European Development Days
2006-2013

8 years of policy debates from the European Consensus to the post-2015 agenda
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2006–2013

8 years of policy debates from the European Consensus to the post-2015 agenda

Forward by José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission.

This book has been published by the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid in August 2014.

European Commission
The European Development Days: a partnership of strong values and bold ideas

José Manuel Barroso
President of the European Commission

European values and the EDDs

When I addressed the European Development Days in Brussels in December 2010 I stated my belief in a Europe that is open and committed to the values of development, freedom and solidarity. These values have been central to the European project ever since its inception and continue to permeate the European Union’s policies and activities to this day. They are an intrinsic part of what makes us Europeans. They have also been at the heart of the European Development Days, which have become a key fixture in the world’s development calendar in less than a decade.

It was a decade ago that the European Union took on the largest and most ambitious enlargement project in its history. Solidarity, freedom and a sense of common purpose underpinned this project, as they have every other enlargement project before or since. They have enabled us to turn a continent left divided and poor by war into a strong, prosperous and peaceful Union – efforts which, I am immensely proud to say, were rewarded with the Nobel Peace Prize in 2012. And they have combined with our commitment to development in framing our efforts to help fellow citizens around the world, whose needs are so much greater than ours.

European citizens support our development efforts because they understand that, in our modern world, we have the technology and resources to defeat poverty. As I said at the European Development Days in 2011, all human beings aspire to a dignified life for themselves and their children. It is frankly unacceptable and incredible that we can send people into space but cannot send all our children to school, that while so many of us enjoy levels of wealth previous generations could only dream of, so many others struggle to find work and can barely afford to put food on the table, heat their homes or get decent healthcare for themselves or their families.

That is why our poverty eradication efforts must continue. And it is why solidarity and freedom have been recurring themes at the EDDs.
Importance of aid

Of course, the official development assistance we provide is a vital part of our development cooperation and poverty eradication efforts. We have succeeded in maintaining high levels of aid in the European Union’s budget for 2014 to 2020 for the next 7 years. Our aid budget, amounting to 30.1 billion euro, will be mostly targeted towards the poorest countries where our aid really has an added value. Indeed, 70 per cent of EU bilateral cooperation will be allocated to least developed and other low-income countries. We are very proud that the European Union and its Member States together remain the world’s leading donor. I have given my personal backing to a robust and well-funded EU development policy because I have seen with my own eyes the transformational results that aid can bring.

The Lisbon Treaty that guides all European Union action has clearly made poverty eradication the main aim of EU development policy. It has encouraged us to continue looking outwards, even when economic difficulties have made it tempting for us to look in on ourselves. In looking outwards we have seen a changed world in which the EU’s development priorities must change as well. As a development minister in Portugal I witnessed how development cooperation can bring real difference to people’s lives. I am proud that we have made good on the pledge I announced in my opening speech at our very first EDDs in 2006 – to forge a stronger, more political partnership with Africa. This strategic partnership, too, is based on shared values, interests and objectives. It covers an array of areas, from peace and security to social and human development and economic and trade cooperation. And it strives to bring Africa and Europe closer together through stronger economic cooperation and more sustainable development. All in all, the time has therefore come for us to move on from traditional donor-recipient relationships and embrace a shared long-term vision with our partners in a globalised world.

Beyond aid

These broader, strategic partnerships will see us open up trade links and help countries lay the foundations for growth and prosperity to which all people can contribute and from which all can benefit. We want to build stronger partnerships with civil society and new players like the private sector. We are looking to help boost domestic resource mobilisation in our partner countries. And we are pursuing innovative development financing methods to get more from the development resources we put in. So aid is just part of the story. Development is not just about numbers, but also about values. As I said at the 2011 EDDs in Warsaw, good governance, human rights democracy and the rule of law are key to the European vision of development. Accordingly, the European Union has been steadfast in its support for good governance and democracy as a cornerstone of development, making it a pillar of the Agenda for Change.

Governance and democracy: vital to human development

As someone who grew up in a dictatorship I know how poor governance and lack of freedom can scar people down, stifle opportunity, choke potential. Societies that deny people their basic rights are also preventing them from creating wealth and building decent lives for themselves and their families as valuable and valued members of the community. In doing so, these societies are unwittingly sowing the seeds of their own failure.

The debates around development and governance issues have provided the European Development Days with some of their most moving testimonies and examples of their own failure. As we have learnt from these freedom leaders, building “deep democracy” is a complex task. It relies on many factors: free elections, institutional and legislative reform, a pluralistic system of parties, an independent judiciary and respect for the rule of law, fundamental freedoms and non-corrupcy, the fight against discrimination, the independence of the media, the fight against corruption, transparency and accountability. Putting these principles into practice remains a challenge for many countries. But it is a challenge that must be overcome, because to build such a system is to our poorest peoples’ needs for human realisation and growth and development. I am happy to say that we are close to achieving an ambitious external dimension of the next seven-year budget that would express a strong EU commitment on democracy and human rights.

The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights is our main tool in this area. Last week, an agreement was reached to increase its funding for 2014-2020 by 31 per cent compared to the current budget. The part of it that is dedicated to human rights and their defenders has doubled its share, from 10 per cent to 20 per cent of the program. Moreover, one of the financial instruments within EU budget to channel development aid, the Development Cooperation Instrument, will contain an ambitious external dimension of the next seven-year budget that would express a strong EU commitment on democracy and human rights.

Accordingly, with more advanced countries we are exploring more relevant, modern, mutually beneficial partnerships, so that we can focus our development priorities on those who need our help most.
Climate change and other domestic and global challenges

In Lisbon I highlighted the duty of solidarity we have towards those developing countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Climate change is clearly a major development challenge. It is seriously affecting developing countries, where the greatest adaptation challenges lie. The European Union is leading by example in combating climate change with its 20-20-20 strategy. And we are already helping 30 partner countries fight climate change through the Commission’s Global Climate Change Alliance.

I am very proud of the lead Europe has taken on climate change during the lifetime of my Commission. As I pointed out at the EDDs in 2009, we were the first to unilaterally cut our own emissions of greenhouse gases. We were also the first to promise even more substantial cuts needed to set out credible funding arrangements to help mitigation and adaptation in developing countries.

On climate change as with so many other development issues, the European Development Days have given a voice to those who are rarely heard: those who produce carbon emissions the least and yet suffer the most from the real impacts of climate change. They have included Inuit people from Canada and Greenland, whose very way of life is threatened by melting icecaps; representatives from countries such as Niger and Mali, where a lack of water and desertification make the future look difficult.

The European Union is taking wide-ranging action to provide Europeans with the kind of sustainable future we also hope to see for people in our partner countries. Through the ambitious Europe 2020 Strategy I launched a few years ago we are striving to be a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy for the 21st century. Through our Policy Coherence for Development strategy we are seeking to give vent to development aims in non-development policies. As a result we are pursuing green reforms to our common agricultural, trade and fisheries policies to name a few, to benefit consumers at home and trading partners abroad. As many EDDs speakers have said over the years, all policies must be linked.

And in our development cooperation, the Agenda for Change we introduced in 2011 to deliver higher impact and better results from our development cooperation is even now transforming for good the way in which we provide aid and fight poverty on the ground. It has truly brought our development partnerships into the 21st century.

And it will take us forward as we look to help the international community shape a new global development agenda and agree on a new global climate treaty in 2015. The various discussions in which we have engaged at various editions of the EDDs have proven prescient, not least with regards to the global debate on a post-2015 framework, in which sustainable development and poverty eradication are the key issues.

At the 2017 EDDs we cast a critical eye over the state of progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. This helped spawn the EU’s billion euro MDG Initiative, through which we have been working with more than 30 countries to make progress on the most off-track MDGs, including maternal health and access to water and sanitation. It also foregrounded the 2013 UN event on progress towards the MDGs and the global discussions on the post-2015 framework, in which the EU has played a leading role, advocating a framework that puts the world on track towards poverty eradication and sustainable development.

We are confident that a limited and ambitious set of new goals and targets, for every country in the world, is the right way forward, both to eradicate poverty and to boost sustainable development. These goals should establish a floor under which no man, woman or child should fall by 2030. They should address not only quantitative targets, but also qualitative ones such as standards in education, nutrition, access to clean water and air.

We strongly believe that in a post-2015 era, poverty eradication and sustainable development cannot be considered as two separate things. They are really two sides of the same coin - poverty cannot be eradicated if we do not tackle the challenges posed by global environmental degradation at the same time. For this reason, I decided that the work towards a post-2015 agenda should be co-led by the Commission’s environment and development cooperation services. It is an exciting challenge to set, that our Member States have followed.

The EDDs shape development ideas

I am immensely proud of the work the European Union is doing. It has had to keep pace with a world in constant flux, an evolving development landscape and shifts in our relationships with various countries and organisations. Throughout these changing times, the European Development Days have been a reassuring and reliable constant. I am immensely proud of this wonderful project which, since Louis Michel and I conceived it, has grown into a truly global forum on which the world’s most prominent leaders and thinkers from the worlds of politics, NGOs, civil society and business converge every year to exchange experiences and develop new ideas and undertakings that matter to them and to the people worldwide who most need our help. I am grateful to all leaders from Member States and partner countries who have accepted my invitation to contribute to our forum.

And yet the EDDs are so much more than a talking shop. They are a true partnership in which everyone has a voice. They have fed into initiatives that have helped change the development landscape and brought us together around global development challenges in a global development partnership that will take us ever closer towards our shared aim of a poverty-free, sustainable world in which everyone has the same chance at a decent life. A world in which we can continue to ensure that solidarity, freedom and fairness are not a pipe dream but a living reality for each and every one of us.
Innovative ideas can have a lasting impact on the way the development community works, opening people up to new realities and new ways of understanding challenges. Aimed at anticipating future trends, European Development Days has served as a sounding board for global thought leadership.

At every level, participants, moderators and panellists from all corners of the world can participate, put forward their ideas, and examine creative solutions to shared problems. As such, the forum provides a unique networking and brainstorming platform for the development community, by inviting participants to form new relationships and share best practices.
The successive crises of the first decade of the twenty-first century have put vulnerabilities in the agriculture and energy sectors under the spotlight. More than 1.3 billion people in the world do not have access to electricity and 2.7 billion rely on traditional biomass for cooking. This is why the European Union is championing access to sustainable energy for all.

Recent and recurrent crises have affected 31 million people in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel region of Africa. Recent initiatives seek to break the vicious cycle of drought, hunger and poverty in crisis-prone areas through sustained coordination between humanitarian and development assistance.

Worldwide, the poorest are those most directly dependent on natural resources for their daily survival. The European Commission has made the protection and sustainable management of natural resources a key priority in its poverty reduction policies.

European Development Days has helped develop links between humanitarian and development communities and build consensus on how to boost the resilience of those affected by disasters.

"The first responsibility is to the people. They must be fed. You cannot govern over dead bodies."

MORGAN TSANGIRAI
President, Movement for Democratic Change, Zimbabwe

"Energy for a country is like oxygen for the human body."

JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE
President of the Republic of Tanzania

"If the food and financial crises have taught us anything, it is to expect the unexpected."

ERNEST BAI KOROMA
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

"Increased food yields do not necessarily mean a decrease in hunger; they just mean more food. Who is going to get access to that food is a different issue."

JUSTIN KILCULLEN
Director, Trócaire

"Every six seconds a child dies of malnutrition. Over 1 billion people will go to bed hungry tonight."

OTIVE IGBUZOR
Head, International Campaigns, ActionAid International

"Unless we take additional measures, hunger will remain the major global challenge – the world’s Achilles Heel."

DEMETRIS CHRISTOFIAS
President of the Republic of Cyprus

"Increased food yields do not necessarily mean a decrease in hunger; they just mean more food. Who is going to get access to that food is a different issue."

JUSTIN KILCULLEN
Director, Trócaire
Ill health is both a cause and effect of poverty. In a vicious cycle, poverty generates ill health, and poor health, in turn, brings more poverty.

As a result, the EU is taking action in healthcare as well as in other sectors such as nutrition, water and sanitation. The EU also promotes better information and education for healthier behaviour and road safety.

In the health sector, the EU supports the fight against single pandemics and is focusing on the effective strengthening of healthcare systems in partner countries.

Gender equality is essential for growth and poverty reduction, and it is key to reaching the Millennium Development Goals. However, gender inequalities are still entrenched in many cultural, social and political systems. In the developing world, women suffer disproportionately from poverty and its related ills, such as malnutrition, poor health and illiteracy.

The EU promotes internationally recognised principles such as the Millennium Development Declaration and the Beijing Platform for Action.
Just as important as health and gender equality, employment and social protection are essential pillars for the strengthening of democracy and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

People need protection against the risks and shocks that can drive them into poverty. Social protection enables people to consume, acquire assets and make investments.

Stable employment and better jobs can lift individuals and households out of poverty. Strengthening employment policies, providing efficient technical education and vocational training and improving social protection systems are high priorities at both European Union and international levels.

‘The social dimension of the economy is close to my heart because if development can support and consolidate democracy, there can be no political stability, any stability whatsoever, without social justice.’

16 October 2012

Macky Sall
President of the Republic of Senegal

‘The redistribution of wealth tends to suggest a passive approach. But as far as we are concerned, it is about empowering people to play a part in combating poverty through work. You can only redistribute what you have, so we need to create work.’

16 October 2012

Armando Guebuza
President of the Republic of Mozambique

‘We need to see more innovation in the relationship between governments and the private sector.’

22 October 2009

Mary Robinson
Former President of Ireland
President, Ethical Globalization Initiative
Vice-President, Club of Madrid

‘Inequality is not just morally repugnant; it is bad for social and economic progress.’

27 November 2013

Winnie Byanyima
Executive Director, Oxfam International

‘Poverty eradication must remain our greatest priority in the coming years. Direct focus has to be placed on the working poor and underemployment. We must ensure that governments develop social protection frameworks to combat the various dimensions of poverty and inequality.’

26 November 2013

Portia Simpson Miller
Prime Minister of Jamaica

‘Find how you can do things in a business way, not for making personal money but to solve problems in a sustainable way. That’s what we call social business.’

24 October 2009

Muhammad Yunus
2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Founding Managing Director, Grameen Bank

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Human rights, democracy and other key elements of good governance are a top priority for cooperation between the European Union and its partner countries worldwide. They are integral to effective work on poverty alleviation and conflict prevention and resolution, not to mention valuable bulwarks against terrorism.

Poverty reduction cannot be achieved without a government able to serve the public interest effectively by being accountable to its citizens and respecting the rule of law. The European Union’s approach to governance takes into account its political, economic, social, cultural and environmental dimensions.

European Development Days has been a regular opportunity to reaffirm the contribution made by public freedoms and democracy to a prosperous and equitable economy. The forum has also given a platform to freedom fighters from around the world.

‘Democracy shall not be sustainable without accountability.’
15 December 2011
LECH WALESKA
1983 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Former President of Poland,
Founder, Solidarnosc

‘Democracy requires more than elections, it also requires institutions.’
23 October 2009
AMR MOUSSA
Secretary-General, League of Arab States

‘People need institutions and institutions need democratic procedures. Parliament is the most important institution in every democratic system.’
25 October 2009
JERZY BUZEK
President of the European Parliament

‘The kind of judicial system needed in Mauritania is one that is independent of power and corruption, free from the influence of individuals and interest groups, and feared and respected by society for its integrity.’
17 November 2006
AMADOU TOUMANI TOURE
President of the Republic of Mali

ELY MOHAMMED VALL
President of the Republic of Mauritania

‘It is a triumph for democracy that the current legislature is [...] the most difficult the government has ever had to face.’
23 October 2009
JERZY BUZEK
President of the European Parliament

‘The challenge remains to strengthen political party capacity and political culture. The EU should do an assessment of how to effectively support political capacity building.’
16 December 2011
MOHAMMED OUZZINE
Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Morocco

‘You can only have effective democracy when the institutions are strong.’
15 December 2011
GARY CONILLE
Prime Minister of Haiti

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‘You can only have effective democracy when the institutions are strong.’
‘We have the longest experience of democracy in Asia, but the majority of people live in grinding poverty. It is time to demonstrate that poverty is not a function of democracy.’
17 November 2006
JEJOMAR BINAY
Vice-President of the Republic of the Philippines

‘Democracy that is imposed from outside implies that the new government is ultimately accountable to the external source of change. Accountability to external forces rather than citizens would be contrary to the central tenets of democracy.’
17 November 2006
MELES ZENAWI
Prime Minister of Ethiopia

‘The shift in the development discourse confirms that good governance can only come from within, with the partners from the outside encouraging home-grown processes.’
17 November 2006
PAUL KAGAME
President of the Republic of Rwanda

‘The question about when to introduce democracy to a country is paternalistic. We need to empower people so they can do it themselves.’
15 December 2011
HEIDI HAUTALA
Minister for International Development, Finland

‘Democracy cannot survive without development. Democracy needs roads, it needs schools, it needs hospitals, it needs jobs, it needs prosperity.’
15 November 2006
MARK MALLOCH BROWN
United Nations Deputy Secretary-General

‘In the long run, neither policy reforms nor investment in infrastructure nor human development by themselves will deliver results without transparent and accountable government.’
20 November 2006
PAUL WOLFOWITZ
President of the World Bank Group

‘Without accountability, human rights, and democracy in recipient countries, taxpayers in donor countries will not support development aid.’
23 October 2009
GUNILLA CARLSSON
Minister for International Development Cooperation, Sweden
’If one wants to promote
good governance and democracy,
one needs people that are able
to access the information
that enables them to do that.’

ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF
2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
President of the Republic of Liberia

’Nothing in the 21st century
is more fragile
than a dictatorship.’

MIKHIEL SAAKASHVILI
President of the Republic of Georgia

’If the world changes,
it is because citizens
are engaged and aware.’

EVA JOLY
Chair, Committee on Development,
European Parliament

’We will ultimately fail,
if we do nothing
to stop the tide of corruption.’

AKERE MUNA
Vice-Chair, International Board of Directors,
Transparency International

’There is no doubt that free media
and civil society enhances
accountability and transparency.’

ABASALOM THEMBA Dlamini
Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Swaziland

’We have changed our country
to parliamentary democracy.
We have, however, a scarcity of political information.
We need to learn [...] about the development
of political parties, NGOs, mass media, etc.’

ROZA ISAKOVA OTUNBAeva
Former President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan

’Unless citizens insist
that promises are kept,
politicians feel very lonely.’

HUGUETTE LABELLE
Chair, Board of Directors,
Transparency International

’You need three things to keep
public–private partnerships
operational and efficient:
strong and capable local government;
a responsible private sector [...] and a vibrant civil society.
Everyone knows it’s dangerous to leave
government and business alone in a room.’

DAVID MELUA
Secretary General, National Association of Local
Authorities, Georgia
No sustainable development is possible in a country threatened by internal insecurity, crisis and conflicts. At the same time, there cannot be sustainable peace without development. Moreover, insecurity, crisis and conflicts can impede the efficient use of aid. Peace and security are now widely understood as prerequisites for development progress.

In Europe and other developed countries, we take it for granted that the state will be there to ensure our security, uphold the rule of law, and provide us with a whole range of services, from collecting rubbish and building roads to providing education and social security. But there are places in the world where the state cannot or does not manage to perform its core tasks.

Tackling the causes of conflict and fragility has become a priority of the international community as it looks to develop a new framework for a post-2015 — and increasingly interconnected — world. European Development Days has pioneered debates on development solutions to security threats including piracy, drug trafficking or terrorism.

‘There is no way in which we are going to be able to win wars against terror as long as there are conditions in so many parts of the world that make people feel desperate.’

DESMOND TUTU
1984 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town

‘Burundi has learned lessons from its history and is convinced that dialogue and co-operation are the only paths to democracy, reconciliation, and lasting peace.’

PIERRE Nkurunziza
President of the Republic of Burundi

‘Good governance is the most effective way to ensure our development, restore our stability, and prevent our country from plunging into chaos and violence.’

AHMAD KABBAH
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

‘There is no sustainable development possible in a country threatened by internal insecurity, crisis and conflicts. At the same time, there cannot be sustainable peace without development. Moreover, insecurity, crisis and conflicts can impede the efficient use of aid. Peace and security are now widely understood as prerequisites for development progress.

Hungry billions are not only a moral disgrace. Underdevelopment is a global problem threatening us all.’

KAREL DE GUCHT
European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid

‘Many countries spiral in and out of conflict so we need to address today’s disputes and injustices.’

NANCY LINDBORG
Assistant Administrator, United States Agency for International Development

‘We must rebuild capable states that [...] can defend their sovereignty without threatening the stability of their partners; states where power is exercised not to the benefit of the few, but to meet the aspirations of the entire population.’

GUY VERHOESTAD
Prime Minister of Belgium
Climate change is the greatest challenge to our planet and it threatens to undo years of progress in development. With extreme weather events on the increase, Europe is going ahead with its unconditional commitment to cut greenhouse gases emissions by 20% below 1990 levels, while the 2020 Strategy for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth also demonstrates the role of tackling climate change in creating jobs and boosting energy security.

Furthermore, ensuring access to renewable energy sources and clean technologies, the protection of forest and biodiversity, and fighting desertification will remain core elements of the European Union’s development assistance towards a sustainable, climate resilient, low emission development path.

European Development Days has been an occasion both to reiterate the position of the European Union on climate change, and to give voice to the leaders of nations whose most vulnerable are bearing the costs of inaction.

‘You will not have the development and growth you want to see in the 21st century unless you fight climate change.’
27 November 2013
CONNIE HEEDEGAARD
EU Commissioner for Climate Action

‘While the economic crisis is a crisis of a generation, climate change is a once-in-a-millennium crisis.’
24 October 2009
CARL BILDT
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

‘In Africa, where economies are based largely on agriculture, climate change has brought about profound changes in agricultural systems, sparking serious failures in food safety and therefore dramatic population movements in search of better conditions life.’
7 November 2007
JOSE SOCRATES
Prime Minister of Portugal

‘Countries in Africa are simultaneously experiencing draughts and floods. If solutions are not found, destabilising migration will continue.’
7 November 2007
MARIA MUTAGAMBA
Minister of Water and Environment, Uganda

‘When our endangered planet sinks as a result of climate change, we will all go under. There will be no distinction between developed and developing countries. [...] We must hold each other’s hands and work together.’
24 October 2009
RAILA ODININGA
Prime Minister of Kenya

‘Failing to address climate change will produce instability around the world. A large number of failed states will emerge – an outcome the world cannot accept and must prevent.’
22 October 2009
RAJENDRA K. PACHAURI
Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

‘You will not have the development and growth you want to see in the 21st century unless you fight climate change.’
27 November 2013
CONNIE HEEDEGAARD
EU Commissioner for Climate Action
‘Micronesia is on the verge of drowning. Climate change threatens our very existence. The small island states cannot address climate change alone.’
24 October 2009
EMANUEL MANNY MORI
President of the Federated States of Micronesia

‘The Maldives will raise the issue of the human dimension of climate change—that environmental protection is a fundamental human right.’
7 November 2007
MAUMOON ABDUL GAYOOM
President of the Republic of The Maldives

‘We cannot meet the challenges of climate change alone. […] We need funding that is timely and accessible.’
22 October 2009
EDWARD NATAPEI
Prime Minister of Vanuatu

‘Time is of supreme importance in facing climate change. Delay would only increase the cost of adaptation and mitigation.’
24 October 2009
SHEIKH HASINA
Prime Minister of Bangladesh

‘Because of the global nature of the problem, people can no longer leave climate change to nation-state governments that seek to protect national interests only, but must assert themselves as citizens of the planet. Individuals and civil society must take responsibility. We must look at our own carbon footprints.’
7 November 2007
SALEMUL HUQ
Director, International Institute for Environment and Development

‘New technologies and clean energy will result in new jobs, new inventions and other complementary production techniques that will lead to greater prosperity. This may be difficult to measure, but do not underestimate the optimistic upside of all of this.’
7 November 2007
KEMAL DERVIS
Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

‘It would be very irresponsible for our generation not to act.’
22 October 2009
MARIO MOLINA
1995 Nobel Chemistry Prize Laureate Founder, Centro Molina

‘The shift towards a global low-carbon society throws up huge economic opportunities.’
24 October 2009
MARGOT WALLSTROM
Vice-President, European Commission
To accelerate progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the European Union also considers how non-aid policies can assist developing countries in eradicating poverty.

Since the European Consensus on Development was agreed in 2005 and even more so since the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty in 2009, the European Union is compelled to minimise contradictions from and to seek synergies with its domestic policies when they have an impact on developing countries.

Policy coherence for development has become an overarching objective of the European Union.

European Development Days has hosted discussions on each of the reports assessing progress in the field of policy coherence in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013.

On trade, the forum has led debates on how to ensure a development-friendly and sustainable outcome for the Doha Development Agenda and the Economic Partnership Agreements with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP).

‘Current consumption patterns are not sustainable, but who is ready to get out of the comfort zone?’
08 November 2007
ANNA TIBAJUKA
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)

‘We are living in danger of the consequences of a climate change that we did not cause. These problems are the direct consequence of the lifestyle of the developed world. Paradoxically, we are being called on to imitate the lifestyle of production and consumption prevalent in developed countries.’
22 October 2009
ABDOU Diouf
Secretary-General, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie

‘It is not enough to concentrate all our efforts in the producer counties. People who benefit from proceeds of conflict diamonds are also party to the violation of human rights.’
17 November 2006
FESTUS MUGABE
President of the Republic of Botswana

‘The process of reform is particularly challenging in countries like mine that are exposed to the escalating energy vulnerabilities of being a small island state. In this transition period, we look towards aid for trade as vital to enabling us to graduate from preference-dependent economies to fully competitive ones.’
15 November 2006
NAVINCHANDRA RAMGOOLAM
Prime Minister of Mauritius

‘With regard to market access, most African exports already enter the EU market at zero tariff duty. We are not asking the same of the African regions but we are supporting the creation of regional markets through elimination of intra-regional tariff barriers.’
15 November 2006
PETER MANDELSOHN
European Commissioner for External Trade

‘I urge the EU, please do not have trade relations or conduct shameful trade deals with non-democratic countries, as this does nothing but help these evil regimes to further suppress their people.’
15 December 2011
SHIRIN EBADI
2003 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Founding President, Centre for the Defence of Human Rights

‘In engaging with our partners, we call for [...] economic partnerships and trade agreements that do not undermine Africa’s quest for integration and industrialisation.’
26 November 2013
NKOSAZANA Dlamini-Zuma
Chairperson, Commission of the African Union

‘It is not enough to concentrate all our efforts in the producer counties. People who benefit from proceeds of conflict diamonds are also party to the violation of human rights.’
17 November 2006
FESTUS MUGABE
President of the Republic of Botswana

‘We are living in danger of the consequences of a climate change that we did not cause. These problems are the direct consequence of the lifestyle of the developed world. Paradoxically, we are being called on to imitate the lifestyle of production and consumption prevalent in developed countries.’
22 October 2009
ABDOU Diouf
Secretary-General, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie

‘The process of reform is particularly challenging in countries like mine that are exposed to the escalating energy vulnerabilities of being a small island state. In this transition period, we look towards aid for trade as vital to enabling us to graduate from preference-dependent economies to fully competitive ones.’
15 November 2006
NAVINCHANDRA RAMGOOLAM
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The European Union as a whole is the most generous donor of official development aid worldwide. In 2010, it provided over EUR 53 billion – more than 50% of global aid. The European Commission is responsible for the management of EUR 11 billion of aid per year, putting it in second place among donors globally.

Increasing the effectiveness of aid means ensuring that aid helps developing countries to improve the welfare of their poorest populations. For this reason, aid must be genuinely focused on development priorities set by these countries.

Developing countries bear the primary responsibility for their own development, but the EU accepts its share of responsibility and accountability for the joint efforts undertaken in partnership.

International cooperation is also a constantly expanding and evolving field, and new actors are emerging. Future EU development aid spending will target countries that are in greatest need of external support and where it can really make a difference, including fragile states.

‘The relationship between Africa and the EU has evolved from cooperation to a strategic partnership based on an equal relationship and an inclusive process.’

25 October 2009

ALPHA OUMAR KONARÉ
Former Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union

‘Development is the state’s responsibility. We need strong leadership and ownership.’

7 December 2010

MAHAY KUMAR NEPAL
Prime Minister of Nepal

‘Co-operation is often marked by friendships, and even complicity, but also by questioning when the circumstances demand – and that also is friendship.’

17 November 2006

FRANÇOIS BOZIZÉ
President of the Central African Republic

‘The bleak situation we see today is due to insufficient involvement of Africans themselves, as well as payment procedures that are too long and complex and often incompatible with the urgency of the problems being addressed.’

17 November 2006

MAMADOU TANJIA
President of the Republic of Niger

‘It is up to Africans, African leaders first and foremost, to achieve development in Africa. Nevertheless, in order to achieve development, Africa requires strong partnerships.’

26 November 2013

JOSÉ MARIA PEREIRA NEVES
Prime Minister of Cape Verde

‘Increasing the effectiveness of aid means ensuring that aid helps developing countries to improve the welfare of their poorest populations. For this reason, aid must be genuinely focused on development priorities set by these countries.’

4 December 2013

ALPHA OUMAR KONARÉ
Former Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union

‘International cooperation is also a constantly expanding and evolving field, and new actors are emerging. Future EU development aid spending will target countries that are in greatest need of external support and where it can really make a difference, including fragile states.’

14 December 2013

ALPHA OUMAR KONARÉ
Former Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union
‘We are in a new global landscape, with mass communication, migration and urbanisation, and youth unemployment. So we must involve everybody. No one can do everything, but everyone can do something.’

27 November 2013

JAN ELIASSON
Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

‘South-South versus North-South cooperation is not an either-or option. South-South cooperation is an addition to traditional North-South cooperation, capable of bringing added value to international partnerships.’

15 December 2011

MOHAMED IBN CHAMBAS
Secretary-General, Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States

‘In a constantly changing world, [...] Europe must also evolve in its approach and maintain its rightful place by our side in a spirit of solidarity.’

17 October 2012

ALI BONGO ODIMBA
President of the Republic of Gabon

‘It is important to understand that the crisis the world is in is not simply a financial crisis. It is an economic crisis, as well as a food, water, migration, security and resource crisis. We have a multi-polar crisis that cannot be resolved until all stakeholders are around the table.’

16 November 2008

DONALD KABERUKA
President, African Development Bank

‘Poland has been a beneficiary of aid. [...] Today we are an active donor. [...] We are always ready to share our experience and counsel.’

15 December 2011

BRONISLAW KOMOROWSKI
President of the Republic of Poland

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17 October 2012

ALI BONGO ODIMBA
President of the Republic of Gabon
The commitment to effective multilateralism, with the United Nations at its core, is a central element of the European Union’s external policy. This commitment is rooted in the conviction that to be able to respond to global crises, challenges and threats, the international community needs an efficient multilateral system, founded on universal rules and values.

European Development Days has been a landmark on the international calendar, providing a sounding board for world leaders to address our planet’s most challenging issues – including the response to the food, energy, climate and economic crises or the reshaping of the institutional set up of global governance.

‘If we are prepared to delegate powers to the market, why not delegate a little of our sovereignty to global governance?’
9 November 2007
VALENTINE SENDANYOYE RUGWABIZA
Deputy Director-General, World Trade Organization

‘In a global world, good governance cannot be confined to national action.’
17 November 2006
BLAISE COMPAORÉ
President of the Republic of Burkina Faso

‘The United Nations model where only Member States talk to Member States without including the private sector is no longer the model we need in the 21st century.’
16 November 2008
MICHEL KAZATCHKINE
Executive Director, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

‘This is not 1944, but 2008. I don’t know how many the G-whatever will add up to, but I do know that it will be a much bigger G [...] with the voice of Africa.’
16 November 2008
WANGARI MAATHAI
2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Founder, Green Belt Movement

‘When developing answers to a crisis that has become global, there is a need for global solutions. So everyone has to take part in finding solutions. When the Bretton Woods system was set up in 1945, we were colonies. We were not there. Today we are. And we think that the others must not act as if we were not there, as if we were still colonies.’
16 November 2008
JEAN PING
Chairperson, Commission of the African Union

‘This is not 1944, but 2008. I don’t know how many the G-whatever will add up to, but I do know that it will be a much bigger G [...] with the voice of Africa.’
16 November 2008
WANGARI MAATHAI
2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Founder, Green Belt Movement

‘We need to look at the participation of African leaders at international meetings. You can’t talk about Africa in the UN, the International Monetary Fund or the World Bank without Africa being present.’
17 December 2012
JOYCE BANDA
President of the Republic of Malawi
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Editions

Organised by the European Commission, European Development Days is Europe’s premier forum on international affairs and development cooperation. Over the years, it has been one of the fastest-growing international forums and has become a landmark fixture in the development calendar.

Launched in 2006, its scope and scale have increased year-on-year, as links with new networks are made, relationships with new partners forged, and new platforms created. Each year, the forum has brought together thousands of stakeholders for discussions, meetings, best practice exchanges and networking opportunities.
15 November 2006: From the start, European Development Days has attracted influential leaders from around the world. Eight Heads of State and government came together for the first-day high-level sessions with European Commission President José Manuel Barroso, Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt and World Bank Group President.
In the eyes of the EU, good governance is an imperative – applying both to partner countries and donors alike. Good governance involves participatory, transparent and accountable leadership. It is also effective and equitable whilst promoting the rule of law.

In 10 roundtables, participants discussed the full range of governance challenges, including: the fight against corruption, the voice of civil society, the role of the media, building a culture of democracy, social rights, the protection of vulnerable groups, the rehabilitation of the state, migration, natural resource management and new paradigms shaping cooperation. Another roundtable brought together six former African presidents who shared their views on how to transfer power peacefully.

In the final plenary session, 16 African leaders including Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and Rwandan President Paul Kagame, presented their strategies to improve governance in their countries. They agreed on the importance of engaging civil society, ensuring sustainable growth and providing equitable benefits for citizens.

Theme

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“Today, we are starting to cooperate as partners and neighbours. This is where our shared future lies: in a new strategic alliance between the European Union and Africa.”

15 November 2006

JOSÉ MANUEL BARROSO
President of the European Commission

Outcome

The first edition produced two important outcomes.

First, it demonstrated to Europeans the need for an annual gathering of development actors to discuss major issues in international cooperation in an open, multi-stakeholder format. It reinforced the principles of the European Consensus on Development (2005) and illustrated a shared desire for greater aid effectiveness. The diversity of the forum allowed participants to address contemporary challenges without the paternalism and distrust that has stalled progress in the past.

Second, the partnership that developed between Europe and Africa became a great source of satisfaction and pride. It showed mutual readiness to embark on a more constructive and balanced partnership based on open and frank dialogue. In that spirit, as European Commission President José Manuel Barroso explained, EDD06 paved the way for the 2007 EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon, Portugal. This gathering had not taken place since its first edition in Cairo, Egypt in 2000.

“You triumphed because you invested in democracy, freedom and peace because development and prosperity require peace and good governance. You showed near-zero tolerance of corruption. You upheld the fundamental rights of all, the freedom of expression, of association, the freedom of movement. You helped to establish the rule of law. You had accountable and transparent governance. A vibrant and free press. And you had an engaged and lively civil society, vigilant watchdogs; for they say the price of freedom is eternal vigilance.”

17 November 2006

DESMOND TUTU
1984 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town

The 1984 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu delivered an eloquent closing address that became one of the most memorable moments of EDD06. His words still resonate in the hearts and minds of those who attended, and his message struck a chord: Africans themselves need to drive the change they are seeking. Change must come from within. The Archbishop presented two powerful arguments.

First, he reminded participants that Africa has a long, but little understood democratic tradition. Many African societies have been consensus-driven: ‘In African traditional governance the good ruler was one who sat with his council, for it was a participatory system. He sat and listened. And the good ruler was he who, at the end, would then be able to sum it all up in the consensus of his community. It is a gross untruth to suggest that democracy is alien to Africa. After reminding Africans of their great historical figures, their successes and progress, Tutu invited the continent to move forward with confidence and in a spirit of solidarity.

Second, he emphasised the legacy of Ubuntu, a southern African philosophy. ‘The gift we can give the world is our concept of Ubuntu, where you say, “My humanity is bound up in your humanity. I need you in order for me to be me. I need you to be you.” Ubuntu teaches that you cannot enjoy your prosperity on your own. The only way we will ever be safe and secure is together. The only way we can hope to be prosperous, ultimately, is together.’

‘It is not the impossible that brings despair, but the possible unattained.’

THOMAS YAYI BONI
President of the Republic of Benin

Memorable

The 17 November 2006. Tutu’s oratory talent prompted a spectrum of emotion amongst participants, from tears to laughter.
7 November 2007. Commission President José Manuel Barroso arrives at Lisbon's Faria International at the Parque das Nações with former Secretary-General of the United Nations Kofi Annan, Prime Minister of Portugal José Socrates and the President of the Maldives Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, on the left.
Climate change is a matter of life and death for many populations in developing countries. The world’s poor will be hit hardest by global warming, yet ironically they emit the least greenhouse gases. Most – if not all – development efforts over the past 50 years are at risk of being washed away if the rise in average temperatures cannot be held in check. In 2007, the figures were already of grave concern: 40% of coral reefs had disappeared and 1% of tropical forests were being destroyed annually. In the next decade, it was estimated that crop yields could drop by 50%. Reports of floods, hurricanes, fires, heat waves, droughts throughout the world have hit headlines with alarming regularity.

Structured around four roundtables and two high-level panels, participants at EDD07 discussed the need for stronger partnerships among actors. They discussed the importance of addressing vulnerability and adaptation, growth and mitigation, poverty and urbanisation, as well as the preservation of global public goods. Participants agreed that world leaders must be compelled to act sooner rather than later in the face of the immediate and irreversible consequences at stake.

The Maldives will raise the issue of the human dimension of climate change – that environmental protection is a fundamental human right.”
‘We are all bound together as human beings. If we remain indifferent to the suffering of others, we are only depriving ourselves of our own humanity. We need to act together as humanity, for humanity. And now is the time.’

The consensus was that while acting now may be costly, the cost of inaction is far greater. ‘For far too long we have considered climate change as a problem for the future. But we must remember that climate change is an all-encompassing threat. It is not an issue of rich versus poor, of north versus south. It’s a global issue and we are seeing its effects everywhere,’ said Kofi Annan, President of the Global Humanitarian Forum on 7 November 2007. In response to the former Secretary-General’s call, EDD07 heralded a process where the EU and developing countries work together against climate change in a strong political partnership that also advances the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

During the forum, the European Commission highlighted its most recent initiative, the Global Climate Change Alliance, which provides technical expertise to the world’s poorest countries to integrate their national development and climate change strategies. The Alliance has been supporting measures to reduce emissions from deforestation, take advantage of the global carbon market and help developing countries to better prepare for natural disasters. The Commission has also supported partner countries in routinely applying prevention, adaptation and mitigation policies.

The European Union brought to the forum two decades of leadership on climate change and five decades of development cooperation experience to the discussion. Europe had already taken the lead on climate change by setting a target to reduce EU greenhouse emissions by at least 20% by 2020, with an increase to 30% if global agreement could be found. The EU has consistently pushed the plight of developing countries, recognising that the poorest countries are often the hardest hit. The EU also designated the environment as a priority theme in the EUR 22 billion European Development Fund, which closed in 2013.

‘Climate change is the greatest challenge of our generation. Developed countries have a special responsibility to take the lead in cutting emissions and pushing a comprehensive, global agreement on future climate action, in the UN framework. [...] We are determined to help developing countries to face the impact of climate change on the environment and on human and social development.’

7 November 2007
José Manuel Barroso
President of the European Commission

Outcome

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Partnership

EDD07 helped foster closer ties between the EU and its Portuguese-speaking partner countries, opening up opportunities for cooperation on development. The European Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with both the African Countries of Portuguese Official Language (PALOP) and the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP). These groupings include countries that are not geographical neighbours but nonetheless have strong cultural links: Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Timor-Leste. The MoUs were expected to strengthen mutual cooperation, including the sharing of human resources in the health sector, education, trade, investment, justice and employment.

Report

In addition to climate change, EDD07 addressed policy coherence for development and advanced partnerships with Portuguese-speaking countries. The first progress report on the coherence of European domestic policies with its development objectives was published in 2007 and widely debated at EDD07. The European Consensus on Development detailed the EU’s commitment towards policy coherence in December 2005. Acknowledging that some of its policies could have a significant impact outside the EU – either contributing to or undermining its development policy – the Consensus sought to minimise contradictions and build synergies among policies. In 2005, the EU agreed to apply the policy coherence for development approach in 12 policy areas, aimed at accelerating progress towards the MDGs for development.

‘Policy coherence for development is a dimension of EU development policy that will continue to gain considerable momentum in the years to come. It will greatly contribute to increasing the impact of our aid.’

8 November 2007

LOUIS MICHEL
European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid

Louis Michel, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, made an opening statement at the launch of the first progress report on policy coherence for development.
15 November 2008. 2 500 delegates attended the opening ceremony of the third edition of the European Development Days which featured President of Burkina Faso Blaise Compaore, President of Mali Amadou Toumani Touré, Marc Ravalomanana, President of Madagascar, Secretary General of the Organisation internationale de la francophonie Abdou Diouf and President of the Commission of the African Union Jean Ping.

In parallel with the G-20 Summit, EDD08 gathered six heads of state and government, 40 ministers and 300 elected local leaders. It also included internationally known figures Wangari Maathai, 2004 Nobel Peace Prize laureate; Morgan Tsvangirai, leader of Zimbabwe’s Movement for Democratic Change; Angélique Kidjo, singer and activist from Benin; and Aminata Traoré, Malian essayist and activist.

EDD08 was an occasion to address urgent poverty challenges in light of the food, financial and energy crises at the time. It also highlighted the importance of local action when responding to global challenges as demonstrated by the EU’s new partnerships with local and regional authorities in developing countries.

**Theme**

EDD08 took place at the halfway point of the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals. Participants stressed throughout the forum the importance of local action to meet the MDGs. This core theme drew much-needed attention to issues of local governance, decentralised cooperation and the role of the local authorities and civil society in development. Nearly 40 sessions, including workshops, panels and other events, were held with a multi-stakeholder approach.

The message was one of cohesion: meeting the MDGs hinges on the involvement of every level of society. EDD08 called for a greater role for Europe’s local authorities in development action and showed how they too could contribute to governance, democracy, access to essential services – including education and health – and adaptation to climate change.

This focus on the local level was a natural next step for the EU. Earlier in 2008, the Communication, ‘Local Authorities: Actors for Development’ put forward a series of measures recognising the role of local authorities and decentralised cooperation. In 2007, the European Commission began financing development cooperation projects implemented by local and regional authorities through its ‘Non-State Actors – Local Authorities’ programme.

4 500 participants  
129 countries  
100 speakers  
50 bilaterals  
40 sessions  
115 exhibitors

15 November 2008, Bernard Kouchner, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, took part in the opening ceremony of the third edition of the forum on behalf of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union. He spoke eloquently about engagement for a better future.

‘The future is in the hands of the unfaltering union of those who have the boldness to believe.’
Outcome

EDD08 also sought to provide practical solutions for the one billion people suffering from hunger worldwide. This situation was compounded by strong variability in seed and fertilizer prices. EU Member States used the 2008 forum to discuss a rapid response facility to help farmers in developing countries, which they later formalised with a pledge of EUR 1 billion. This funding aimed to increase agricultural production, improve access to agricultural inputs and services, and satisfy the basic food needs of some of the world’s most vulnerable people.

EDD08 stressed that local authorities should adhere to the same principles as the international donor community, including those of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005) that had recently been updated in Accra, Ghana (2008).

The European Development Cooperation Charter in Support of Local Governance was presented on 16 November 2008. Initiated by the French Presidency of the EU and United Cities France, and supported by the European Commission, the Charter established standards to improve the effectiveness of local-level cooperation in partner countries, seeking coherence with existing international initiatives. It recognised the commitments of the Paris Declaration, confirming the support of signatories for decentralisation, de-concentration, local democratic governance and support for local authorities.

Platforma – an initiative to facilitate dialogue between the European institutions responsible for development policies and local and regional authorities – was also launched at EDD08. Aimed at further capitalising on the expertise of local authorities and ensuring better cooperation, EDD08 also paved the way for the Assises of Decentralised Cooperation, a bi-annual gathering of local and regional authorities led by the Committee of the Regions. Its first edition took place in December 2009.

“The Millennium Development Goals will never be achieved without the participation and active contribution of regional and local authorities.”

16 November 2008.

LUC VAN DEN BRANDE
President of the Committee of the Regions

Once the new government is formed, we will get the business community together to invest in Zimbabwe. [...] There are a number of different areas where we can invest, whether it’s mobile phones, financial services, or the airline industry. We will sit down with the new government and work out how we can help.

17 November 2008. A joint press conference held by Morgan Tsvangirai, leader of the Zimbabwean opposition, and Richard Branson, founder and chairman of Virgin Group, was particularly memorable.
In parallel with the policy debates, three important ceremonies took place in Strasbourg. On 15 November 2008, the European Commission signed regional strategy agreements with five African, Caribbean and Pacific regions. It signalled the attention the European Union would pay to regional integration within these countries. The budget of the regional strategies under the 12th EDF – covering the period 2008-2013 – totalled EUR 1.6 billion. The European Development Fund (EDF) is the main financial instrument for the EU’s geographic cooperation with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. Funded by EU Member States’ voluntary contributions, it is an additional resource to the regular Community budget.

On the same day, the Commission awarded the 2008 Lorenzo Natali Grand Prize to Beninese journalist Larisse Houssou for his article on violence in Darfur, Sudan. The award celebrates the work of journalists committed to human rights, democracy and development.

On 16 November 2008, over 100 twinning agreements were signed at EDD08 that have enabled greater cooperation between EU public administrations and partner countries. European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid Louis Michel said: ‘A large number of European regional and local authorities have already launched development projects with local authorities in developing countries. The results of these experiments are impressive. For a small financial investment, we see proportionally big rewards. We need many more such initiatives.’


'We’re not only trying to improve the quality of life for people in the developing world, we’re also trying to improve the quality of life for people in our own countries. And I think that’s something that we need to do.'
24 October 2009. EDD09 served as a sounding board for leaders whose countries are already affected by climate change. From left to right, Ernest Bai Koroma, President of Sierra Leone; Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh; Raila Odinga, Prime Minister of Kenya; and Michele Pierre-Louis, Prime Minister of Haiti called for urgent action against the impacts of climate change.
After editions in Brussels, Lisbon and Strasbourg, European Development Days 2009 (EDD09) came to Stockholm. Held on 22-24 October, EDD09 was the flagship event of the Swedish Presidency of the European Union, bringing together about 6 000 participants from over 130 countries. The edition also took place at a pivotal time for Europe following European parliamentary elections and ahead of major institutional changes with the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty.

EDD09 engaged the development community in debates around the most pressing challenges at the time: responding to the global economic crisis, addressing climate change and promoting democracy. These discussions fuelled the subsequent reshaping of EU development policy initiated in 2010 under the second Barroso Commission.

Theme

The dual climate and economic crises facing the international community were the theme for EDD09. Carl Bildt, Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs, said it best: ‘Our challenge is to act simultaneously on warming up a deep-frozen economy and cooling down an overheated Mother Earth.’ Given the importance of governance to solving these challenges, democracy and development was another theme.

This edition took place 50 days ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. The forum served as a sounding board for countries and communities already affected by climate change. Leaders of partner countries from Bangladesh to Burkina Faso, and from Haiti to Vanuatu shared their views and concerns with internationally renowned experts and stakeholders. The forum provided a rich opportunity to hear from leaders who were trying to forge international consensus ahead of Copenhagen, especially among developing countries.

‘We have to rediscover ourselves as human beings: are we here to make money for ourselves and to say goodbye to this world very soon? Or are we here to change this world in a way we feel proud of and we all individually play a part? All these problems that we list every time we meet don’t have to repeat, because we can solve them ourselves.’

22 October 2009, Muhammad Yunus, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and then Managing Director of the Grameen Bank, intervened in the high-level panel on the response to the global economic downturn. A great supporter of social business, he challenged the greed and exclusion in the way wealth was created.
Discussions at EDD09 stimulated the later reshaping of European development policy in 2010. In his closing remarks Karel De Gucht, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, stressed that the ongoing financial, food, climate and energy crises offered an opportunity to reshape development aid, bringing development assistance more in line with a low-carbon development strategy.

Rajendra K. Pachauri, Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, suggested that climate change called into question every growth and development model. He recommended the forum be renamed ‘European Re-development Days’, because ‘we cannot proceed on the path of development as we understand it.’ Participants had three messages for European policymakers in Stockholm.

First, effective development in partner countries requires both strong political leadership and responsive politicians. With regard to the latter, accountability can only be ensured through free media and an engaged civil society.

Second, development is not solely a matter of philanthropy. The ‘hungry billions are not only a moral disgrace’, said Commissioner De Gucht. Underdevelopment is a global problem that threatens us all. Rajendra K. Pachauri warned that failing to address climate change will produce instability around the world. A large number of failed states will emerge – an outcome the world cannot accept and must prevent.

Third, we need to shape international cooperation to better address the challenges ahead, not just in the present. This means taking a more proactive approach to trade and infrastructure, climate change, migration, global food security and energy. Pachauri cautioned against forgetting the ‘missing’ Millennium Development Goal, namely access to energy, and reminded participants of the 1.6 billion people with no access to electricity.

‘Failing to address climate change will produce instability around the world. A large number of failed states will emerge – an outcome the world cannot accept and must prevent’.

‘Poverty is linked to climate change – the most vulnerable people will be the hardest hit. This has been called our greatest challenge and it is our responsibility to meet it with determination.’

22 October 2009

FREDRIK REINFELDT
Prime Minister of Sweden
A special event was held to mark the 15th anniversary of EU election observation missions and the 10th anniversary of Sweden’s activities in this field. A session, led by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, was held with regional bodies from the Americas, Africa, Asia, and the Arab states. Participants examined how the European Union could best assist international efforts in democracy. In a prescient debate two years before the ‘Arab Spring’, the role of social media in spurring transparency, democracy and development, was explored in one panel.

EDD09 further strengthened the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) launched in 2007. The Prime Minister of Vanuatu, Edward Natapei, signed an agreement with the Commission and stressed: ‘We cannot meet the challenges of climate change alone. The GCCA is necessary and will go a long way to enable Vanuatu to meet the challenges we face. We need funding that is timely and accessible.’

The Commission awarded the 2009 Lorenzo Natali Grand Prize to the Chinese journalist Yee-Chong Lee for a TV documentary on the 2008 Sichuan earthquake that revealed the corruption and sub-standard construction of public buildings that many people blamed for the huge death toll. The award celebrates the work of journalists committed to human rights, democracy, and development.

Addressing fragility has been an increasingly important priority within the European development and security agendas. In 2009, fragility was the theme of the inaugural European Report on Development – launched at European Development Days – in which it was described as the ‘toughest development challenge of our era’.

The European Report on Development seeks to enhance the EU’s perspective on development issues on the basis of independent knowledge, excellence, innovation and better links between top academics and policymakers. It is a concrete manifestation of the EU’s commitment – as the world’s largest aid donor – to go beyond aid delivery and actively contribute to the global policy dialogue on development. The European Commission and numerous Member States support the initiative.

‘Global poverty is not acceptable. This is indeed the challenge for our civilisation. In the future, people will say, “How was it possible that in the beginning of the twenty first century, so many people accepted living with this problem of global poverty?”

22 October 2009

JOSÉ MANUEL BARROSO
President of the European Commission
6 December 2010. Participants paid tribute to jailed Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo, winner of the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize laureate for his 'long and non-violent struggle for fundamental human rights.' Zimbabwean Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai was among those in the audience who stood up and held a mask displaying the dissident’s face.
For its fifth edition, European Development Days 2010 (EDD10) returned to where it began in 2006. On 6-7 December, the European Commission organised the forum in cooperation with the Belgian Presidency of the European Union in Brussels.

EDD10 came at a decisive moment in European development policy-making, just weeks before the launch of the European External Action Service in January 2011 and following the publication of a European Commission Green Paper on increasing the impact of development policy in October 2010.

Despite the on-going economic crisis in 2010, Europe illustrated its commitment to addressing development challenges. The ratification of the Lisbon Treaty had recently created new emphasis on poverty eradication, aid effectiveness and policy coherence.

Theme

The EDD10 engaged the global development community in debates around how best to achieve ‘higher-impact’ aid, following up on the recommendations in the European Commission’s Green Paper on development policy. The stakes were high: eradicating poverty was a common priority for Europeans and developing country partners alike.

EDD10 took place during a time of intense international debate on development, less than two months after the United Nations High Level Summit on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in New York and a week after the third Africa-EU Summit in Tripoli, Libya. The EUR 1 billion MDG initiative announced by the EU in New York had provided an additional boost to achieving the goals by 2015. The summit in Libya had also instilled new energy into the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, a true partnership between continents that looks beyond aid.
Initiatives

EDD10 provided a platform for the discussion of a number of important initiatives.

Following the Cotonou Appeal against counterfeit drugs in 2009, the Chirac Foundation organised a one-day seminar on the responses to the shadowy and lethal trade in counterfeit drugs. These mislabelled or ill-produced ‘medicines’ can account for up to 30% of healthcare products in circulation in developing countries, causing pain among patients and often resulting in death.

Participants discussed the massive potential wealth that mining mineral resources could produce for Africa over the next decade, if properly managed. Corruption and lack of transparency, however, threaten these potential gains. Governments in developing countries lose billions of euros each year because of tax evasion. A group of academics sponsored by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation and led by Paul Collier, a professor of economics at the University of Oxford, launched a natural resource charter at the forum that sets conditions for the sound and sustainable management of natural resources.

In 2013, the European Union reached a deal to match a US law that compels oil, gas and mining companies to publish payments they make to governments and release information on how much they earn in each country. The EU legislation requires all companies listed on EU stock exchanges to report their payments by country and project. Large unlisted companies registered in the EU are also required to comply. The proposed EU law goes one step further than the US law, adding the forestry industry to the list of companies that need more transparency about their global operations.

‘I think European Development Days is for superior to Davos because we do serious work here.’

7 December 2010

MO IBRAHIM

Founding Chair of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation

‘With its billion inhabitants and its human resources, with its mining and energy resources, with its arable land which has not yet been exploited, Africa is in the process of becoming a giant.’

7 December 2010. Jacques Chirac, former President of France, delivered a memorable address. Faithful to his convictions, he reminded a large audience of the untapped potential of the African continent.

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The second edition of the European Report on Development examined the challenge of building social protection systems in sub-Saharan Africa and how the EU could best support home-grown African initiatives. The report stressed that social protection could help sub-Saharan Africa combat poverty by reducing its vulnerability to shocks and promoting inclusive growth.

European Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs said: ‘Social protection is often taken for granted in Europe. In fact, it has played an important historic role in eradicating poverty in Europe and, if well designed and managed, building on Africa’s own priorities and specificities, it could deliver similar success in Africa.’

The Commission awarded the 2010 Lorenzo Natali Grand Prize to the Nicaraguan journalist Yader Francisco Luna Garcia for an article on violence against women. The award celebrates the work of journalists committed to human rights, democracy and development.

Outcome
As the economic crisis was forcing nations to find cost-effective solutions in every domain, Europe’s premier development platform helped generate exchanges between those working in the field and decision-makers about the most efficient ways to help the estimated 1.4 billion people living in poverty.

EDD10 thus addressed subjects as sensitive – and broad – as the place of development in the institutional setup prescribed by the Lisbon Treaty, governance, the future of development cooperation, access to energy, sustainable and inclusive growth, global health, the management of natural resources, support to the private sector, the effectiveness of aid and human rights.

Participants agreed that two essential prerequisites for effective cooperation were partnership among stakeholders and recipient countries, and coherence between development and other policy areas such as trade and migration, as stipulated by the Lisbon Treaty, which had put renewed emphasis on poverty eradication.

Featured
The secret of this event’s success is its unique format: it combines a summit-style gathering of leaders with a forum for debate with NGOs and civil society. It is not just a forum for understanding changes that are already underway. It is also an opportunity to forge and bring about those changes.”

6 December 2010
JOSE MANUEL BARROSO
President of the European Commission

5-6 December 2011. The sixth edition of European Development Days took place in Warsaw at the recently inaugurated Copernicus Museum. An exhibition showcased prominent freedom fighters from all corners of the world. Left, we recognised Tawakkul Karman, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and social activist in Yemen. In her video address to forum participants, she said: ‘Anything that we dream can happen. We need to know that together, we have the ability to achieve our dreams.’
European Development Days 2011 (EDD11) was held in Warsaw on 15-16 December. The two-day event was one of the largest in the calendar of the Polish Presidency of the European Union.

EDD11 took place one year after the first wave of civil unrest and protest swept the Arab world, leading to unrest in Tunisia and Egypt and civil war in Libya. The forum therefore focused on the EU’s support for democratic and peaceful transitions.

EDD11 was also an opportunity to consider the Commission’s Agenda for Change made earlier in 2011 which called for greater focus on good governance and human rights, concentration on the poorest countries, and ensuring that aid reaches those who need it most.

Theme

The focus of EDD11 was the link between development and democracy. In several sessions, participants explored how Europe’s development policy could concentrate on sectors that are key for long-term and inclusive growth. Participants agreed on the need to focus aid where it can really make a difference and to target countries in greatest need of external support. Panelists agreed that the areas where Europe could help lay the foundations for sustainable and inclusive growth included governance, clean energy, and agriculture and food security.

Just two weeks before the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, South Korea, sessions addressed the call within the Agenda for Change for a more coordinated development approach at the European level and more development strategies led by partner countries. These principles of partnership and ownership are critical to aid effectiveness. Participants stressed the importance of South-South cooperation, aid effectiveness and accountability, decentralisation and strengthened local governance, democratic ownership, and the role of parliaments and civil society. The Commission also presented a new policy for direct budget support.

‘Our citizens want a Europe of solidarity – both within Europe and with all the people of the world especially, those in the least developed countries. They want efficient policies that ensure every euro is well spent. They want EU policies to be people-oriented policies. In the long term, the countries which benefit will not succeed if their policies do not empower their own people.’

5 December 2011. Jerzy Buzek, President of the European Parliament, welcomed the organisation of the forum for the first time in a so-called new EU Member State and praised the importance of solidarity towards all peoples of the world.
Outcome

Several sessions explored the call for more effective budget support to partner countries that meet eligibility requirements, as set out in the Agenda for Change. Participants discussed the principles of ‘smart conditionality’, which includes a stable macroeconomic framework; national and sector policies and reforms focusing on sustainable growth and reducing poverty; and public financial management within a sound institutional, legislative and regulatory framework. More importantly, it was agreed that more attention would be focused on a country’s record on democratic governance, particularly regarding human rights and gender. This will help move the EU from ‘aid effectiveness’ to ‘development effectiveness’.

Participants communicated three key messages clearly in Warsaw. First, the desire for freedom is not cultural, but human. Revolutions like those that began in Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and elsewhere 20 years before are now springing up in other parts of the world. Second, democratisation should begin from within partner countries. The days of interference and rule setting from donors are over. Ownership in building democracy and pursuing development goals is essential. On the other hand, partnership in sustaining the course towards democratisation is vital too. In this regard, EU Member States have their own experiences of democratic transition, as well as a proud tradition of supporting countries in their transition from autocracy to democracy. Third, human rights must be deeply rooted in the approach to development and should be given greater weight in cooperation. EDD11 highlighted the EU’s proud track record in this area. The 2006 European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights has made a considerable difference by advocating respect for human rights around the world. Participants agreed that a multidimensional approach is needed to address human rights violations by using a combination of political dialogue, sanctions, and leveraging financial and technical cooperation.

Finally, participants acknowledged that the world can prosper only in an era of partnership. No one has a monopoly on knowledge – we can all learn from each other. Developing countries are partners in an enterprise in which we all have a stake. As chairman of the Gapminder Foundation, Hans Rosling, put it in his presentation: ‘We are one world’.

15 December 2011

JOSÉ MANUEL BARROSO
President of the European Commission

‘The fundamental wish to have a dignified life for oneself and one’s children, free from poverty, violence, oppression and corruption, where all can participate in a community that is respectful of its people, that is something that all human beings have in common. There may be cultural differences, but I believe that these are the common aspirations of every human being.’

15 December 2011

José Manuel Barroso
President of the European Commission
The focus of EDD11 was the link between development and democracy. Presenters and participants alike shared about their experiences with democratic transitions from Eastern European and Central Asia to North Africa and the Middle East. Given the high-stakes involved, expert testimonies and debates were especially memorable.

Twenty years before, Central and Eastern European countries experienced dramatic transitions. In 2011, participants discussed the experience of Poland and its neighbours. They explored the transferability of its best practices in different political environments, including Arab countries. They examined the lessons learnt in the context of the 20th anniversary of independence for the countries of Central Asia. EDD11 gave the floor to a number of eminent leaders, including former President of the Kyrgyz Republic Roza Isakovna Otunbaeva, who showed how tyranny could not withstand the aspirations for democracy and a life of opportunity, especially among youth. Her speech was a timely reminder that the road to democracy can be a long and bumpy one.

One year after the protests in Tunisia led to what would become known as the Arab Spring, several high-level representatives from North Africa and the Middle East shared their vision at EDD11. Tunisia’s interim Prime Minister Mohammed Beji Caid Essebsi spoke of his country’s ongoing transition to democracy, which began when 26-year-old Mohammed Bouazizi, stripped of the most basic human desire to provide for his family, set himself on fire. Through his tragic sacrifice, millions of his fellow Tunisians – and people throughout the wider region – can now aspire to the brighter future he once sought for himself. In 2011, Tunisia was embracing a democratic future, and seeking Europe’s support to do so.

Mustafa Mohammed Abdul Jalil, chair of the National Transitional Council of Libya, highlighted security, stability and the rule of law as vital precursors to growth and development. He emphasised Libya’s efforts to reintegrate into society the young Libyans who fought for freedom in their country by using grants to study abroad, funding for businesses and military careers. Jalil’s participation was an opportunity for the European community to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Libya – as it would for any country on the road to democracy.

‘At the beginning, the demonstrations to end Muammar al-Gaddafì’s rule were peaceful, as a continuation of what happened in Egypt and Tunisia; but these were met with violence. By God’s help we had people who helped us from the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Arab League and the EU. Finally the matter went to the international community, which acted on the UN Resolution 1973 – the responsibility to protect.’

16 December 2011. Abdul Jalil, chair of the National Transition Council of Libya, eloquently described Libya’s path away from dictatorship.

‘This is the first time in the Arab world that the people rose up, not only for daily bread, but for dignity, equal rights and duties, freedom and accountability of rulers.’

15 December 2011

MOHAMED BEJI CAID ESSEBSI
Interim Prime Minister of Tunisia
17 October 2012. For the media, European Development Days is an attractive opportunity to interview political and thought leaders or to organise lively debates. At EDD12, France 24 organised a debate between Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response; Eva Joly, chair of the European Parliament Committee on Development; and Victor G. Ndiaye, Chief Executive Officer, Performances Group & Performances Management Consulting.
On 16-17 October 2012, European Development Days returned to Brussels. The ongoing crisis in the Sahel region and the Horn of Africa was the backdrop for discussions concerning sustainable agriculture, food security and resilience.

EDD12 discussed how to best support inclusive and sustainable growth for human development, as advocated by the European Commission’s new blueprint for development, the Agenda for Change.

Participants explored the links between inclusive and sustainable growth, and debated how to build more resilient communities, engage the private sector, and empower people to contribute to development. The issues cut across all sectors, including agriculture, education, energy, food security, and health.

Themes

The theme for EDD12 was sustainable and inclusive growth for human development. It was structured around three topics: building resilience, through sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition; engaging the private sector for development and empowering people for inclusive growth.

In 2012, about 26% of the world’s population – more than one billion people in all – were hungry and lived in poverty. Most lived as small-scale farmers in rural areas where agriculture is the main economic activity. At EDD12, six high-level panels addressed the issues of sustainable agriculture, food security and resilience. Achieving food and nutrition security was at the top of the international political agenda. Participants discussed how best to empower farmers and harness the enormous potential to scale up agricultural production in developing countries.

‘I share the dream of a day when poverty is a thing of the past – not just poverty in terms of income, but in terms of lack of access to healthcare and social and political rights,’

17 October 2012. Joyce Banda, second African woman to have ever been elected to lead her country, delivered a memorable address.
Engaging the private sector as a development partner to create jobs and income opportunities for the poor is today evolving into a crosscutting issue in development cooperation. At EDD12, six high-level panels addressed how to successfully engage the private sector as a partner in development cooperation and how innovative approaches for development financing can be found using both public and private sector resources.

Furthermore, growth patterns are as important as growth rates. Without inclusive growth – characterised by people’s ability to participate in, and benefit from, wealth and job creation – these benefits cannot be sustained over the long term. Inclusive and sustainable economic growth is crucial to long-term poverty reduction. At EDD12, six high-level panels tackled the issue of how to empower people for inclusive growth and ensure a basic level of social protection.

As European Commission President José Manuel Barroso said at the opening ceremony of EDD12: ‘Growth is not an end in itself. It needs to be sustainable and inclusive. In the long run growth and social inclusion are two sides of the same coin.’

Outcome
Following the Commission’s Communication on the subject, participants agreed that social protection was an effective way to reduce poverty and vulnerability. This could be achieved by means of ‘social protection floors’, which has enabled healthcare and education to become affordable, accessible and universal. Other issues debated included how to finance universal healthcare and education, how to improve the position of informal and young workers, the role of the private sector and coherence across EU policies.

Building on the European Union’s response to the food crisis in sub-Saharan Africa, SHARE – Supporting the Horn of Africa’s Resilience – participants agreed to scale up this joint humanitarian-development approach to make people, communities and countries better able to face persistent, acute emergencies. Greater cooperation was called for between development and humanitarian efforts, particularly in disaster preparedness.

Participants shared success stories and best practices; learnt about the European Commission’s platform to bring together development partners to make maximum use of blending instruments; discussed the potential of the private sector to transform African economies; debated what constitutes inclusive business models; and looked at how best to work towards green and inclusive innovation.
ECHO works in close partnership with United Nations organisations and non-governmental organisations to deliver life-saving activities. Partnership is critical because there are 30-40 countries that are either in conflict, emerging from it, or slipping into it. The world is changing. It is more fragile and disasters are more frequent and severe, often being driven by climate change, urbanisation and population growth. To cut humanitarian costs in the future, ECHO is investing in preparedness and prevention. It’s a smart investment. Every euro invested saves between four and seven more. In 2012, preparedness and prevention activities represented 10% of ECHO’s budget and it has moved from responding to crises to anticipating them by assessing risks, investing in early warning systems, and boosting resilience.

EDD12 was an opportunity to celebrate 20 years of European solidarity with people in need worldwide. Founded in 1992, the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) has since provided EUR 14 billion of humanitarian assistance to people suffering from conflict, as well as natural disasters and man-made crises. Its work has been carried out under the principals of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence.

Together, the EU Member States and European institutions have been the biggest donor of humanitarian aid, contributing more than half of official global humanitarian aid. Since 2008, ECHO’s budget had averaged EUR 1 billion annually. In 2011, ECHO supported more than 120 million people in 80 countries.

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Anniversary

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The closing panel of EDD13 was high-level, interactive and engaging. Forum participants were invited to directly interact with Andris Piebalgs, EU Commissioner for Development; Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations; and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia; the Executive Director of Oxfam International, Winnie Byanyima; as well as prominent academics, Paul Collier and Debapriya Bhattacharya.
While the eight MDGs set in 2000 have been very useful in advancing poverty reduction and improving human wellbeing, progress toward meeting them has been uneven. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia, noted that in many poor countries, particularly in Africa, many of the goals have not been achieved. She called for much greater consultation with and participation of poor countries in formulating the post-2015 agenda, and for a stronger global partnership to underpin it.


The European Union is advocating a joined-up approach to addressing global poverty and sustainable development, aiming to ensure the adoption of a single set of goals and targets that will apply universally to all countries, while taking into account national circumstances, capacities and levels of development.

EDD13 thus helped shift the perception of development as a poor country problem to a challenge for the entire world to address.

Themes

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Anniversary

EDD13 was an opportunity to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and EU cooperation in the field of human rights.

Flavia Pansieri, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, began her address by reciting the first article of the UN Declaration on Human Rights. She cautioned the large and appreciative audience: 'We must make sure we recognise the importance, the absolute necessity of promotion and respect for human rights in everything we do [...]. If it is true that there is no peace without development and no development without peace, it is equally true that neither of the two can exist without human rights'.

Stavros Lambrinidis, EU Special Representative for Human Rights, recalled the 1993 Vienna Declaration from 20 years ago that emphasised the central role of civil society to promote human rights around the world. The EU needs to set an example and not overlook human rights violations: 'The fact that we’re not all perfect does not mean we’re all equally imperfect [...]. Cultural relativism is very dangerous. Human rights are the universal language of the powerless against the relativism of the powerful. This is where we join hands with others to be able to make a difference, not just a point.'

'The fact that we’re not all perfect does not mean we’re all equally imperfect. [...]
Cultural relativism is very dangerous.
Human rights are the universal language of the powerless against the relativism of the powerful.'
EDD13 also contributed to a vision of a world where every man, woman and child lives in dignity with the right to prosperity. As President Barroso stated, ‘it is both a human imperative and a matter of strategic intelligence.’ Some participants believed that the post-2015 development agenda should address inequality in a meaningful way. Income inequality and gender discrimination are major worldwide impediments to poverty eradication and sustainable development. With regard to gender equality, participants agreed that the successor targets to the MDGs must promote change within society as a whole, including focusing on the role of men and boys.

A recurrent theme through the two-day programme was one of interdependence. The discussions repeatedly highlighted the links between climate change and the limits of natural resources; between poverty, conflict and migration; and between education and inclusive and sustainable growth. ‘A clear vision of an interdependent world, in which problems in one place affect us all,’ was how Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia, summarised the ambition and sentiment of this EDD edition.

Outcome

The main outcome of EDD13 was to build a consensus towards a bold, but realistic agreement on development priorities after the MDG deadline in 2015. The recognition that development is a common challenge for the entire world – for every country and every citizen – was the dominant message of EDD13. Because the challenges ahead were universal and interrelated, participants agreed that they needed to be addressed together by all countries.

EDD13 took place just a few days after the UN climate change conference in Warsaw and against the backdrop of the catastrophic consequences of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. Participants reiterated that climate change threatens poverty reduction efforts worldwide and called yet again on global leaders to take action. To achieve poverty eradication and sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – the new agenda would need to address climate change as a cross-cutting issue and require all nations to ‘live within planetary boundaries.’ EDD13 also contributed to a vision of a world where every man, woman and child lives in dignity with the right to prosperity.

The post-2015 framework should aim to construct a reinforced world-level partnership, based on solidarity with the poorest people, and an acceptance that the world of the 21st century is unquestionably interdependent and destined for integration.”

26 November 2013

JOSÉ MANUEL BARROSO
President of the European Commission

27 November 2013. At the closing session, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia, stressed that one of the biggest challenges remaining ahead for the post-2015 global framework is to ensure ownership, convincing every nation that the framework is in their national interests.

‘The most difficult part in getting the necessary consensus will be the negotiation among countries, ensuring that each region feels it is engaged. The way to do it is through gaining support for the idea of one humanity. This time we are talking about mutual responsibility [where] we all commit to common goals for a common humanity. The international community should negotiate the future framework not as north, south, east, west, poor, rich – but as members of one humanity with a common destiny.’
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saepe voluit que plerum quossum et hitai offic te omnium iudicet qui autatur aut fugit officia corrius la denta eru praeulde velt etitiusam volorem rum nam qui torum facerere refem cum aer eru et vola alas dupici atum. Utant reciellatere ipsi seque retinuitam et alipolus non remopeor numere cerasi duiumpdi et maius ali velistatis eru dix nonnuller inantis et verroiet mosintuat sitipatut, qui aut pres apero nomenclata estrem estrep itubuen ibasum as dio modio novitaten qui qui res, nam ree idellam, es modit omminivel mod ex relerecis veleni alipua dolo ex eru ni veleptua ad aesti adilqui alitimm, omni am quiaum libaur moltuatut ali dix adq mollup teternum et aut et acrat veluptut que pellici tectemporn non nam et aqtna multepor consi modiol et diluomun. Sanlati taria tolabo nullus nos voluptia velpci uni doli dillupibus, ni volerbenem et ipsum qui quamert dilupgatur et evol querper ecran adtar nero es ipsi summiquatia repere, omni et volo olitarur autern aut ventudatit. Uptatia senium naunte mock, seire ipsum voloren poresto omminico mohuerat.

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Voices

From heads of state to community workers, from Nobel laureates to project managers, everyone has a say at European Development Days. Regardless of gender, creed or colour, the forum allows participants to share their knowledge and experiences on an equal footing.

The forum has taken pride in its ability to bring a growing and diverse range of actors to the discussion table: politicians, business leaders, parliamentarians, academics, think-tank fellows, civil society advocates, local, field and international practitioners, trade union representatives, and media brokers. European Development Days has been a rare opportunity for advocates, practitioners and stakeholders working in often quite separate sectors to meet and build synergies.
The European Union implements programmes and projects around the world, wherever assistance is needed. EuropeAid helps developing countries to improve the welfare of their poorest populations.

Nevertheless, developing countries bear the primary responsibility for their own development. EuropeAid tailors its support to fit the development priorities set by these countries.

As Europe’s foremost platform to engage with its partners from all corners of the world, European Development Days has been a sounding board for dozens of foreign heads of state or government who have presented their agenda to eradicate poverty.

### HEAD OF STATE

**ERNEST BAI KOROMA**
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone (2007)

**JOYCE BANDA**
President of the Republic of Malawi (2012)

**ALI BONGO ODIMBA**
President of the Republic of Gabon (2012)

**FRANÇOIS BOZIZÉ**
President of the Central African Republic (2007)

**BLAISÉ COMPAORÉ**

**FAURE ESOUZIMNA GNASSINGBÉ**
President of the Republic of Togo (2016)

**MAUMOOM GAYOOM**
President of the Republic of the Maldives (2007)

**ARMANDO GUEBUZA**
President of the Republic of Mozambique (2012)

**MAMADOU ISSOUFOU**
President of the Republic of Niger (2012, 2013)

**ELLEN JOHNSON Sirleaf**

**AHMAD KABBAH**
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone (2006)

**PAUL KAGAME**
President of the Republic of Rwanda (2006, 2010)

**JAKAYA KIKWETE**
President of the Republic of Tanzania (2010)

**EMMANUEL MANNY MORI**
President of the Federated States of Micronesia (2009)

**FESTUS MOGAE**
President of the Republic of Botswana (2006)

**ELY MOHAMMED VALL**
President of the Republic of Mauritania (2016)

**YOWERI MUSEVENI**
President of the Republic of Uganda (2006)

**PIERRE NKURUNZIZA**
President of the Republic of Burundi (2016)

**MARCO RAVALOMANA**
President of the Republic of Madagascar (2006, 2009)

**MIKHEIL SAakashvili**
President of the Republic of Georgia (2001)

**MACKY SALL**
President of the Republic of Senegal (2012)

**MAMADOU TANJÁ**
President of the Republic of Niger (2007)

**AMADOU TOUMANI TOURÉ**
President of the Republic of Mali (2006, 2010)

**THOMAS YAYI BONI**

**AISATU N’JIE-SAIDY**
Vice-President of the Republic of The Gambia (2006)

**JEJOMAR BINAY**
Vice-President of the Republic of The Philippines (2012)
**Partner Countries**

**Head of Government**

- **Mohamed Beji Caid Essebsi**
  Interim Prime Minister of Tunisia (2011)

- **Garry Conille**
  Prime Minister of Haiti (2012)

- **Salam Fayad**
  Prime Minister of Palestine (2010)

- **Sheikh Hasina**
  Prime Minister of Bangladesh (2008)

- **Mohammed Abdul Jalil**
  Chairman of the National Transition Council of Libya (2011)

- **Portia Simpson Miller**
  Prime Minister of Jamaica (2012)

- **Edward Natapei**
  Prime Minister of Vanuatu (2009)

- **Madhav Kumar Nepal**
  Prime Minister of Nepal (2010)

- **Raila Odinga**
  Prime Minister of Kenya (2013)

- **José Maria Pereira Neves**
  Prime Minister of Cape Verde (2010)

- **Michèle Pierre-Louis**
  Prime Minister of Haiti (2008, 2009)

- **Navinchandra Ramgoolam**
  Prime Minister of Mauritius (2008)

- **Absalom Thembu Dlamini**
  Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Swaziland (2006)

- **Morgan Tsvangirai**
  Prime Minister of Zimbabwe (2008)

- **Meles Zenawi**
  Prime Minister of Ethiopia (2006)

- **Tertius Zongo**
  Prime Minister of Burkina Faso (2018)

**Minister of Foreign Affairs**

- **Fawzia Y. H. Adam**
  Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Somalia (2013)

- **José Brito**
  Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cape Verde (2008)

- **Zainab Hawa Bangura**
  Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Sierra Leone (2009)

- **Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan**
  Minister for Foreign Affairs, Liberia (2012)

- **Oldemiro Marques Balói**
  Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mozambique (2012)

- **Louise Mushikiwabo**
  Minister for Foreign Affairs, Rwanda (2010)

- **Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla**
  First Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cuba (2007)

- **Ahmed Shahed**
  Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Maldives (2009)

**Minister of Interior and Decentralisation**

- **Abdourahim Agne**
  Minister of Planning and Decentralised Cooperation, Senegal (2008)

- **Chakib Ben Moussa**
  Minister of Interior, Morocco (2010)

- **Dame Carol Kidu**
  Minister for Local Development, Papua New Guinea (2008)

- **Jaffer Hamed Mohamed Jaffar**
  Vice Minister of Local Government, Yemen (2010)

- **Abel Toussaint Coulibaly**
  Minister of Local Authorities, Burkina Faso (2008)

- **Alassane Seidou**
  Minister for Decentralisation, Benin (2008)
Civil society and non-state actors more broadly are privileged partners of the European Union. Together, they are working towards more participatory development; the European Commission’s Directorate General for Development and Cooperation has developed financial instruments tailored to the specific requirements of non-state actors.

European Development Days has served as a useful platform for European civil society organisations to engage directly with the European Commission, partner countries and other important multilateral institutions. Numerous civil society leaders from across Europe have participated in the forum, and a particular feature is that most workshops and sessions in the programme are directly proposed, organised and run by development stakeholders themselves. All the forum has helped pave the way towards a more structured dialogue between the European institutions and civil society organisations.

Beyond Europe, European Development Days has welcomed contributions from a number of prominent and experienced civil society leaders from all corners of the world.

**MEDIA**

**SAlim AMIN**
Founding Managing Director, A24 Media (2006)

**OMar BElHOuChET**
Editor-in-Chief, El Watan (2008)

**ERIK BETTERMANN**
Director-General, Deutsche Welle (2008)

**PAUL DJuARDIN**
Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels (2013)

**MUCHADEY ASHTON MASUNDa**
Chair and Chief Executive, Associated Newspapers of Zimbabwe (2008)

**ERIC NYINDU**

**XIAO QIANG**
Advanced Professor, School of Information University College of Berkeley, Founding Editor-in-Chief China Digital Times (2011)

**CLAUDE-YVES ROBiN**
Director-General, France 5 TV (2007)

**MARIE-CHRISTINE SARAGOSSE**
Director-General, TV5 Monde (2010)

**MACTar SILLA**

**DEBApRIYa BHATTACHARYA**
Chair, Southern Voices on Post-MDGs, Bangladesh (2013)

**NANCY BIRDSALL**
President, Center for Global Development (2009)

**FATH BIoRL**

**JEAN BOSSUfF**

**FRANcoIS BOURGUIGON**

**PAULo BuSS**

**MARThA cHEN**
Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School of Government (2012)

**cLAUSE-SYLVAsTe RUBIN**

**PAUL cOLLIER**

**anDRE gERRITs**
Professor of Politics, Leiden University (2012)

**PATRICK GUILLAUMONT**

**CHARLES JoesELIN**
President, Cités Unies France (2009)

**RAVI KANBuR**
T.H. Lee Professor of World Affairs, International Professor of Applied Economics and Management, Professor of Economics, Cornell University (2008)

**SIMON MAXwELL**

**a N M MUNIRUZZAMAN**
President, Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (2012)

**RAJENDRA K. PACHAURi**
Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Founding Director-General, TERI (2010)

**HAns RoSLING**
Professor of International Health, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm (2012)

**JEAN-LoUIS SARBiB**
Director-General, The Development Gateway (2012)

**ShENGGeN Fan**
Director-General, International Food Policy Research Institute

**EXPERTISE**

**EXpERTISe**

**125**

**Voices**

Civil society and non-state actors more broadly are privileged partners of the European Union. Together, they are working towards more participatory development; the European Commission’s Directorate General for Development and Cooperation has developed financial instruments tailored to the specific requirements of non-state actors.

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Beyond Europe, European Development Days has welcomed contributions from a number of prominent and experienced civil society leaders from all corners of the world.
Rami Abdurrahman
Founding Director, Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (2011)

Peter Ackermann
Founding Chair, International Center on Non-violent Conflict (2019)

Patrick Alley
Founding Director, Global Witness (2007)

Sohayr Belhassen
President, International Federation for Human Rights (2009)

Tzipi Bergsma
Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Plan International (2012)

Winnie Byanyima
Executive Director, Oxfam International (2013)

Indu Capoor
Director, Centre for Health Education Training and Nutrition Awareness (2012)

Mamadou Cissokho

Bineta Diop
Executive Director, Femmes Africa Solidarité (2007)

Shirin Ebadi
2003 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Founding President, Centre for the Defence of Human Rights (2002)

Eva Gamboa

Geneviève Garigos
President, Women International – France (2008)

Helmuth Hartmeyer
Chair, Global Education Network Europe (2012)

Hans R. Herren
President, Millennium Institute, 1995 World Food Prize Winner (2010)

Jeremy Hobbs
Executive Director, Oxfam International (2006)

Othe Igbuzor
Head of International Campaigns, ActionAid International (2010)

Philomena Johnson
Director, Center for Ghana (2010)

Sidiki Kaba

Noerine Kalebba
Chair, ActionAid International (2019)

Justin Kilcullen
President, CONCORD (2009, 2010)

Huguette Labelle
Chair, Board of Directors, Transparency International (2012)

Eric Makokha
Chief Executive Officer, Shelter Forum (2009)

Jean Claude Mbanya
President, International Diabetes Federation (2010)

Jean-Baptiste Richardier
Co-Founder, Director-General, Handicap International (2012)

Mary Robinson
Former President of Ireland, President, Ethical Globalization Initiative Vice-President, Club of Madrid (2011)

Esther Somoire
Centre for Indigenous Women and Children, Kenya (2012)

Aminata Traoré
Journalist and Social Activist
Former Minister of Culture, Mali (2008, 2009)

Antonio Tujan
Chair, NGO Network Better Aid (2011)

Archbishop Desmond Tutu
1984 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town (2012)

Samuel Nsikabaka
Secretary-General, Fondation Niosi, Republic of the Congo (2010)

Ousmane Sy
Director, Center of Policy and Institutional Expertise in Africa (2008, 2009)

Jean-Baptiste Richardier
Co-Founder, Director-General, Handicap International (2012)

Mary Robinson
Former President of Ireland, President, Ethical Globalization Initiative Vice-President, Club of Madrid (2011)

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Archbishop Desmond Tutu
1984 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town (2012)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CIVIL SOCIETY</th>
<th>BUSINESS</th>
<th>GOVERNANCE</th>
<th>FORMER LEADERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NICK BLAOUZ</strong></td>
<td><strong>HANS-JÜRGEN MATERN</strong></td>
<td><strong>SHIRIN AMMERUDDY-CISIFRA</strong></td>
<td><strong>JAN KRYSZTOF BIELECKI</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing Director, Ilagoya Africa</td>
<td>Vice President, Head of Sustainability and Regulatory Affairs, Micro Group</td>
<td>Ombuds-person for Children, Former Minister for Women’s Rights and Family Affairs, Mauritius</td>
<td>Former Prime Minister of Poland (2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RICHARD BRANSON</strong></td>
<td><strong>EIKOKO MUKETE</strong></td>
<td><strong>ALIFA CHABANE FAROUK</strong></td>
<td><strong>PIERRE BUYOYA</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founding Chairman, Virgin Group</td>
<td>General Manager, Spectrum Group</td>
<td>Ombudsman of the Republic of Tunisia</td>
<td>Former President of Burundi (2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TARA DAWOOD</strong></td>
<td><strong>VICTOR G. NDIAYE</strong></td>
<td><strong>MOHAMMED EL-HACEN OULD LEBATT</strong></td>
<td><strong>JACQUES CHIRAC</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Executive Officer, Dawood Capital Management Limited, Pakistan</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer, Performances Group</td>
<td>Chief Observer in Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
<td>Former President of France (2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHILIPPE DE BUCK</strong></td>
<td><strong>BERNHARD PACHER</strong></td>
<td><strong>AHMED EL MIDAoui</strong></td>
<td><strong>ABDOU DIOUF</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director-General, Bucktel</td>
<td>Chairman and Managing Director, Adcom Telemetry</td>
<td>President, Court of Auditors, Morocco</td>
<td>Former President of the Republic of Senegal (2010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHEICK MODIBO DIARRA</strong></td>
<td><strong>SIEGMAR PROEBSTL</strong></td>
<td><strong>JEAN-PIERRE ELONG MBASSI</strong></td>
<td><strong>ALPHA OUMAR KONARÉ</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President, Microsoft Africa</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer, Siemens Africa</td>
<td>Secretary-General, United Cities and Local Governments – Africa</td>
<td>Former President of the Republic of Mali and Chair of the Commission of the African Union (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MARIA EITEL</strong></td>
<td><strong>RUTH RAWLING</strong></td>
<td><strong>KAMEL JENDOUBI</strong></td>
<td><strong>GUETT KETUMILE JONI MASIRE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founding President and Chief Executive Officer, Nike Foundation</td>
<td>Vice-President, Corporate Affairs Europe, Middle East and Africa, Cargil</td>
<td>President, Independent Electoral Commission, Tunisia</td>
<td>Former President of the Republic of Botswana (2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JACQUES DELMOITIEZ</strong></td>
<td><strong>NUNO RIBEIRO DA SILVA</strong></td>
<td><strong>KOFFI KOUNTÉ</strong></td>
<td><strong>GÉRARD LATOURTE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President for Europe, the Middle East and Africa, BASF Group</td>
<td>President, Portuguese Industrial Association</td>
<td>President, Human Rights National Commission</td>
<td>Former President of the Maldives (2010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NDIDI NNOI-EDOZIEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>BASHIR SALEH BASHIR</strong></td>
<td><strong>ABBOT APOLLINAIRE MALU MALU</strong></td>
<td><strong>BENJAMIN MKAPA</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founding President, Growing Business Foundation, Nigeria</td>
<td>President, Libyan Africa Portfolio Investment</td>
<td>Chair, Independent Electoral Commission, Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>Former President of the Republic of Tanzania (2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PAULO GOMES</strong></td>
<td><strong>GEORGE SOROS</strong></td>
<td><strong>ADBOULAYE SENE</strong></td>
<td><strong>FESTUS GONTEBANYE MOGAE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founding President, Concorde Group</td>
<td>Founding Chairman, Open Society Institute</td>
<td>President, Global Forum</td>
<td>Former President of the Republic of Botswana (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHRISTINA GRADL</strong></td>
<td><strong>JOHN TEBSTROM</strong></td>
<td><strong>JEREMY SMITH</strong></td>
<td><strong>KARL AUGUSTE OFFMAN</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing Director, Erivan</td>
<td>President and Chief Executive Officer, Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria</td>
<td>Secretary-General, Council of European Municipalities and Regions</td>
<td>Former President of the Republic of Mauritius (2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MO IBIHAF</strong></td>
<td><strong>MUHAMMAD YUNUS</strong></td>
<td><strong>SORAYA RAHIM SOBHANG</strong></td>
<td><strong>AROSTIDES MARIA PEIREIRA</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Founding Chair, Mo Ibrahim Foundation</td>
<td>2008 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate</td>
<td>2010 Prakresa Award Laureate</td>
<td>Former President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan (2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHRISTINA GRADE</strong></td>
<td><strong>FAITH PANSY TLAKULA</strong></td>
<td><strong>FAITH PANSY TLAKULA</strong></td>
<td><strong>NICÉPHORE DIEUONDÔN SOGOL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CHRISTINA GRADE</strong></td>
<td><strong>FAITH PANSY TLAKULA</strong></td>
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<td>Former Prime Minister of Benin (2006, 2009)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Former Presidents of States in Africa:**
- Terzius Zongo (2001) - Former Prime Minister of Burkina Faso
- Nécessor Djaou (2008) - Former President of the Republic of Benin
- Aristide May infrastructure (2001) - Former President of the Republic of Ghana
- Festus Mogae (2006) - Former President of the Republic of Botswana

**Former Prime Ministers:**
- Jan Krzysztof Bielecki (2011) - Former Prime Minister of Poland
- Pierre Buyoya (2006) - Former President of Burundi
- Jacques Chirac (2011) - Former President of France
- Alpha Oumar Konaré (2009) - Former President of the Republic of Mali
- Guett Keturile Joni Masire (2010) - Former President of the Republic of Botswana
- Gérard Letourneur (2010) - Former President of the Maldives
- Benjamin Mkapa (2007) - Former President of the Republic of Tanzania
- Festus Gontebanye Mogae (2009) - Former President of the Republic of Botswana
- Karl Auguste Offman (2006) - Former President of the Republic of Mauritius
- Roza Isakova Otkhunbaeva (2012) - Former President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan
- Aristides Maria Peireira (2010) - Former President of the Republic of Cape Verde
Gender equality is essential for growth and poverty reduction, and it is key to reaching the Millennium Development Goals. However, in the developing world, women suffer disproportionately from poverty and its related ills, such as malnutrition, poor health and illiteracy.

European Development Days has served as an important platform to address this, not least by seeking gender balance in the composition of its panels and giving the floor to some of the world’s most inspiring women leaders.
AFRICA

FAWZIA Y. H. ADAM
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs, Somalia
(2013)

JOYCE BANDA
President of the Republic of Malawi
(2012)

ZAINAB HAWA BANGURA
Minister for Foreign Affairs and
International Cooperation
(2013)

LOUISE MUSHIKIWABO
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Rwanda
(2010)

AMINA T. N’JIE-SAIDY
Vice-President of the Republic of The Gambia
(2013)

ELLEN JOHNSON SIRLEAF
2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
President of the Republic of Liberia

AMERICA

MARY SIMON
President, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami
(2009)

ASIA

SHEIKH HASINA
Prime Minister of Bangladesh
(2018)

ROZA ISAKOVNA OTUNBAEVA
Former President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan
(2008)

HABIBA SORABI
Governor, Bamyan Province Afghanistan
(2008)

MICHELE PIERRE-LOUIS
Prime Minister of Haiti
(2008, 2009)

PORTIA SIMPSON-MILLER
Prime Minister of Jamaica
(2013)

PACIFIC

DAME CAROL KIDU
Minister for Community Development,
Papua New Guinea
(2008)

JIWO LUVENI
Minister for Women, Social Welfare
and Poverty Alleviation, Fiji
(2013)

EMILIA PIRES
Minister of Finance, Timor Leste
(2013)

AFRICA

NOERINE KALEEBA
Chair, ActionAid International
(2010)

ANGÉLIQUE KIDJO
Singer and Political Activist, Benin
(2008)

AYO OBE
Chair, Board of Trustees
Goree Institute, Senegal
(2012)

WANGARI MATHAI
2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Founder, Green Belt Movement
(2008)

AMINATA TRAORÉ
Essayist and Social Activist
Former Minister of Culture, Mali
(2008, 2009)

SHIRIN EBADI
2003 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate,
Founding President, Centre for the Defence of Human Rights
(2002)

TAWAKOL KARMAN
2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Human Rights Activist, Yemen
(2012)

SOPHIA SIRIHAH
2012 Right Livelihood Award Laureate
Human Rights Defender, Ethiopia
(2012)

AUNG SAN SUU KYI
1991 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Chairperson, National League for Democracy, Burma
(2010)

EUROPE

SHARAN BURROW
General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation
(2010)

WINNIE BYANYIMA
Executive Director, Oxfam International
(2013)

HUGUETTE LABELLE
Chair, Board of Directors, Transparency International
(2010)

MARY ROBINSON
Former President of Ireland, Ethical Globalization Initiative, Vice-President, Club of Madrid
(2010)

GOVERNANCE

CIVIL SOCIETY
The European Parliament and its Committee on Development have been active supporters of European Development Days since its creation. The Committee on Development keeps a close watch on the European Commission and all other actors responsible for Europe’s development policies and humanitarian aid. And, together with Member States, it makes the laws that frame EU development activities.

Echoing the citizens of Europe, the European Parliament firmly believes that the EU has a duty to put a stop to poverty and suffering in a world where there is enough for everybody, if fairly shared. This commitment has been reinforced by the participation of numerous Members of the European Parliament in the forum.

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MARIE-HÉLÈNE AUBERT
Member, Committee on Development (2008)

THIJS BERMAN

JOSEP BORRELL FONTELLES,
Chair, Rapporteur on the Agenda for Change (2007, 2011, 2008)

JERZY BUZEK
President of the European Parliament (2019)

MICHAEL CASHMAN
Member, Committee on Development (2001, 2012, 2013)

MINODORA CLIVETI
Member, Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (2013)

THIERRY CORNILLET
Member, Committee on Development (2008)

RICARDO CORTÉS LASTRA
Member, Committee on Development (2012)

CORINA CRETU
Vice-Chair, Committee on Development (2008, 2010)

RYSZARD CZARNECKI
Member, Committee on Development (2007, 2012, 2013)

VÉRONIQUE DE KEYSER
Member, Committee on Development (2010)

NIRJ DEVA
Member, Committee on Development (2007, 2008, 2013)

LEONIDAS DONSKIS
Member, Committee on Development (2013)

ISABELLE DURANT
Vice-President, European Parliament (2010)

SANTIAGO FIASA AIYELA
Member, Delegation for relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council (2010)

CHARLES GOERENS
Member, Committee on Development Rapporteur on the Agenda for Change (2011, 2012, 2013)

ENRIQUE GUERRERO SALOM
Member, Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (2008, 2010)

ANA MARIA GOMEZ
Member, Committee on Foreign Affairs (2007, 2009)

MIKAEL GUSTAFSSON
Chair, Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality (2015)

SÅTÅ HASSI
Member, Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (2009)

ALAIN HUTCHINSON
Member, Committee on Development (2007, 2008)

EVA JOLY

FILIP KACZMAREK
Rapporteur on the post-2015 development agenda, Committee on Development (2012)

SKÅ KELLER
Member, Committee on International Trade (2010)

ISABELLA LOVIN
Member, Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (2012)

MARIA MARTENS
Member, Committee on Development (2017)

LOUIS MICHEL
Member, ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (2010, 2012)

GAY MITCHELL
Member, Committee on Development (2008, 2010)

LUIZA MORGANTINI
Vice-President (2007, 2008)

MAURICE PONGA
Member, Committee on Development (2013)

PIERRE SCHAPIRA
Rapporteur on Local Authorities, Committee on Development (2008, 2010)

ALF SVENSSON
Member, Committee on Development (2008, 2010)

KEITH TAYLOR
Member, Committee on Development (2013)

JOHAN VAN HECKE
Member, Committee on Development (2017)

ANDERS WJIRMAM
Member, Committee on Development (2007, 2009)

JAN ZAHRADEL
Member, Committee on Development (2010)

GABRIELLE ZIMMER
Member, Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (2009)
In April 2006, European Member States approved a proposal from European Commissioner Louis Michel to launch European Developments Days. The aim was to improve aid effectiveness and to strengthen the consensus on development policy following the European Consensus on Development established in 2005. Since the forum’s inception, Member States have sustained their support by sending Ministers and government officials each year.

European Development Days has served as an important platform to forge a greater consensus amongst Member States on development policy, including budget support, food security, nutrition and access to energy and has helped pave the way to promoting a decent life for all by 2030.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member States</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lithuania</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Neris Germanas</td>
<td>Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>2013</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Evaldas Ignatavičius</td>
<td>Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Laimonas Talat-Kelpša</td>
<td>Undersecretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>2016</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Luxembourg</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marie-Josée Jacobs</td>
<td>Minister for Development Cooperation</td>
<td>2012, 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Poland</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan Krzysztof Bielecki</td>
<td>Former Prime Minister of Poland</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bronisław Komorowski</td>
<td>President of the Republic</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Krzysztof Stanowski</td>
<td>Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Portugal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Luís Amado</td>
<td>Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>2006</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Luís Brites Pereira</td>
<td>Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>João Gomes Cravinho</td>
<td>Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation</td>
<td>2007</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sweden</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carl Bildt</td>
<td>Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ewa Björling</td>
<td>Minister for Trade</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td>Fredrik Reinfeldt</td>
<td>Prime Minister</td>
<td>2006, 2008</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Joakim Stymne</td>
<td>State Secretary to the Minister for International Development Cooperation</td>
<td>2008</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>United Kingdom</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hilary Benn</td>
<td>Secretary of State for International Development</td>
<td>2006</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Andrew Mitchell</td>
<td>Secretary of State for International Development</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Michael Foster</td>
<td>Under-Secretary of State for International Development</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lynne Featherstone</td>
<td>Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** The list includes the names of officials associated with foreign affairs and development cooperation in various member states of the European Union. The years indicate the period during which they held their respective positions.
As Europe’s premier forum on development cooperation, European Development Days brings together the European development actors for discussions, meetings, best practice exchanges and networking opportunities.

All the European institutions have been represented at the highest level. At the European Commission, the forum has engaged with many departments of the European Commission, namely agriculture, humanitarian aid, development and external relations.
The commitment to effective multilateralism, with the United Nations at its core, is a central element of the European Union’s external policy. This commitment is rooted in the conviction that to be able to respond to global crises, challenges and threats, the international community needs an efficient multilateral system, founded on universal rules and values.

European Development Days has proudly welcomed a very high level of participation from most – if not all – United Nations agencies, funds and programmes. In 2013, the European Union jointly celebrated with the United Nations’ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the 20th anniversary of its creation and the launch of EU cooperation in the field of human rights.

European Development Days has served to engage with international organisations, whether area-focused, regional or linguistic.
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