razaaly Irchad, Manager, Bekou Trust Fund, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Moderator: James Mackie, Senior Adviser, Team leader of the evaluation, European Centre for Development Policy Management

[Podcast](#)

→ [Linking Security and Development – A Plea for the Sahel](#)

Organised by FERDI

Speakers

- Cissé Boubou, Minister for Economy and Finance, Government of Mali
- Fernandez Angel Losada, Ambassador, European Union Special Representative for the Sahel, European External Action Service
- Guillaumont Jeanneney Sylviane, Emeritus Professor at the University of Auvergne, Senior Fellow at Ferdi, Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international

Moderator: Christophe Angely, Director of Strategy and Funding, Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international

[Podcast](#)

3.5.4 BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS

→ [Sustainable soil management: the foundation for Africa's future?](#)

Organised by the European Commission

Speakers

- Jones Arwyn, European Commission Scientific Officer / Project Leader

Closing panel: Objective 2030 – Towards a new development policy

Speakers

- Daniel Kablan Duncan, Vice-President, Ivory Coast
- Neven Mimica, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, European Commission
- Cecile Kyenge, Member of the European Parliament
- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General Elect, World Health Organization
- Markus Beyrer, Director-General, Business Europe
- Laura Sullivan, Vice-President, CONCORD
- Chawapiwa Masole, EDD Young Leader, Botswana

Moderator: Stefano Manservigi, Director General, European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Key Points

- In June 2017, the European Union and its Member States launched the European Consensus on Development to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.
- For advancing development, governments must have vision and sustained hard work.
- Universal healthcare is critical to development.
- Development requires strong institutions and respect for the rule of law.
- Civil society has a key role to play in development.

Synopsis

What are the elements of a new European development policy focused on implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030?

At European Development Days 2017, the European Union and its Member States launched the European Consensus on Development. The emphasis is on the five Ps – people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership. The Consensus seeks to turn commitment into action, investing in development for our common future.

Development is a gradual process involving millions of actors in many sectors across the globe. Development requires flexibility and use of all available tools.

From the perspective of developing country governments, development requires vision and hard, sustained work. These countries need investment in human capacity and substantial economic growth fuelled by large private sector investment.

Universal healthcare is central to development. Health is a prerequisite to peace, security and economic growth. Health is both a human rights issue, and an end in itself, as well as a means to development. More political will is needed to create strong healthcare systems, including services, delivery and financing.

For developing countries with limited resources, the initial focuses should be on primary care, particularly for women and children.

From the perspective of parliamentarians, development requires strong institutions, honest and fair elections and respect for the rule of law. Parliamentarians should also support peoples' participation in decision-making and civil society.

From the perspective of civil society, one of its key roles in development is acting as a watchdog over and reducing the large and growing wealth disparities that exist in many countries. Civil society should also press for reducing power disparities among corporations and people, and men and women.

From the perspective of business and the private sector, development requires training, marketable skills and investment, in technology, industry and infrastructure. In many developing countries, the private sector perceives serious risks and political obstacles.

Governments should provide guarantees to reduce risk and encourage private investments in developing countries. Both large companies and small and medium-sized enterprises should be incentivised. The European Union should create a plan that encourages investment in developing countries.

From the perspective of young African leaders, development and implementing the SDGs require substantial policy reforms, particularly reforms of laws to provide better protection of women, children and the disabled. Women and young people must be brought into the policy decision-making processes, the economy and the education system.

More women are needed as parliamentarians, perhaps through quota systems. Girls should be supported in pursuing secondary and higher education, rather than being forced into young marriages.

The private sector understands the necessity of investing in education, likely through public-private partnerships. They will invest, but probably will require government guarantees to reduce risks.

Insight

Development is a complex process, requiring hard, sustained work, as well as multistakeholder dialogue and engagement.

EDD 2017 Special Events

1. INVESTING IN CREATIVITY, THE FUTURE IS NOW

Creative sectors are among the fastest-growing worldwide and the digital revolution opens up new opportunities for business development in developing countries and remote areas. Investment in cultural activities and participation also empowers citizens and communities as an essential feature to develop connectedness, innovation, wellbeing and social cohesion.

The EDD recognising the important role of culture as driver of development hosted a high level debate with five outstanding speakers discussing with the public the key role of culture and creativity in sustainable investment and development.

This high level event was co-organised by 14 leading organisations and agencies actively supporting culture in and for development. ([Cf page 86](#))

2. EU-AFRICA BUSINESS FORUM

As part of the EU-Africa Business Forum, a number of thematic sessions were held on 7 June 2017 in Brussels at the European Development Days. This one-day event is part of a series of events being organised across Africa and Europe on three key topics, green energy, agri-business and digitalisation. Outcomes from the event included a business declaration to be presented at the 5th Africa-EU Summit of Heads of State and Government, due to take place on 29-30 November in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, as well as the design of a structured dialogue platform dubbed Sustainable Business for Africa (SB4Africa) and key foreign investment principles such as the European External Investment Plan (EEIP). Special attention was also given to the creation of youth opportunities.

The event on 7 June featured plenary sessions in the morning, including an opening session and four debates labs:

- [Opening Session EU-Africa Business Forum \(cf. p.130\)](#)
- [De-risking and scaling up sustainable investments in the African power sector - the Africa GreenCo model \(cf p. 138\)](#)
- [Investment Pitches: Government and investors engagement to foster investment environment \(cf. p. 141\)](#)
- [Bridging the Digital Divide in Africa \(cf p. 142\)](#)
- [Innovative agriculture for next generation farms \(cf p. 145\)](#)

3. TOWARDS A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES: DELIVERING ON GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND MUTUAL INTERESTS

The debate was an open exchange of views on how the future relations between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries should look like after the expiry of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement in 2020. Distinguished speakers, representing both the ACP regions and the EU, gathered together to share their expectations, views and recommendations regarding the future of the ACP-EU relations, focusing on which are the key priorities and the biggest challenges ahead. It also provided the opportunity to reflect on how to make the current relationship fit for delivering on common challenges and mutual interests in an interconnected and globalised world. [\(Cf page 164\)](#)

4. SPECIAL EVENT WITH SDG ADVOCATES

The high-level panel of SDG Advocates fostered a moderated discussion on the 2030 Agenda's promise to leave no one behind.

Drawing on their skills and experience, the SDG Advocates engaged in a conversation about the importance of including the most vulnerable in sustainable development, and discussed some of the associated challenges and solutions.

The SDG Advocates responded to questions from the moderator and public as well as to comments from each other. [\(Cf page 59\)](#)

5. TELL MY STORY: THE LORENZO NATALI MEDIA PRIZE AWARD CEREMONY

The Award Ceremony of the Lorenzo Natali Media Prize was held for the first time at European Development Days on June 7. The Prize celebrates the best and the bravest among journalists on a global scale. Applications featuring print, digital and broadcast stories are eligible from Africa; the Arab World and the Middle East; Asia and the Pacific; Latin America and the Caribbean; and Europe. Each winner was awarded €5,000 by an independent jury. For more information:

https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/lnp_en

6. CLOSING CEREMONY - WORLD RECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE 3

This year's EDD hosted the closing session of the World Reconstruction Conference 3. The event was co-organised by the European Union, the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, the United Nations Development Programme and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States and it aimed to promote resilience through post-crisis recovery.

Explore the vibrancy of development in action

Explore the vibrancy of development in action

1. Youth involvement - Young voices in development

The youth component of EDD 2017 brought together activists, entrepreneurs, and development practitioners from geographically diverse backgrounds to tackle the issues facing youth today.

Energetic and innovative, young people involved at the heart of their communities as agents of change shared their stories and insights in high-level panels, debates and workshops. Proclaimed as the leaders of tomorrow, young leaders demanded their seat at the table as ambassadors and representatives of their generation, shaping the world today.

Following the successful initiatives undertaken in 2013, 2015 and 2016, EDD 2017 has strengthened the ways in which it aims to secure youth participation before, during and after the forum.

Young Leaders Programme

680 applications from more than 130 countries were received for 16 available places, with an increase of 127 % compared to EDD 2016.

The 16 selected Young Leaders were invited to be the voice of youth in all the Auditorium sessions and to take part in a full 10-day programme to facilitate youth engagement in development action and policy. 14 different nationalities represented, with an online application process to open up the opportunity to all youth around the world, allowing for more diversity in background, language and experiences. The selection process was an open and transparent one, to allow for the best candidates to be selected.

10-day programme with numerous activities, including workshops and training sessions for learning, networking and to ensure effective participation.

Youth Agenda

All sessions and stands relevant to youth were included in the Youth Agenda. The Youth Agenda included anything from youth-led debates, stands showcasing inspiring youth projects on the field, or activities addressing issues that affect young people around the world. 77 sessions and stands were part of the Youth Agenda this year, with an increase of 175 % compared to EDD 2016.

Youth Creative Activities

Young people are experts at finding creative ways to put messages across. The EDD gave the opportunity to organisations to break out of the mould and address issues affecting youth from beyond the traditional session or stand formats, with performances, games and exhibitions.

6 Youth Creative Activities took place this year with great success, with an increase of 20 % compared to EDD 2016.

Highlights

The 2017 Young Leaders have had the opportunity to debate with Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, and to meet Her Majesty Mathilde, Queen of the Belgians together with 5 other SDGs Advocates – Jeffrey Sachs, Muhammed Yunus, Alaa Murabit, Paul Polman and Leymah Gbowee.

11 of the 2017 Young Leaders and Young Leaders Alumni have been involved in 16 interviews with high-level representatives such as UN principals, EU officials and SDG Advocates at the UN Stand.

The Young Leaders for Development Blog was launched at EDD 2016 by Commissioner Mimica at the end of the high-level panel with Young Leaders. This blog has expanded its contributors with the 2017 cohort of Young Leaders, and has now more than 45 articles, 70 videos and over 60 photos illustrating the work that Young Leaders do on the ground and their own experience at EDD.

Rethinking global challenges

While the demography of Europe is changing with low birth rates resulting in an ageing population, the rapid growth of youth populations in much of the developing world has created an urgency to integrate them into the workforce. While this presents its own questions of implementation, it provides important opportunities to rethink many of the challenges the world is faced with – from inclusiveness and inequality to irregular migration and ecology.

Youth are key in reaching the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a brainstorm organised to this end, along with a photo exhibit on the role of sexual and reproductive health for youth in their realisation lining the corridor of one of the main entrances. Beyond the SDGs, youth's unrivalled capacity in adopting new technologies for change was unequivocally heralded as a beacon of hope, providing new means of reaching the most ambitious goals to date.

From a session on how to make agriculture more attractive to young people to a panel on female genital mutilation comprised of women from affected communities, youth focused events provided a comprehensive coverage of the economic to the social.

A holistic understanding is key

Discussions on empowering youth through entrepreneurship education provided the necessary counterpart to questions of radicalisation and community focused solutions enacted by young people in support of the most vulnerable. While each youth event focused on concrete development themes, the synergy between these sessions provided a clear message: In an interconnected world, a holistic understanding is key to building a way forward.

The youth activities lounge provided a space for young people to come together, providing mindfulness sessions on both days to take a moment for self-awareness amid the bustle of the conference. The lounge also featured a range of games to raise awareness of gender inequality – such as a giant snakes and ladders gender sensitive board game for the European Week of Action for Girls – and 'Post-it to Myself' sessions engaging men in discussions on gender equality.

The interactive tone set by these activities fit closely with the design of the conference itself, with participants remaining approachable and enthusiastic to discuss and collaborate long after the sessions had ended.

While people gathered to share ideas, the solutions presented were not just talk. Youth representatives and organisations working for youth empowerment attended on behalf of vibrant movements for change, often originating in the hearts of beneficiary communities.

For western-based organisations responsible for youth focused agendas, the inclusion of youth in decision-making processes took centre stage amid proclamations of their importance as active agents and partners in shaping their own lives.

Regardless of the level at which organisations functioned, EDD17 provided a platform for reflection and the sharing of insights gained from the real work of building stronger communities being conducted outside of the conference walls.

Projects by and for young people

The Global Village – a collection of stands showcasing projects, large and small, far and wide – boasted a visible youth presence along with presenting projects

both for and by young people. From the One World Youth Summit, providing an opportunity for young people to work together and with world leaders, to stands dedicated to ending violence against women and girls, links between the global and local were evident throughout.

With colourful visual prompts, photo booths, and virtual reality headsets the Global Village's youth component matched the importance of the ideas to appealing and engaging aesthetics.

The youth participation was not just celebrating what can be achieved when people of all ages come together – it stood, more importantly, as acknowledging how much still remains to be done. Youthful optimism was tempered by a sober understanding of existing limitations and obstacles, in turn challenged through calls to break traditional power structures in favour of dynamic and responsive modes of organisation.

Building for a better future

Building for a better future was presented as requiring not just innovating new approaches that work, but being honest about the short fallings of ones that do not. As raised in a panel on youth entrepreneurial education, having the freedom to make mistakes and the honesty to acknowledge them is what allows for real-world learning. This provides a strong foundation for the successes to follow.

Youth conscious agendas were clear from the outset of the conference being mentioned by heads of state in the opening session. The conference ended on much the same note – that a prosperous youth means a better future for everyone.

2. The EDD Global Village

The 2017 edition of the European Development Days hosted for the third time the EDD Global Village, a dynamic and sociable area serving as a hub for sharing knowledge, fostering sustainable partnerships and showcasing innovation and best practices in development.

The EDD Global Village showcased ground breaking development projects, reports and initiatives from around the world. This year the Village increased to 76 stands, each showcasing interesting projects and attracting visitors with interactive and engaging presentations.

It constituted a crossroads at the heart of EDD 2017 for interaction, innovation and networking, as well as an opportunity for visitors to dive deeper into the EDD's core topics. It included:

- 9 Clusters
- 24 Large stands
- 44 Regular stands, including 16 European institutions and bodies, among which:
 - 8 EC-funded stands
 - 1 United Nations stand
- 1 Youth lounge

3. Cultural Programme

Culture was once again a crucial element of the EDD as a driver of development and a pillar of a more sustainable economic growth.

The EDD cultural programme offered entertaining and inspiring moments throughout the forum, with a variety of case studies and a collection of inspiring artworks from around the world spanning paintings and photography to music and dance. A special high-level session 'Investing in creativity, the future is now' organised by 14 leading organisations and agencies in the cultural sector also took place in the first day of the forum.

The Cultural programme included:

- 6 photo and painting exhibitions
- 1 48-hour sculpture performance
- 3 musical and theatre groups, with 7 performances in total
- 1 scene (outdoor)
- 3 movie screenings
- 1 cinema truck

Artistic performances

Existence

Existence is a dance and music performance, performed at the outdoor stage and at the Auditorium 1 before the closing ceremony by dancer Hardo Kâ and musician Edou from Senegal. Supported by ACP Cultures + this choreography-

performance questions existence. By confronting the real and the imaginary, upheaval of space and time, the artists propose other ways of creating and watching dance...

Music Bridges

Music Bridges project brought together two young musicians, Tio Bang from Vanuatu and Makoneny from Mozambique, in EDD to shape youth contemporary messages through traditional sounds and languages. The artists performed twice at the outdoor stage, during 15 minutes each time. This initiative was proposed by ACP Culture+.

48-Hour Artwork

Serge Diakota, Congolese artist, created a 1.5 meters sculpture in 48 hours, using recycled material at the Tour&Taxis during two days of EDD. Serge questions the human being, facing the social and political problems from a local and global perspective. He challenges and denounces the social and political realities, searching a universal identity and a positive change.

StamBeat Sounds and Dance from Tunisia

The project has been initiated and supported by British Council. StamBeat is a fusion between street dance and Stambali, healing trance music and traditions linked with the history of black slaves in Tunisia. It merges live music using traditional instruments, digital sounds and voices with street protest dance and Stambali dance rituals. The artists of the StamBeat performed once at the Auditorium 1 before the special event dedicated to culture and twice on the outdoor stage.

Exhibitions

Youth Across the Globe

An exhibition of 17 photos illustrating the importance of sexual and reproductive health and rights in the context of each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Youth across the globe is the initiative of Youth Sexual Awareness Europe

Global Knowledge Partnership in Agriculture

This collection of paintings created by local artists illustrates major research and innovation challenges, of Agricultural Knowledge Partnerships in Asia, Africa and Latin America, strive towards development through research and knowledge. The exhibition is the initiative of CIRAD.

Dark Sight of Photography

Initiated by ACP Culture +, this photo exhibition is the result of innovative and empowering workshops made with people with visual disabilities and albinism. The drawing experiences took place in complete darkness putting all the participants at the same visual level.

No Future Without Culture

Eight posters of culture related projects of ACP Secretariat decorated the walls of Tour&Taxis during two days of the event.

Hope Over the City

AFD organised this exhibition, composed of photo works which illustrates realities of world cities from the vitality of Kochi to the colors of Medellin, the smile of the residents of Johannesburg, the children playing in Santo Domingo, how little by little all these projects are bringing us towards an interconnected world.

Fespaco Movie Night

At the FESPACO film festival in Ouagadougou, the EU and the Secretariat of the ACP States offered a joint award for the first time. The prize intends to promote the distribution of the awarded ACP films in the official selection and to contribute to their promotion and that of their directors. Three award-winning movies are screened at Cinema Galeries on 7 and 8 June, in presence of the key personalities of these movies.

Félicité

Fespaco award winning movie « Félicité » by Alain Gomis (Sénégal) - Stirring story of a single mother struggling for his hospitalised son in the streets of electric Kinshasa

Screened at Cinéma Galeries on 7 June at 21:00, in presence of main actress Véro Beya Mputu

Kemtiyu, Séex Anta

Fespaco award winning documentary « Kemtiyu, Séex Anta » by Ousmane-William MBAYE (Sénégal) - A documentary sketching the life of Senegalese antropologist, historian and physicist Cheikh Anta Diop

Screened at Cinéma Galeries on 8 June from 20:30, in presence of the film director William-Ousmane Mbaye

The bicycle man

Fespaco award winning short movie « The bicycle man » by Twiggy Matiwana (South Africa), - Steven Grootboom, a passionate gardener, loving husband and enabling parent is forced to reassess his life and relationships when he is diagnosed with cancer.

Screened at Cinéma Galeries on 7 June from 20:30

EDD Cinema

Echoes from the Arts

Screening in the Cinémobile (Cinema-Truck of 80 places) of short films of established and upcoming artists/filmmakers from Latin America, Africa and Europe. An initiative of the Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels (BOZAR), in partnership with ACP Cultures, Atelier Graphoui, British Council, Ethical Fashion Initiative, Fondation Leila Alaoui, Galeria Continua, Interarts, and Scottish Documentary Institute to highlight the role of artists in our common reflection on human development.

Debate and stand

Culture, Youth and Entrepreneurship

A session organised by ACP Culture + and DG DEVCO on the role of culture in youth entrepreneurship took place at the Large Debate room. Representatives of the cultural field from ACP countries and Europe invited by DG DEVCO, Head of Unit Education, Health, Research and Culture Aida Liha Matejicek participated in the debates.

Culture - the Gateway to a New Development Model

A large stand of the ACP Culture + showcased different projects, including virtual reality shows presented by Electric South.

Annexes

Annex 1

List of speakers

SPEAKERS LIST EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2017			
Last name	First name	Function	Organization
Abu Lail	Dareen	Vocalist NET-MED Youth National Project Officer	UNESCO
Abdi	Kamilo	Team Leader of Nairobi mentors	Royal United Service Institute
Abdul Cader	Azra	Senior Programme Officer	Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women
Abou-Zeid	Amani	Commissioner for Infrastructure & Energy	African Union Commission
Acconcia	Diana	Head of Unit, Economic Partnership Agreements	European Commission - DG for Trade
Ackla	Blandine	Programming Director	Plan International
Acouetey	Didier	CEO	AFRICSEARCH
Aemro Selassie	Abebe	Director of African Department	International Monetary Fund
Agama-Anyetei	Margaret	Head of Division Health, Nutrition and Population	African Union Commission
Agbangba	Omar	Executive Director	Togo National Agency for Volunteers
Aghoghovbia	Ken	Deputy Managing Director/Chief Operating Officer	African Reinsurance Corporation
Agüero	Maria Dolores	Minister of Foreign Affairs	MFA - Honduras

Ahmed	Zainab S.	Honorable Minister of State, Ministry of Budget and National Planning,	Government of Nigeria
Akinduro	Olufunto	Head of Department Elections and Political Processes	Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa
Akinola	Lanre	Editor	African Business
Akufo-Addo	Nana	President of Ghana	
Al Damrawy	Ahmed	Regional Team Leader	ENPI - Civil Society Facility South
Al Shaikahmed	Sherin	Age & Disability Inclusion Advisor	Islamic Relief
Al-Alaq	Mahdi	Secretary General of the Council of Ministers	Government of Iraq
Alaoy	Raïssa Iry	Field Team Leader	HERi Madagascar
Alexa	Noemi		Central European University
Alfers	Laura	Deputy Director, Social Protection Programme	WIEGO
Alkarib	Hala	Regional Director	Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa
Alonso	Natalia	Director	Oxfam EU office
Alvarez	Graciela		International Institute of Refrigeration
Amaral	Cristina	Director FAO Liaison Office with the European Union and the Kingdom of Belgium	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Ambrosi	Eugenio	Regional Director	IOM's Regional Office for the European Economic Area, the EU and NATO
Amuzu	Esenam	EDD Young Leader, Ghana	
Andrews	Oliver	Executive Director and Chief Investment Officer	Africa Finance Corporation

Andriukaitis	Vytenis	Commissioner for Health and Food Safety	European Commission
Angely	Christophe	Director of Strategy and Funding	Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international
Ansip	Andrus	Vice President for the Digital Single Market	European Commission
Antwi	Maxwell	Country Director, Ghana	PharmAccess Foundation
Appave	Gervais	Special Advisor to Director-General	International Organization for Migration
Aranha	Carolina	Founder	Pipe Social
Asher	Zain	Journalist	CNN
Asquith	Paul	Engagement & Policy Manager	Africa Europe Diaspora Platform
Assefa	Feyera	Country Director, Ethiopia	DSW (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung)
Assomul	Ashwin	Managing Director	Parthenon-EY
Ava	Tasneem	EDD Young Leader, Bangladesh	
Awil	Fatima	Ambassador	End FGM European Network
Awilkadir	Alan A.	Steering Group Member	Kurdistan Electronic Court Project
Ayoubi	Ziad	Senior Livelihoods Officer/Head of the Livelihoods Unit	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Ba	Amadou	Minister of Economy, Finance and Planning	Government of Senegal
Babst	Stefanie	Head, Strategic Analysis Capability for the NATO Secretary General and Chairman of the NATO Military Committee	NATO
Ballabriga	Antoni	Global Head of Responsible Business	Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria
Bang	Tio	Musician	
Banskota	Nishchal	EDD Young Leader, Nepal	

Barry	Tahirou	Minister of Culture	Burkina Faso
Bastagli	Francesca	Head of Social Protection	Overseas Development Institute
Baumer	Ruben	EDD Young Leader 2016 - Belgium	
Beaume	Eric	Deputy Head of Unit Water, DG for infrastructures and cities	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Becerra Basterrechea	Beatriz	Member	European Parliament
Behrens	Alec	Co-founder	Booking.com
Beier	Christoph	Vice-Chair of the Management Board	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
Belanger	Erica	Senior Advocacy Adviser	International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network
Bembatoum-Young	Shade	CEO	African Sustainable SME Export Trade Solutions
Benn	Christoph	Director of External Relations	The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Bensasson	Bruno	Chief Executive Officer Africa	ENGIE
Bento Pais	Rosario	Head of Unit Civil Society, Local Authorities	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Berset Bircher	Valérie	Deputy Head International Labour Affairs	Swiss State Secretariat of Economic Affairs
Besana	Federica	Communication Officer	COSV
Bevan	Robert	Journalist and Author	
Beyne	Jan	Program Manager	CIFAL Flanders UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research)

Beyrer	Markus	Director-General	Business Europe
Bikpo	Felix A.	Chief Executive Officer	African Guarantee Fund
Bilal	Sanoussi	Head of the Economic Transformation and Trade Programme	European Centre for Development Policy Management
Bishop	Chris	Managing Editor of Forbes Africa Managing Editor	Forbes Africa
Blauboer	Eline	Co-founder and Managing Partner	Africa Tech Ventures
Boesman	Wouter	Director Policy	PLATAFORMA
Bonadonna	Lisa	Vice-President - Head of GSK-Save the Children Partnership	GlaxoSmithKline
Bonin	Peter	Teamleader Sector Project Migration and Development	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
Bosire	Peris	Co-founder	Farmdrive
Bosmans	Marleen	Expert Human Rights & Gender	Belgian Development Agency
Boto	Isolina	Manager	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
Boutiba Mrad	Jihen	General Secretary of the MED Regional Employers/Enterprises Organization	BUSINESSMED – Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises
Bramdeo	Ajay Kumar	Head	African Union Permanent Mission to the European Union and the ACP - Brussels Office
Braswell	Jen	Manager Corporate Strategy	CDC Group
Bureau	Catherine	Deputy Director for Programs	Fondation Avril
Burgeon	Dominique	Director of Emergencies and Strategic Programme Leader on resilience	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Burns	Chris	Journalist	
Butkeviciene	Jolita	Director for Development Coordination - Latin America and Caribbean	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Cabral	Maria-Manuela	Head of Unit for Fragility and Resilience	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Cabrera	Aleix	Communication Officer	ISGlobal (Instituto de Salud Global de Barcelona)
Calland	Richard	Co-director	African Climate Finance Hub
Carling	Joan	Representative	Indigenous Peoples Major Group
Carpentier	Pierre	Chief Investment Officer	Investisseurs et Partenaires
Castillo	Cecilia	Head of Brussels Office	Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas
Ceriani Sebregondi	Filiberto	Head of Division - Development Cooperation Coordination	European External Action Service
Chankova	Slavea	Data journalist	The Economist
Charalambous	Alexander	Team Leader	SWITCH to Green Facility
Charmes	Jacques	Economist and statistician, RNSF Research Expert	AGRER
Cheema	Affan		Islamic Relief
Chekweko	Jackson	Executive Director	Reproductive Health Uganda
Chevallier	Christophe	Responsable de l'activité maîtrise d'œuvre urbaine	AREP Ville

Chévez	Edgardo	Director	Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo Integral de Honduras
Chienin	Chayet	Founder & Editor-in-chief	Nothing but the Wax
Chotte	Jean-Luc	Head of research and Deputy Director of ECOBIO	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement
Chourabi	Hassen	General Director of Ministry of Agriculture	Government of Tunisia
Christ	Heidi	Artisan value Chain Expert	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Christensen	Martin	Independent researcher and consultant	
Ciccarelli	Paolo	Head of Unit	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Cipriani	Simone	Chief Technical Advisor	Ethical Fashion Initiative
Cissé	Boubou	Minister for Economy and Finance	Government of Mali
Cistulli	Vito	Senior Economist	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Clubb	Chris	Managing Director	Convergence
Coke-Hamilton	Pamela	Executive Director	Caribbean Export Development Agency
Collar	Steve	CEO	SES Networks
Colle	Chantal	Entrepreneur and Presidential Advisor to H.E. Alpha Konde	
Collet	Brigitte	Ambassador for Climate Change Negotiations	Renewable Energy and Climate Risk Prevention
Condé	Alpha	President of Guinea - Chairperson of the African Union	

Connaker	Adam	Program Associate	Rockefeller Foundation
Conzato	Franco	Deputy Head of Unit for Quality and Results	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Corao	Carlos	Managing Director	Communication Package
Corno	Guido	Climate Change Policy Expert	Global Climate Change Alliance +
Corrado	Laura	Head of Unit - Legal Migration and Integration	European Commission - DG for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship
Courteille-Mulder	Claire	Director of the ILO Office for the European Union and the Benelux countries	International Labour Organisation
Cropper	Mark	Senior expert	European Commission - DG for Agricultural and Rural Development
Crump	Steve	Founder	DeafKidz International
Dal Negro	Lucia	Founder of De Lab Solutions about inclusive business	
Dall'Olio	Roberta	Vice President	European Association of Development Agencies
De Croo	Alexander	Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services	Government of Belgium
De Marco	Liliana	Executive Director	Protection International
Dechambenoit	Lawrence	Vice President Corporate Relations Africa	RIO TINTO

Dehmer	Dagmar	Journalist	
Demeterio-Melgar	Junice Lirza	Executive Director	LIKHAAN Centre for Women's Health
Derieux	Philippe	Head of P&C New Business Models	AXA Global P&C
Derksen	Harry	Board Member	Waterwatch Cooperative
Desmarais	France	Director of Programmes and Partnerships	International Council of Museums
Devictor	Xavier	Advisor for the Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group	World Bank Group
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Rodriguez	Ivan	Country Director	Swisscontact
Rodriguez Clemente	Rafael	Researcher	Spanish National Research Council
Romana Rinaldi	Francesca	Director of the Master in Brand & Business Management	Milano Fashion Institute
Ropolo	Daniela	EMEA Sustainable Development Initiatives Manager	CNH Industrial
Royal	Ségolène	President of UNFCCC COP21	
Rudischhauser	Klaus	Deputy Director General	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development

Ruettgers	Heike	Head of Mandates Management	European Investment Bank
Rutazibwa	Olivia	Senior Lecturer in International Development and European Studies	University Porthsmouth Belgium
Ryding	Tove	Director of Policy and Advocacy	EURODAD
Sabbagh	Karim Michel	President and CEO	SES S.A.
Sachs	Jeffrey	Sustainable Development Goals Advocate and Professor Columbia University	
Sadio	Edouard	Dancer	
Sah	Sameer	International Programme Director	TB Alert
Sakande	Madi	General Manager & Co-partner	New Cold System s.r.l.
Sakho Niang	Khady	FORIM	
Samarasinghe	Buddhika	Director	Nathan Associates London Ltd.
Sargentini	Judith	MEP, Greens/EFA, Netherlands	
Sarr	Felwine	Maître de Conférence Agrégé, Directeur de l'UFR de Sciences Economiques et de Gestion	Université Gaston Berger Saint-Louis du Sénégal
Savadogo	Mathieu	Director	Association for research and training in agroecology
Scatasta	Monica	Head of Environment, Climate and Social Policy	European Investment Bank
Schaeffer	Anne-Sophie	Programme Director	Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders
Scheijgrond	Jan-Willem	Vice President Global Government and Public Affairs	Royal Philips

Scheuer	Jo	Director, BPPS	United Nations Development Programme
Schewel	Ben	Fellow, Center for Religion, Conflict and the Public Domain	University of Groningen
Schick	Kathrin	Director	Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies
Schlein	Elly	MEP, Socialist & Democrats, Italy	
Schmitz	Stefan	Deputy Director General	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development - Germany
Schneider	Romain	Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs	Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Luxembourg
Schönherr	Norma	Project Manager	Vienna University of Economics and Business
Schriever	Sophie	Germany	
Sehnalova	Olga	Member	European Parliament
Senhadji	Karim Lotfi	OCP Africa CEO	OCP Group
Šepić	Senad	Independent politician	
Shah	Vimal	CEO	BIDCO Africa
Sharma	Nivi	Managing Director of BRCK and co-founder	eLimu
Sherif	Dina H.	CEO/Founding Partner	Ahead of the Curve
Shukla	Vandinika	EDD Young Leader 2016 - India	
Sichel	Katrina	TV Producer and Presenter	

Signore	Stefano	Head of Migration, Employment, Inequalities Unit	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Silfverstolpe	Alexandra	Founder and Managing Director	Data Act Lab
Simna	Esso	Volunteer	
Sitaram	Anya	Founding Director and Executive Producer	Rockhopper TV
Sivakumaran	Suba	Head of Private Sector Development	Nathan Associates London Ltd.
Skayem	Antoine	CEO	RIEGO
Skjoldager Sorensen	Lars	New Holland AG Harvesting Product Manager	CNH Industrial
Solberg	Erna	Prime Minister of Norway	
Solsona	Marta	Área Internacional	la Caixa Banking Foundation
Sood	Deepali	Director, Resource Development	Habitat for Humanity International
Souque	Maylis	Secretary General of the French OECD National Contact Point (NCP) for Responsible Business Conduct	Ministry of Economic and Finance of France
Sow	Ndeye	Senior Gender Adviser – Africa Programme	International Alert
Speckhardt	Olga	Head of Global Insurance Solutions	Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture
Spiess	Andreas	CEO	SOLARKIOSK
Srodecki	Julian	Director of Innovative Financing - Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs	World Vision International
Steff	Marion	SDGs Coordinator	European Disability Forum
Steneker	Sietske	Director	UNFPA Brussels Office

Stevens	Colin	Publisher/Editor	EUReporter
Stewardson	Gail	Programme Funding Development Manager	Children in Crisis
Stibbe	Darian	Executive Director	The Partnering Initiative
Stromeyer	Rebecca	Founder	eLearning Africa
Sullivan	Laura	Vice-President	CONCORD
Sultan-Khan	Alexander	Desk Officer	Federal Foreign Office of Germany
Sum	Ido	Co-founder	TLcom TIDE Africa Fund
Sunasse-Lam	Amanda	Senior Partner	Linking African Markets and Partnership
Tagwa	Batsweletse	Plant General Manager	Kromberg & Schubert Botswana (PTY) Ltd
Tajani	Antonio	President	European Parliament
Talalqa	Anas	Jordan	
Tawfik	Aouatif	Sustainability Manager	Unilever
Taylor	Jonathan	Vice-President	European Investment Bank
Tejada	Luis	Director	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
Temmes	Armi	Professor of Practice, Corporate Sustainability	Aalto University School of Business
Thanisawanyangkura	Sornprach	Acting Vice President for Planning	Kasetsart University
	HM Mathilde	The Queen of the Belgians	
Thirion	Marie-Cécile	Agronomist and project coordinator	Agence Française de Développement
Thompson	Geoff		Youth Charter
Thompson	Laura	Deputy Director General	International Organization for Migration
Toll	Salina	Operations Director	Windward Strategic Ltd.

Torquebiau	Emmanuel	Senior researcher and Climate Change Officer	Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement
Toth	Izabella	Senior Policy & Advocacy Strategist	Cordaid
Touré	Sidi Tiémoko	Ministre de la Promotion de la Jeunesse, de l'Emploi des Jeunes et du Service Civique	République de Côte d'Ivoire
Traoré	Rokia	Singer	Fondation Passerelle
Traoré	Alain Sy	Director of Agriculture and Rural Development	ECOWAS Commission - The Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development
Trautmann	Henrike	Head of the Specific Thematic Policies unit	European Commission - DG for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
Tripura	Naba Bikram Kishore	Secretary, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs	Government of Bangladesh
Tumwebaze	Frank K.	Cabinet Minister of Information Technology and Communications	Government of Uganda
Tun Kyi	Win	National Director	Karuna Mission Social Solidarity (KMSS) – Caritas Myanmar
Turine	Sarah	Deputy Mayor of Youth, Social cohesion and prevention and Intercultural Dialogue	City of Molenbeek
Uhlenbrook	Stefan	Coordinator	United Nations World Water Assessment Programme of UNESCO
Uwera	Laurence	Programme Director	ChildFund Guinea
Uwitonze	Marie Chantal	CEO	MACH Consulting
Valette	Elodie	Researcher	Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement

Van Acoleyen	Koen		Direction Générale de la Coopération au Développement et de l'Aide Humanitaire, Belgium
Van Ballekom	Pim	Vice-President	European Investment Bank
Van Dael	Joris	Founder - Creative Director	Kidscam
Van der Meer	Rob	Director of Public Affairs & Climate Change	HeidelbergCement
Van Deth	Louise	Executive Director	Aidsfonds
Van Haeringen	Reintje	Drector and programme manager Women's economic empowerment	CARE Nederland
van Nieuwenhuyse	Annabelle	TV and radio presenter	
van Seters	Jeske	Head of Programme Private Sector Engagement Economic and Agricultural Transformation Programme	European Centre for Development Policy Management
Vazirani	Rakesh	Director	TÜV Rheinland
Velasquez Ante Lee	Sally	Mayor	City of Sorsogon, Philippines
Vergos	Zissimos	Team Leader - Private Sector Development Sector	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Verma	Kanika	Program Director the Sustainable Enterprise Domain	Development Alternatives
Vervaeke	Koen	Managing Director Africa	European External Action Service
Vestager	Margrethe	Commissioner for Competition	European Commission - DG for Competition

Ville	Jean-Louis	Acting Director of Human Development and Migration	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Vir	Parminder	CEO	The Tony Elumelu Foundation
Voillat	Nicole	Sustainability Director	Bata Brands SA
Wahba	Sameh	Director, DRM and Resilience	World Bank Group
Walz	Mara	Board Member	German National Young Farmer Association
Warren	Wade	Acting Administrator	United States Agency for International Development
Weber	Renate	MEP	European Parliament
Weber	Anaïs	Policy Coordinator – Environmental and Social support	Agence Française de Développement
Wenn	Bruno	Chairman of the Management Board	German Investment Facility (DEG)
Wenta	Bogdan Brunon	Member	European Parliament
Werksman	Jacob	Principal Advisor	European Commission - DG for Climate Action
Wetzig	Sidonie	ENoP Chair of Working Group on Development Cooperation	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
Wheeler	Shirin	Principal Advisor on International Media	European Investment Bank
Wiman	Adele	Research Fellow, Institute for Managing Sustainability	Vienna University of Economics and Business
Woley	Khaled	Deputy Mayor	City of Tripoli

Wolff	Franziska	Head of Division Environmental Law & Governance	Oeko-Intitute e.V.
Wollaert	Peter	Fellow of UNITAR and Managing Director	CIFAL Flanders
Woodman	Paula	Senior Advisor for Global Social Enterprise programme	British Council
Wozniak	Joseph	Trade for Sustainable Development (T4SD)	International Trade Centre
Yeo-Dembele	Mariam	Investment officer, Financial Inclusion & Intermediation Division	African Development Bank
Yiannouka	Stavros N.	CEO	World Innovation Summit for Education
Yunus	Muhammad	2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate	
Yvetot	Christophe	Director of UNIDO Liaison Office to the European Union	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
Zaccheo	Felice	Head of Unit C.6 - Sustainable Energy and Climate Change	European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development
Zaimis	Nikolaos	Deputy Director General in charge of Directorates B, C and D	European Commission - DG for Trade
Zdravkovic	Alexander	Manager, Strategic Growth and Programme Delivery	Cardno Emerging Markets
Zegers	Robert	AfDB	
Zekeng	Elsa	EDD Young Leader 2016 - Cameroon	
Zenker	Mareike	Advisor	Global Leadership Academy
Zulu	Eliya Msiyaphazi	Director	African Institute for Development Policy

Annex 2

List of Partner Organisations

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2017	
Department of Library and Information Science (LIS) - University of Indonesia	Habitat III Secretariat
Ministère du Commerce, de L'industrie, de la Promotion du Secteur Privé et du Tourisme- Togo	HeidelbergCement
Nathan Associates London Ltd.	Heifer Netherlands
Hope for Children CRC Policy Center	Heifer Tanzania
A Long term EU-Africa research and innovation Partnership on food and nutrition security and sustainable AGRiculture	Hello Tractor
Aalto University School of Business	Hennes & Mauritz
Absolute Energy Capital LLP	HERi Madagascar
Academics for Development	Hilfswerk Austria International
Accenture	Hope For Children - CRC Policy Center
ACP Cultures +	Housing the Masses, Ghana
ACP EU TBT Programme	Humana People to People
ACP Young Professionals Network	i3kommunikation
ACT Alliance Advocacy to the European Union	IBON International

Action Contre La Faim	Igunga District Council
ActionAid International	IITD - Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
Active Communities Network	Ikea Foundation
Active Growth and Youth Programs Powered by MEDEF	IKEA Switzerland
Advocates for Safe Parenthood: Improving Reproductive Health	Impact Management International
AECOM	Inclusive Business Action Network
Africa Consulting and Trading	Indonesian Student Union in Belgia (PPI Belgia)
Africa Finance Corporation	Information Technology Industry Development Agency
Africa GreenCo	Institut de Recherche pour le Développement
Africa Mobile Networks	Institute for European Environmental Policy
Africalia	Intellectual Property Office Ivory Coast
African Agribusiness Incubators Network (AAIN)	Interarts Foundation
African Development Bank	International Alert
African Diaspora Network in Europe	International Atomic Energy Agency
African Foundation for Development	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
African Institute for Development Policy	International Centre for Reproductive Health
African Observatory of Science, Technology and Innovation	International Council of Museums
African Organisation for Standardisation	International Council on Clean Transportation
African Parks Network	International Finance Corporation
African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development	International Fund for Agricultural Development
African Union Commission	International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
African Youth and Adolescents Network	International Institute of Refrigeration
African, Caribbean and Pacific Secretariat	International Labour Office

AFRICSEARCH	International Labour Organisation
AGC	International Monetary Fund
Agence des Villes et Territoires Méditerranéens Durables	International Music Council
Agence Française de Développement	International Organisation of Employers
Agencia Andaluza de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo	International Organisation of Industrial and Service Cooperatives
Agency of civic service	International Organization for Migration
Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo	International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network
Agirre Lehendakaria Center	International Trade Centre
Agriconsulting Europe SA	International Trade Union Confederation
AGRICORD	International Training Center of the ILO
Aidsfonds	ISGlobal (Instituto de Salud Global de Barcelona)
AIT	Islamic Relief
Alianza por la Solidaridad	Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation
Alliance for Digital Development	Italian Department of Public Security
Alliance for Integrity	Italian Department of Youth and National Civic Service
Amref Health Africa	Japan International Cooperation Agency
Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for Dialogue	Jeunes Pour La Paix / JPP-ASBL
Apple Distribution International	Johnson & Johnson
Aqua for All	Joint Migration and Development Initiative
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa	Joint Research Centre
Arab NGO Network for Development	joyn-coop
ARS Progetti SPA	Kanchanjangha Tea Estate and Research Center Pvt. Ltd.

Art Solution	Karuna Mission Social Solidarity (KMSS) – Caritas Myanmar
Arterial Network	Kasetsart University
ArtZ	Kati Farms Ltd
Asia Pacific Forum for Women, Law and Development	Kaunas University of Technology, Faculty of Social Science, Humanities and Arts
Asia Pacific Research Network	Kenya Red Cross
Asian-Europe Foundation	KfW Entwicklungsbank
Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women	Kidscam
Association Française du Conseil des Communes et Régions d'Europe	KOPIN
Association Internationale des Maires Francophones	KU Leuven
Association of Power Utilities of Africa	La Caixa Banking Foundation
Atelier Graphoui	Lai-momo
Atlas Network	Latin America Investment Facility
Austrian Development Agency	Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections
Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs	Leonard Cheshire Disability
Bachpan Bachao Andolan (Save the Childhood Movement)	Letters to Myself
Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria	Libex (Library Excellence) LIBexcellence.info
Barcelona Institute for Global Health	Life Project 4 Youth
Bata Brands SA	LIKHAAN Centre for Women's Health
Belgian Development Agency	Lithuanian Department of Youth Affairs
BethAri Ltd	Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights
BIDCO Africa	LuloMotion

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	Lux-Development
Biophytech	MACH Consulting
BIOPROTECT	Malawian Ministry of Economic Planning and Development
Bioversity International	Margaret Pyke Trust, with the Population & Sustainability Network
BRAC Bangladesh	Marrakech 2016
British Council	Massachusetts Institute of technology
British Council Bangladesh	Mauritius IT Industry Association - MITIA
Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung	Med Culture Technical Assistance
Butterflyworks	Método Salgari
C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group	MFA - Switzerland
CABI	MFA Luxembourg - Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs
Camões Instituto da Cooperação e da Língua, IP	Michelin
Capacity Development for Agricultural Inovation Systems	Microfinance Centre
Cardno Emerging Markets	Midlands State University
CARE Bangladesh	Ministère de l'Habitat et du Développement Urbain
CARE Ethiopia	Ministerio de Gobierno - Panama
CARE International	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
CARE Nederland	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock - Burundi
Caritas	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development
CEFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
Center for Global Development	Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Ugandan Government
Center of Excellence in Finance	Ministry of Goverment of Panama

Central European University	Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fishery
Centre d'études et de recherches sur le développement international	Ministry of Water and Sanitation
Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement	Mission for Community Development Programme
Centre de Rencontres et d'Études des Dirigeants des Administrations fiscales	MobiliseYourCity
Centre d'Écoute et d'Encadrement pour le Développement Durable	Namibian Football Association
Centre d'études et d'expertise sur les risques, l'environnement, la mobilité et l'aménagement	Nathan Associates Inc.
Centre for Fine Arts Brussels	National Chamber for Italian fashion
Centre for Mediterranean Integration	National Polytechnic Institute Cote d'Ivoire
Centro Informazione e Educazione allo Sviluppo Onlus	National Youth Service from Luxembourg
Centro para la Autonomía y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas	Ndomo
Centro Regional Para América Latina y el Caribe en Apoyo al Pacto Mundial de las Naciones Unidas	Nepal Tea
Cera	Net Group Ltd
Chabana Farms	Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael
ChildFund Alliance	New Holland Agriculture
ChildFund Guinea	New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre
Children in Crisis	Niger Delta Partnership Initiative (NDPI) Foundation

Chilean Economic Development Agency CORFO	NWK Agri Services Zambia
China National Textile and Apparel Council	OCP Group
CIFAL Flanders UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research)	OECD Development Centre
CIFAL Plock UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research)	Oeko-Institut e.V. (Institute for Applied Ecology)
CIFAL Zurich UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research)	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Cineuropa	Ohaha Family Foundation
Cités Unies France	One Third Sweden
City of Berlin, Germany	One Young World
City of Sindelfingen	Open Society Foundations
City of Sorsogon, Philippines	Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation
Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding	Overseas Development Institute
Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding	Oxfam EU office
CIVIPOL Conseil	Oxfam Intermon
Clean Air Asia	Oxfam International
Climate Action Network Europe	Oxfam Novib
Climate and Clean Air Coalition	Pakistan Agricultural Research Council
CNH INDUSTRIAL	Palladium
CNRS Dépasser les Frontières	Panafrican Farmers Organisation (PAFO)
Columbia University	Peace Revolution

Comenius University, Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences, Public Policy Institute	PharmAccess Foundation
Comité de liaison Europe-Afrique-Caraïbes-Pacifique	Pipe Social
Committee of the regions	Plan Belgium
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	Plan International
Commonwealth Local Government Forum	Plateforme Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d'Afrique Centrale
Communication Package	Platform for African – European Partnership in Agricultural Research for Development
Compagnie Fruitière	Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants
Concord Italia - Associazione ONG italiane	PLATFORMA
CONNEX Support Unit	PM Consulting
Conseil Européen des Jeunes Agriculteurs	Practitioners' Network for European development cooperation
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	Prana - The Integrative Medicine Institute
Convergence	Programa de Salut Internacional Institut Català de la Salut
Coopération Education Culture	PROIntensAfrica
Coopération Internationale pour le Développement et la Solidarité	ProtectDefenders
Coopération pour le Développement et l'Amélioration du Transport Urbain et Périurbain	Protection International
Cooperatives Europe	Pulse Lab Kampala
CoopEst	Red Cross EU Office
Copenhagen Business School	Regional Climate Change Programme for Latin America financed by the European Union

Copenhagen Centre on Energy Efficiency	Regional Electricity Regulators Association of Southern Africa
Cordaid	Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century
Corporate Social Responsibility Europe	Reproductive Health Uganda
COSV	Research and Innovation Network for Europe and Africa
Council of Peripheral and Maritime regions	Réseau des Organisations Paysannes et des Producteurs Agricoles de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (ROPPA)
Creatives Garage	ResponsAbility Investments
CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness	RIEGO
Czech Development Agency	Rockefeller Foundation
Danish Technological Institute	Rotary International
Dasaran Educational Program	Royal Philips
De-LAB's	Royal United Service Institute
Delegation of the European Union to Honduras	Rwanda Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources
Delegation of the European Union to Malawi	Saarland University Center for Evaluation
Delegation of the European Union to Togo	SAPP
Delegation of the European Union to Tunisia	Save the Children
Department of Science and Technology	Schulze Darup
Department of Science and Technology, South Africa	Science and Development Network
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	SDG Action Campaign
Deutsche Welle	Secretaria General Iberoamericana
Deutsche Zusammenarbeit	Security Cooperation in Panama

Development Alternatives	SEEK Development
DHL	SELCO Foundation
Direction Générale des impôts du Cameroun	SEP Jordan
DMI Associates	SES Networks
Dove/Unilever - The Dove Self-Esteem Project	Sidley Austin
DSW (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevoelkerung)	Silicon Badia
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Sindiso Khumalo
East-West Seed	Slovak Aid
Eastern Africa Farmers Federation	Smart Villages Initiative
Eastern African Grain Council (EAGC)	SNV Netherlands Development Organisation
Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum	Social Equity Fund
eBay	Social Impact Consulting
ECOBANK Group	Sokoine University of Agriculture
Ecorys NL	Solarkiosk
ECOWAS	Solidarity Water Europe
ECOWAS Commission - The Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development	Sooretul
Educaid.be	South Africa National Department of Health
Electric South	South African Department of Science and Technology
Electricité de France	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
Embassy of Colombia in Brussels	State of Palestine
Emergency	Stop AIDS Alliance
End FGM European Network	Students for Liberty
Endangered Wildlife Trust	Südwind

Energy 4 Impact	Sustainable Apparel Coalition
Engagement Global gGmbH	Sustainalytics
EraAfrica Initiative	Swedish International Development Agency
ESADE, Institute for Social Innovation	Swiss Academy for Development
Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	SWITCH to Green Facility
Ethical Fashion Initiative	SWITCH-Africa Green Network Facility
EU Energy Initiative - Partnership Dialogue Facility	SWITCH-Asia Network Facility
EU-Africa Business Forum	SwitchMed Programme Networking Facility
Europäische Akademie Berlin	Tapera Industries
European Agricultural Machinery - CEMA	TB Alert
European alliance on Agricultural knowledge for development	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
European Association of Development Agencies	Ten Senses Africa
European Centre for Development Policy Management	TERI
European Centre for Electoral Support	TESLA
European Commission - DG for Agricultural and Rural Development	The Center for Mediterranean Integration
European Commission - DG for Communication Networks, Content and Technology	The Coca-Cola Africa Foundation
European Commission - DG for Education and Culture	The Coca-Cola Company
European Commission - DG for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union	The Consumer Goods Forum
European Commission - DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs	The Danish Institute for Human Rights
European Commission - DG for International Cooperation and Development	The Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee

European Commission - DG for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations	The Girl Generation
European Commission - DG for Trade	The Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases
European Commission - DG SCIC	The MasterCard Foundation
European Commission DG DEVCO	The ONE Campaign
European Commission Representation in the Netherlands	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD)
European Commission, Joint Research Centre	The Robert Bosch Stiftung
European Committee of the Regions	The Tony Elumelu Foundation
European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs	The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey
European Development Finance Institutions	The Young Foundation
European Economic and Social Committee	Tickle Up
European Education Practitioners Network	Togo National Agency for Volunteers
European External Action Service	Trade and Markets East Africa
European Forum on Agricultural Research for Development	TradeCom II Programme
European Foundation Centre	Transparency International
European Investment Bank	Tsinghua University
European Microfinance Network	Turquoise Mountain
European Network of Political Foundations	TÜV Rheinland
European Network on Debt and Development	UN Global Compact
European Parliament	UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development	UN Office on Drugs and Crime
European Programme for Integration and Migration	UN Sustainable Development Goals Fund
European Trade Union Confederation	UN WOMEN
European Union Arabic	UN World Food Programme
European Youth Forum	UNEP Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production
European Youth Parliament for Water	UNESCO
Expertise France	Union Economique et Monétaire de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
Extremadura Agency for International Development Cooperation	United Cities and Local Governments
Fair Trade Advocacy Office	United Cities and Local Governments of Africa
Federal Institute for Population Research	United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development - Germany	United Nations Children's Fund
Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture	United Nations Development Programme
FEICOM	United Nations Development Programme Istanbul Regional Hub
Feira Preta	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
FEMNET - feministische Perspektiven auf Politik, Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft e.V.	United Nations Environment Programme
fi-compass	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
FOKAL	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
Fondation Avril	United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Fondation Hironnelle	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
Fondation Leila Alaoui	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
Fondation pour l'Egalité des Chances en Afrique	United Nations Liaison Office for Peace and Security
Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
Fondo para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas de América Latina y el Caribe	United Nations Office for Project Services
Food Agriculture and Natural Ressources Policy Network	United Nations Population Fund
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe
Forum Civil	United Nations Relief & Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
Forum des Organisations de Solidarité Internationale issues des Migrations	United Nations Representation Office Brussels
Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa	United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology and Maastricht Graduate School of Governance
Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development	United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies
France - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development	United Nations World Water Assessment Programme of UNESCO
Frankfurt School of Finance and Management	Université Gaston Berger Saint-Louis du Sénégal
free afrik institute	Universite Paris-8
French Environment and Energy Management Agency	University of Nottingham
French Ministry of Economy and Finance	University of Westindies

French Youth Ministry	University of Wrocław, Faculty of Social Sciences
Friedrich Naumann Stiftung (Friedrich Naumann Foundation)	Varkey Foundation
Friends of Europe	Venture Capital for Africa
Frontline Defenders	Veolia Institute
FTI Consulting	Vienna University of Economics and Business
Fundación Ideas para la Paz	VITO
Fundación Internacional y para Iberoamérica de Administración y Políticas Públicas	VIVERDIS
G20 Presidency	Vivienne Westwood
Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech - Université de Liège	Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies
Gender Institute, London School of Economics	Waterwatch Cooperative
Geneva Water Hub	WE & B
Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security	Wetlands International
German Sport University Cologne - Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln	Wikiafrica
Ginkgo volunteers	Wildlife Conservation Society
Girls Not Brides	Windward Strategic Ltd.
GIZ Palestine	Women and Media Collective
Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction	Women in Informal Employment Globalizing and Organizing
Global Challenges World Cup	World Agroforestry Centre

Global Climate Change Alliance +	World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts-Europe Region
Global Education Network Europe	World Bank Group
Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace	World Fair Trade Organisation
Global Local Forum	World Fair Trade Organisation, Europe
Global March Against Child Labour	World Health Organization
Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation	World Innovation Summit for Education
Global Partnership to End Violence against Children	World Organisation Against Torture
Global Platform Jordan	World Peace Initiative Foundation
Global Shea Alliance	World Rural Forum
Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments	World Vision International
Global Utmaning	World Wild Fund for Nature
Global Youth Innovation Network	World Youth Parliament for Water
Globe Vert	WWF European Policy Office
Globe Vert Sénégal	YAGA Burundi
Goethe Institut	Young Ambassadors Forum
Google	Young Leaders for Development
Government of Norway and International Climate and Forest Initiative	Young Professionals Agriculture Research for Development
Grameen Foundation	Youth Charter Organisation
Greece - Hellenic Platform for Development	Youth Sexual Awareness For Europe
Greenpeace	Youth Start
GROUPE EDIFICE CAPITAL	
Gucci	
H&M Foundation	

