After Brussels, Lisbon and Strasbourg, the 4th edition of European Development Days was hosted in Stockholm, from 22-24 October 2009.

Development Days has become a genuine European success story. It was a real honour and pleasure to welcome more than 5,000 committed development stakeholders from partner countries across the world, as well as from the European Union.

We would like to thank all of you who contributed to the rich and substantive debates: heads of state and government, ministers, parliamentarians, presidents of regional and local authorities, experts, academics, researchers, students, professionals, professors and representatives of civil society, the media, and the private sector.

This year, European Development Days engaged the development family in debates around four themes that reflect the challenges ahead: responding to the global economic downturn, democracy and development, citizenship and development and tackling climate change.

The event took place at a critical crossroads – four weeks after the G20 Pittsburgh Summit, with a new European Parliament, and ahead of the institutional changes in the European Union after the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty. Perhaps most importantly, European Development Days took place six weeks before the December 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, where leaders from 190 nations gathered to address one of the most critical development issues of our time.

The stakes are high: eradicating poverty remains a major priority for Europeans and developing country partners alike. Development aid alone will not be enough. Each year, European Development Days focuses on the need for a true spirit of partnership, real efficiency gains, new thinking and more sharing of knowledge and experiences. It is essential to garner the support and commitment of all stakeholders, including citizens, if we are to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Through this event, we engage political leaders in shaping the development policy of the future.

With the growing size of European Development Days, we were determined to show that the development community could work together to make this event greener. The 2009 edition made significant progress towards being carbon neutral. Exhibitors and parallel event organisers contributed by submitting carbon offset certificates for energy saving projects for a total of over €120,000. This approach sets a new green standard for events with global reach.

In three short years, European Development Days has become a key fixture in the development calendar and Europe’s foremost platform for dialogue and exchange on international development issues. By bringing together the development family each year, we mark the milestones on the way to a fairer, safer and better world.

We look forward to seeing you again in 2010!
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At the European Development Days 2009, leaders of partner countries from Bangladesh to Burkina Faso and from Haiti to the Pacific came to speak out and debate with internationally renowned experts and stakeholders. The participation of the Presidents of the European Commission and European Parliament as well as the Prime Minister of Sweden showed the political commitment of EU leaders to the challenges of development. This was the largest public event under the Swedish Presidency of the EU, bringing together around 5,000 participants from over 130 countries across the world.

**Citizens and development – catalysts for change**

The overarching theme of European Development Days 2009 was “Citizenship and Development”. As the relevant chapter of this report shows, a number of key messages came across. First, development matters to Europeans. A specially commissioned opinion poll in all 27 EU Member States shows that public support for development cooperation remains strong despite the downturn in the European economy. Furthermore, five years after enlargement, development also matters in new EU Member States, whose experience is increasingly relevant in development cooperation worldwide. Who better to deliver this message at European Development Days than newly elected President of the European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek.

A second key message was that we cannot tackle major global challenges unless citizens, civil society organisations and governments in partner countries work together. Engaging both men and women, young and old, is essential if one is to make a difference in ending gender-based violence or lifting rural areas out of poverty. Culture, as a social blender, brings communities together beyond the usual generational, income-based or rural vs. urban divides. All those reasons explain why it is essential to have both civil society and citizens engaged in the African Union-EU strategy for development.

**Imagining the future**

Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt was the first to point out that since the last European Development Days the challenges have become more urgent and more threatening: “Few have been spared the consequences of the financial crisis that plunged the world into recession”. Rajendra K. Pachauri, Nobel Peace Laureate 2007 and Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, suggested that climate change calls into question every model. He recommended that the event should be called European “re-development” days because “we cannot proceed on the path of development as we understand it”.

For Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Laureate 2006 and Managing Director of the Grameen Bank, the global financial crisis and the climate change challenge offer world leaders an opportunity to “retool, redesign and reconceptualise” the system that crumbled in 2008. “This is a good chance to redesign the financial system and not just put a band aid on it.”

There were specific recommendations, for example, George Soros, Chairman of the Open Society Institute, called on rich nations to use their Special Drawing Rights with the International Monetary Fund to provide as much as €70 billion in aid to poor countries.
Rajendra K. Pachauri cautioned against forgetting the missing Millennium Development Goal: “[It is] access to energy – 1.6 billion people have no access to electricity.”

The future of development aid was the subject of much controversy and debate. The core question was how to shape international cooperation to better address the challenges ahead – trade, international finance, global food security, climate change, migration and security.

Copenhagen – what does it mean for development?
European Development Days took place 50 days ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, where leaders gathered to address what former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan called a humanitarian crisis of epic proportions.

Through this event, Europe gave an international platform to those whose communities and countries are already affected by climate change. It was also an opportunity to hear from those trying to forge international consensus ahead of Copenhagen, in particular among developing countries.

The Prime Minister of Haiti, Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis, was among those calling for meaningful change. “We are living in danger of the consequences of 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.”

European Development Days further strengthened the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA), launched by the European Union in 2007. The Prime Minister of Vanuatu, Edward Natapei, signing an agreement with the Commission in Stockholm, stressed: “We cannot meet the challenges of climate change alone. The GCCA is necessary and will go a long way to assisting Vanuatu meet the challenges. ... We need funding that is timely and accessible.”

Democracy – a cornerstone for development
Besides the immediate challenge of climate change, Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs Carl Bildt called for development efforts not to ignore “the never-ending task of building societies where freedom and democracy prevail.” According to Karel De Gucht, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid: “Development needs vibrant democracy and active citizens; it needs a free media, responsive politicians and a strong civil society. Development is a three-legged stool: economy, state and human rights and freedom.”

A special event was held to mark the 15th anniversary of EU electoral observation missions and the 10th anniversary of Sweden’s activities in this field. A seminar, led by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), with six other regional bodies from the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Arab World, examined how the European Union best can assist worldwide efforts for democracy. Finally, the role of new media in development was explored in a panel debate.

In addition to calls for strong leadership in partner countries, the importance of institutions was also stressed. “People need institutions,” said Jerzy Buzek.
The messages from Stockholm
In the closing ceremony of the 4th edition of European Development Days 2009, Karel De Gucht summed up some of the major outcomes of the conference. “As the debates show, we do not agree on everything,” he said. “But there is a consensus on the challenges that will face us in the years to come.”

First and foremost, the importance of strong political leadership was stressed across the board, especially with regard to pursuing a new agenda for democracy. This emerged in almost every event at European Development Days, from the details of refining the architecture of aid to the ambitions for a global agreement on climate change at Copenhagen. This is a reflection of the fact that those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and the economic crisis are the least responsible for the causes of these crises.

Secondly, Europe can show a lead on development. This is a policy based on European values – solidarity with partners in developing countries, global governance based on universal values and respect for the environment. These underpin the political guidelines of the European Commission for the next decade. With the Lisbon Treaty, a coherent policy based on poverty alleviation is at the heart of future EU external action. Furthermore, the first ever European Report on Development exemplifies the EU’s determination to provide not only money, but also ideas for the redefinition of fairer globalisation.

Third, development is not solely a matter of philanthropy. Engaging in development is also a matter of self-interest. The “hungry billions are not only a moral disgrace,” said Karel De Gucht, they pose a security threat. “Underdevelopment is a global problem threatening us all,” he said. “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,” warned Rajenda K. Pachauri.

Finally, the crisis offers a chance to reshape development aid, bringing development assistance more in line with a low carbon development strategy, making use of novel financial instruments and addressing systemic challenges such as aid effectiveness with emerging donors and actors (e.g. private foundations or local authorities).

This new development paradigm needs to be more participatory, respectful and inclusive. President of Liberia, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, summed this debate up in her call for a “fundamental” paradigm shift. “We need to give Africa the exercise of choice to make sure our priorities are respected. The exercise of choice is one of the fundamental tenets of democracy. One must respect our priorities if we are going to achieve our objectives,” she said.

“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?’”
José Manuel Barroso
In 2008, European Development Days took place during the Washington G-20 Summit. Twenty ministers from as many countries agreed to a declaration. What have the 2009 discussions uncovered? Untapped potential for sustainable growth and poverty eradication could be found in the development of the private sector, especially in the form of social business, as suggested by Muhammad Yunus. George Soros argued that an innovative use of IMF Special Drawing Rights could raise up to €70 billion to finance adaptation to climate change, for example. With a view to the themes of climate change and citizenship, it was also stressed that development should be low carbon and people-centred.

Weathering the perfect storm

“Since the last European Development Days, our challenges have become more urgent and threatening. Few have been spared the consequences of the financial crisis that plunged the world into recession,” said Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt. So far 2008 and 2009 have been the years of the perfect storm with the financial meltdown coming on the heels of an energy crisis that brought a spike in food prices – all against the backdrop of looming climate change. “For those of us in Africa, this did not begin with the collapse of Lehman Brothers,” said Ernest Bai Koroma, President of Sierra Leone.

European Commission Director General for Development and relations with Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, Stefano Manservisi looked forward: “This is part of a new agenda in Europe. If there is one policy which is called upon to deal with the biggest problem in the world – namely to build a fairer globalization – it is development.”

The poor of the developing world are not responsible for the global economic crisis, but they are among the most severely affected by it. “The economic and financial crisis is hard felt in developing countries. It accelerates the decrease in economic growth and affects our ability to reach the Millennium Development Goals,” stated Tertius Zongo, Prime Minister of Burkina Faso.

Final Declaration, Strasbourg, November 17, 2008

We, political leaders of Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Hungary, Russia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Togo, the United States, Yemen, the European Commission, the African Union Commission, the African Union, and the European Union:

• Highlight that all States have to share the responsibility both in the definition and in the implementation of efficient responses at the global, national and local level, no country being spared by the current crisis because of the globalization of the financial, food and energetic markets, as well as the effects of climate change;

• Express our deep concern about the impact of these crises on the developing countries, especially the most vulnerable of them, and on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In this context, development aid represents an essential element of the crises responses, and respect of commitments in this matter appears all the more important;

• Commit ourselves to take into account the interests and the needs of the developing countries and of the most vulnerable in the responses to the crises and underline the necessity for developing countries to be fully associated to the process of the international financial system reform.

Developing and low-income countries find themselves coming up short on many counts: export revenues, trade financing, financial flows, investment, remittances, tourism, and more.
Trade and development

The growth of global trade is deemed to have helped lift tens of millions of people out of poverty since World War II. This positive trend is actually being reversed and the World Trade Organization (WTO) estimates that global trade will plummet by 9% in 2009, the first drop in two decades.

Aid for trade aims at helping beneficiaries formulate and implement trade policies or develop wider economic capacity to trade, e.g., invest in infrastructure and productive sectors. For some developing countries, access to export markets is not enough. To become competitive, they may also need to improve their production and supply-side capacity and remove other obstacles to participating fully in trade. The EU is committed to delivering €2 billion in trade-related assistance annually by 2010.

These are not mere statistics: as the macroeconomic numbers suffer, poverty becomes more acute. “Every six seconds a child dies of malnutrition. Over 1 billion people will go to bed hungry tonight,” stressed Otive Igbuzor, Head of International Campaigns at ActionAid International. “This is a humanitarian crisis,” said Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Managing Director of the World Bank.

Shrinking Official Development Assistance and the impact of the financial crisis on domestic resource mobilisation may exacerbate the humanitarian crisis with deteriorating health conditions. Emphasis was placed on the need to reinforce commitments to health in the context of the current economic slowdown. Over the past eight years, a major scaling up of investment has been transformed into dramatic success in the fight against poverty-related diseases. Development Assistance for Health has more than doubled since 2000 and has played a major role in making progress towards the health Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Yet, the stakes remain high, especially with regard to the fight against HIV/AIDS. In 2010, progress towards the health Millennium Development Goals could be made with substantial replenishments of the Global Fund and the World Bank’s International Development Association (IDA).

“Despite increased commitment to tackling AIDS over 5 million people living with HIV who desperately need treatment still do not have access to the life saving drugs – and for every two people who do start treatment – another five become infected.”

Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS

Nevertheless, access to health services remains a long-term challenge. Panelists stressed the need for sustained funding for health, including innovative financing, the key role of partnerships, and strong involvement of civil society, private sector, and citizens in general.

Yet, the stakes remain high, especially with regard to the fight against HIV/AIDS. In 2010, progress towards the health Millennium Development Goals could be made with substantial replenishments of the Global Fund and the World Bank’s International Development Association (IDA).

Meanwhile, speculative land grabs by large companies are on the rise in Africa. These acquisitions appear to be contributing to a trend towards large-scale mechanised farms and monoculture agriculture, driving out smallholder farmers who rely on diversified crops. In many cases, the new owners stop planting staple foodstuffs, instead favouring export or biomass crops for fuel production. Akin Adesina, Vice President for Policy and Partnerships at the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), called the newcomers “Wall Street Farmers” and noted that “the land rush is like the gold rush, everybody is going for a piece of Africa”.

Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

“Reaching the health related MDGs is not a utopia. We have shown the feasibility of scaling up. Keep up the fight, sustain the investment.”
Beyond “development-as-usual” – crisis as opportunity?

“If the food and financial crises have taught us anything,” said President Bai Koroma, “it is to expect the unexpected”. If instability has become the norm, a period of crisis offers policymakers the opportunity to make real change.

The global financial crisis provides world leaders with an opportunity to “retool, redesign and reconceptualise” the system that crumbled in 2008, said Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Laureate 2006 and Managing Director of the Grameen Bank. “This is a good chance to redesign the financial system and not just put a band aid on it,” he stated.

Prime Minister Reinfeldt pointed to the need for a new economic framework: “The culture of greed has for far too long been left unchecked and must end. The EU is moving and I look forward to the work ahead of us.”

Retiring the international financial institutions?

One of the most animated debates focused on the relevance of the international financial institutions: the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and the regional multilateral development banks.

“The Bretton Woods institutions are beginning to show their age. Some say it is time to consider their retirement,” charged Dr Igbuzor. He pointed out that the IMF’s new lending facility, the Flexible Credit Line created in April 2009, had mostly benefited middle-income countries.

Flexible Credit Line (FCL)

In March 2009, in the aftermath of the largest financial crisis since World War II, the IMF approved the FCL for countries with very strong fundamentals, policies, and track records of policy implementation. FCL is particularly useful for crisis prevention purposes. Access is determined on a case-by-case basis, is not subject to the normal access limits, and is available in a single up-front disbursement rather than phased. Disbursements under the FCL are not conditioned on implementation of specific policy understandings.

Otive Igbuzor’s provocation sparked a round of lively responses from officials from international financial institutions who defended the relevance of their organisations and called attention to recent reforms.

Europe is already pulling its weight. The EU is the world’s largest donor of development aid (€49 billion in 2008 and €47.6 billion in 2007) and in April 2009, EU leaders earmarked €500 million for those hardest hit by the financial crisis. Vulnerability FLEX is just one example of the EU’s commitment to official development assistance.
President Bai Koroma, leader of one of the poorest nations in the world, highlighted the positive effects of the multilaterals. “During this most difficult period for the nations of Africa, the international financial institutions, especially the World Bank and the African Development Bank, have been supportive,” he said. “We hope the institutions will be given greater capacity. Reform is needed, but the reforms are going on.”

“The IMF is going back to its roots,” said Dominique Strauss-Kahn, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund. The lack of financial stability in the 1930s helped cause World War II, world leaders believed. Now in the 21st century the institution is reducing the conditionalities it places on countries and paying more attention to the local context in order to increase the IMF’s effectiveness in fostering greater financial stability in response to the global financial meltdown, he added.

Instead of “retiring” the IMF, George Soros, Chairman of the Open Society Institute, explained that an innovative use of IMF Special Drawing Rights could provide as much as €70 billion in aid to poor countries. In the run-up to the Copenhagen conference, Mr Soros suggested that SDRs could be used to finance the costs of adaptation and the transition to low carbon development.

**Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)**

SDRs are designed to help guarantee international liquidity and stability by supplementing the standard reserve currencies in national reserves. It aims at bolstering national reserves.

According to George Soros, “rich countries have no use for special drawing rights”. But given their very low interest rates, SDRs could offer them a cheap instrument with which to help out poorer countries. The IMF’s gold reserves could cover the interest, suggested Mr Soros.

A modest pilot initiative to use SDRs for aid has been launched by the United Kingdom and France. “The idea developed by George [Soros] needs more discussion, but we are beginning to implement it,” said Dominique Strauss-Kahn.

**Low carbon development**

A major World Bank study released in Stockholm estimated at between €50-70 billion a year for 2010-2050, the cost for developing countries to adapt to a 2-degree Celsius increase in temperature. But Prime Minister Raila Odinga of Kenya did not want to peer into a crystal ball to see the future. The future is now, he said. “It is not enough to say what will happen if there is a two-degree increase in 2050,” he noted. “We need €2 billion a year now to adapt, and other African countries have similar needs.”

The economic crisis could also serve to help shake up the development-as-usual approach at the programme level. Low carbon development received a great deal of attention. “We are prepared to forego the dirty way,” continued Raila Odinga, referring to development based on fossil fuels. “But to do that we need [adaptation] assistance.”

“The shift towards a global low-carbon society throws up huge economic opportunities,” said Margot Wallström, Vice-President of the European Commission.
Harnessing the private sector to reach public goals

The presence of the private sector has significant impacts on the development of poor countries. Companies are increasingly engaging proactively in development issues as a means of furthering their business agenda while simultaneously “doing good” because so doing can be “good” for business too.

Significant differences remain between corporate priorities and those of the development community, between the micro and macro level. For example, it is hard to reconcile the objectives of companies seeking to develop lean operations in terms of staffing with the need to create good jobs for as many people as possible.

The central challenge is engagement: how can the development community and the corporate sector work more effectively together? Initiatives such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative have sought collaborative solutions to specific development issues and proved extremely effective in dealing with revenue transparency. Yet more efforts are needed even in this narrow area.

“We need to see more innovation in the relationship between governments and the private sector,” commented Mary Robinson, Vice-President of the Club of Madrid and Former President of Ireland. Muhammad Yunus pointed to the Grameen social business model, harnessing the self-sufficiency and effectiveness of the private sector to reach public goals such as better healthcare, access to energy and clean water.

Another suggestion to spark entrepreneurship and help developing countries jump-start economic growth came from Professor Yunus. He suggested that the vibrant and creative energy of engaged citizens can make a difference. He urged young citizens to “use business techniques to solve problems in a sustainable way”. Finally he described the Grameen social business model, which has a proven track record and shows that inclusive projects can be successful.

Muhammad Yunus would go beyond tinkering with a few institutions, however powerful. “Two-thirds of the world population is left out” of the global banking system, he noted. “That is not going to work. Why not be inclusive?” His Grameen Bank microcredit scheme and other similar initiatives, such as the successful Grameen social business model, prove that inclusive projects can be successful.

According to Per Tjernberg, Director of BearingPoint, the development sector can learn from business. “In the business sector, we work with transparency, accountability, efficiency and results-based management – we face the same challenges as the development sector,” he said. “The point of departure is the customers’ needs. In the development context, this means the needs of the poor citizens to whom the aid is directed.”

Why not a people-centred approach?

More generally, civil society and citizens must be given a greater role in the economic system, argued the founder of the Microfinance movement, Muhammad Yunus. The prevailing model favours profit-driven businesses for many activities, with the government taking responsibility for others. Why not the people? The Commission on the Legal Empowerment of the Poor has laid down the principles for entrusting a greater role to individuals, especially the poorest.

Legal Empowerment of the Poor

The four interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars identified by the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor (LEP) – access to justice and rule of law, property rights, labour rights and business rights – form a useful basis for a more people-centred approach. Some called for LEP’s focus to reach all vulnerable and excluded populations since LEP has the potential to play a critical role in achieving and sustaining the Millennium Development Goals. Political will at the state level is crucial for LEP reforms to succeed, as is additional funding.
What future for Official Development Assistance (ODA)?

ODA is a concept under stress. The focus of development aid needs to go beyond “post-colonial hang ups and charity”. There is a nascent debate about moving from the current aid model to other forms of international cooperation to better address the myriad of challenges from the economic crisis to climate change, migration and security.

“It is time to transmit rhetoric into concrete action,” said Otive Igbuzor. Koos Richelle, Director General of the European Commission’s Cooperation Office, noted that: “Donors should put their practices where their policies are, because this is a big problem at the moment. We in the donor community are not very good at deliverables.”

Better governance and transparency, together with increased efficiency, would be good first steps toward creating a more effective model. Moreover, moving beyond the customary ODA model, donor countries could partner with developing countries in areas such as food security, rural development and urbanisation by helping them to develop intelligent and effective land management policies.

In the long run, President Bai Koroma underlined the importance “to reduce our dependence on the foreign inflows of aid”. Following the same line, the Swedish Minister for Trade, Ewa Björing, stated: “The ultimate aim must be that we do not need foreign aid.”

Development policy after the Lisbon Treaty

The Lisbon Treaty “opens up a new era for European development policy”, said Huguette Labelle. European Commission President José Manuel Barroso commented that ratification of the Lisbon Treaty holds great promise: “[It] will encourage Europe to look outwards to the rest of the world once again. As we do so, development policy is one of the key instruments. I believe in a Europe that is open and committed to the values of development, freedom and solidarity.”

Beyond the emergence of the new European External Action Service, there are three key new provisions on development:

• It formally enshrines reduction/eradication of poverty as the primary objective of EU development cooperation.
• Member States and the EU are obliged to coordinate their development policies to promote complementarity and efficiency.
• It gives a legal base to policy coherence for development, placing the obligation on the Union to take account of development objectives in the other policies, which it implements and affects developing countries.

Time is ripe for action

Many speakers agreed that the time is ripe for action. “The policy environment in Africa has never been better; the productivity of aid has never been higher,” said Shantayanan Devarajan, Chief Economist for the Africa Region at the World Bank. “This is the time to invest, because the continent is on the point of take-off.”

Senegalese singer Youssou N’Dour shared the same optimism: “If you think you can’t succeed in Africa, you’re wrong. You can succeed in Africa.”
OVERCOMING FRAGILITY IN AFRICA – FORGING A NEW EUROPEAN APPROACH

1st European Report on Development

A new initiative

The European Report on Development (ERD) is a new initiative that seeks, in partnership with top-level researchers and experts from developed and developing countries, to help shape and influence the EU’s perspective on the most pressing development issues in a changing global context. It is a concrete manifestation of the European Union’s commitment, as the world’s largest aid donor, to go beyond just aid delivery and to contribute to the global policy dialogue on development. This joint initiative is supported by the European Commission and six Member States: Spain, Sweden, Germany, the United Kingdom, Finland and Luxembourg.

Fragility, the theme of the first European Report on Development, launched at European Development Days, was described as the “toughest development challenge of our era”. How to deal with situations of fragility is an increasingly important priority for the European development and security agendas.

Stefano Manservisi, European Commission Director-General for Development and Relations with Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, noted the specific challenges to policymakers posed by fragility and presented the current EU initiatives, including the forthcoming Action Plan on situations of fragility and conflicts as well as budget support in fragile situations undertaken in collaboration with the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the IMF.

“Overcoming fragility must be addressed to make progress on development. But it is also in our interest, with the aim to ensure global stability and prosperity in an [increasingly] interdependent world.”

Stefano Manservisi

Recommendations from the ERD included urging the EU to fully exploit its potential by enhancing coherence and coordination to speak and act with one voice. The EU should also be committed to long term-policy objectives and concentrate its support on building human and institutional capital where it benefits from comparative advantages.

“What is innovative with the report is that it encapsulates experience based and theoretical viewpoints on state fragility and link these in a coherent way. It’s now to Member States to take the result and recommendations of this report forward and feed it in to the policy-making process”, said Joakim Stymne, State Secretary to the Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden.

The 2010 edition

The 2nd edition of the European Report on Development will focus on inequalities and access to social welfare in developing countries.
Development involves more than just development policy. Policy decisions of developed countries in many areas directly or indirectly affect the capacity of developing countries to fight poverty and achieve development goals. Raili Lahnalampi, Advisor, Policy Coherence for Development, Office of the Secretary General, OECD, emphasised the importance of Policy Coherence for Development (PCD). “Aid is too narrow. All policies must be linked. Trade and agriculture policies have a much greater impact on developing countries than development aid.”

To harness the positive contributions policies can make to development and minimise their negative effects, the EU has strengthen its approach to PCD in recent years.

Françoise Moreau, European Commission, presented the 2009 EU PCD report, which assesses the progress the European Union has made in making its policies more coherent.

The EU Treaty mandates the EU to take account of development objectives in all of its policies, she noted. “PCD is intended to prevent policies [in areas such as trade and common agriculture policy] from having negative effects on development and to enhance positive effects by building synergies between different policies areas,” she added. For example, EU research programmes focus on issues directly related to promoting development such as health and agriculture productivity.

Three sections

• The first analyses the mechanisms put in place within the EU to promote a higher degree of Policy Coherence for Development.
• The second examines the positive and negative impacts on development of EU policies in 12 policy areas.
• The third presents cases studies on how EU policies impact progress toward the Millennium Development Goals.

Françoise Moreau also explained the new approach to PCD that the European Commission proposed in its September 2009 Communication. The main idea is to focus PCD work around five priorities: security, migration, trade, global food security, and climate change. The advantage of this approach is that it allows policy makers to better deal with the multidimensional linkages between the different policies and to be more strategic and political.

Rilli Lappalainen, from CONCORD, acknowledged that the EU had made progress on PCD. But she noted that many NGOs take a critical view of the new approach proposed in the PCD Communication. They fear that looking at financial sources other than development assistance could weaken donors’ commitments to increase developing funding. She welcomed that the Commission recognised that cooperation on PCD issues should be strengthened with developing countries.
DEMOCRACY – A CORNERSTONE FOR DEVELOPMENT?

Three years after the first edition of the European Development Days, governance and democracy were back at the centre of discussions, a field in which the European Union distinguishes itself from other – more recent – development actors. Participants emphasised the need for more transparency, empowerment of citizens and accountable institutions. African leaders debated the role of new media in this context. The 15th anniversary of election observation missions was an opportunity to highlight the role of elections in democracy building. IDEA and iLEDA also took advantage of the forum to showcase their programmes in favour of democracy building and African leadership.

The question of whether to invest in infrastructure or building democracy is too simplistic, reacted Karel De Gucht, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid: “The Chinese model of pouring in money without conditions pleases some African leaders, but it is too simplistic to say that the Chinese model is bad and the EU model is good. The EU builds more roads in Africa than China, and not all of them leading to ports.”

Helen Clark, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, argued for both development and democracy. “Poor governance constrains development, but you don’t get development without basic infrastructure.” The choice is not between investing in infrastructure and building democratic institutions. “We should do both,” agreed Gunilla Carlsson, Minister for International Development Cooperation, Sweden.

“Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives [and] everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.”

1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Human rights and democracy – the building blocks of development

Democracy and development remain inextricably interlinked. For example, democracy has underpinned the political, social, cultural and economic development of the European Union since the end of World War II. It is increasingly recognised that development is more sustainable in countries where democratic governance has taken root.

Jerzy Buzek, President of the European Parliament, admitted: “We still have weaknesses with democracy in Europe; we must fight for democracy everyday.” However, European history teaches that development is fostered by democracy. Wars are harder to start in democracies. “Europe’s experience shows that democracy is superior,” he said.
As a result, human rights and democracy lie at the heart of the development policy of the European Union. “Without accountability, human rights and democracy in recipient countries, taxpayers in donor countries will not support development aid,” admitted Gunilla Carlsson.

More specifically, the Commission on the Legal Empowerment of the Poor (LEP) identifies four pillars where democracy and development must work hand-in-hand in order to implement a successful people-centred poverty reduction strategy: access to justice and the rule of law, property rights, labour rights and business rights.

“Voice and accountability” define the relationship between the state as “duty bearer” and of citizens as “rights holders”. Both are crucial for improving governance. At the same time, for citizens to uphold their rights and demand accountability, they must be empowered.

When citizens have capacity, knowledge and power to demand accountability from the state, their needs are more likely to be met in an effective and equitable way, leading to better development outcomes.

However, this also depends on politicians and policymakers having both the capacity and the will to respond. Tangible democracy requires strong institutions. “People need institutions and institutions need democratic procedures. Parliament is the most important institution in every democratic system,” said Jerzy Buzek.

Defence of human rights is critical in the fight against poverty. “Sustainable poverty reduction must go hand in hand with strengthening good governance and the rule of law. These are lessons learned from our own development,” said Gunilla Carlsson.

Human rights defenders, experts and activists explored this issue and focused on women’s sexual and reproductive rights. There was a call to build a global movement to defend women’s sexual and reproductive rights. “Safe motherhood is a human right – not a fringe benefit,” said Eunice Brookman-Amissah, IPAS Vice-President for Africa. She pointed out that progress on sexual and reproductive rights in Africa is very slow. IPAS is a non-profit organisation that works to protect women’s sexual and reproductive rights and reduce abortion-related deaths and injuries.

George Soros, Founder and Chairman of the Open Society Institute

“I have seen enough of movements to know that this movement will have legs. It is going to go a long way.”

Peter Ackermann, Founding Chair of the International Centre on Non-violent Conflicts, summed up the challenges: “It is difficult to do effective development without effective governance, [let alone] good governance. But how do you get there? It is difficult, especially in low-income countries where there are problems with legitimacy, with the role of the media and the role of the military,” he said.
New media and democracy

African leaders welcomed the potential of new media to offer opportunities for democracy, particularly as it transforms access to information and fosters freedom of expression. Media – and new media in particular – can offer a great potential for change in the developing world. “[New media] have the potential for many people to become informed and get knowledge,” said President Johnson-Sirleaf. Raila Odinga, Prime Minister of Kenya, an active blogger, said using new media gives his government the opportunity to communicate regularly with people who give valuable feedback about important issues. “It is a constant channel of communication that we use now. New media will play an [increasingly] critical role in the future. It brings communication down to the community level.”

“It enables young people to have a greater stake in society, to participate more and have informed choices and opinions. But there are clear downsides – kids don’t read anymore.”

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf

New media offer great potential for increasing participation and responsiveness, as well as accountability and transparency, as they are changing how – and from where – people get their information. Virtual participant, Erik Hersmann, Blogger and Editor of WhiteAfrican.com, said: “What new media does more than anything else is shake up the status quo. It allows normal hierarchies to be changed. They cannot be controlled any longer.”

However, there were some caveats expressed, including the challenge of how to promote new media as well as free, independent and quality journalism. In developing countries, new media face obstacles such as a lack of resources and high rates of illiteracy, as well as political persecution in some countries.

Mobile telephony has transformed media in Africa as people are using their mobile phones to access the Internet and to listen to radio, particularly community radio. In Kenya, 200,000 people had mobile phones three years ago. Today, there are more than 17 million.

Pansy Tlakula, Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression in Africa, stated: “We have to look at the conditions under which the media operate. In some parts of the [African] continent there are still criminal defamation and criminal libel laws, and these laws are used to prosecute journalists and media practitioners who publish stories critical of the government.”

New media are still shielded from political persecution. Nevertheless, unless new media comes with self-regulation, in few years or even in some months, they will be regulated by the state, she added.

There are limits as to how new media should be used particularly in institutional settings. “Many [traditional] media organisations are moving into cyberspace and are re-colonising it,” warned Fackson Banda, SAB LTD-UNESCO Chair of Media and Democracy at the School of Journalism and Media Studies at Rhodes University, South Africa.

Furthermore, new media ushers in many societal challenges that must be addressed, such as child pornography and human trafficking, alerted Pansy Tlakula, stressing the importance of self-regulation.

The rise of new media also underscores the need for improved infrastructure. When asked what new media could do for Liberia’s development, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf responded: “We just need the electricity.”
Elections, democracy and development

“People want democracy,” said Peter Ackermann. “We have seen this in Afghanistan and in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). People were risking their lives to go to the ballot box.”

“Democracy is a system that should be promoted, but the definition of democracy must be broader than simply a ballot box. Democracy promotion requires more than elections, it also requires institutions,” Amr Moussa urged. “The ballot box [alone] will not lead to democracy or real change towards a better life in the [developing world].”

Real democracy is about creating enabling conditions for citizens to participate in civic life between elections, said Kumi Naidoo, Co-Chair of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty. “Without enabling conditions, we can consign to the dustbin of history the connection between democracy and elections.” He added that if the EU wants to be a voice that supports democracy and development, it must be consistent in its practice at home and at international institutions.

There is a need to support the rule of law, the electoral process and the elections themselves, said Abbot Apollinaire Malu Malu, Chair of the Independent Electoral Commission, DRC. “There is a temptation to think that elections are the solution to everything. They are not. But there is heightened awareness after elections.” He cautioned that there can be a “let down” if there is no follow-up on the observers’ recommendations.

Elections may lead to stability, but they can also be instrumental for politicians seeking legitimacy. “No government can do without them, even if they are rigged,” said Souhayr Belhassen, President of the International Federation for Human Rights. “Election observation is fundamental.”

It is important to be “true to the civil society organisations that are really committed to democracy”, said Ana Gomes, MEP, Chief Observer of the Election Observation Missions in Ethiopia, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, East Timor and Angola. “Of course we are neutral with respect to the parties involved [in the elections]. The ultimate objective is respect for human rights. Then [when there are abuses] we cannot ignore them.”

Amr Moussa criticised the developed countries for “inconsistency” and “double standards”. He pointed to the West’s refusal to recognise some free election results in the Middle East and its different responses to human rights issues in Darfur and the Gaza Strip. Kumi Naidoo also pointed to the disparity between what the EU says about democracy and what it does.
The regional dimension

Interregional dialogue can strengthen democracy. Huguette Labelle from Transparency International noted that the European Union is an “exceptional example” of the ability to improve governance at national and regional level. Common challenges raised by the regional organisations include transparency, integrity, accountability and participation – the pillars of good governance, according to Huguette Labelle. The great diversity among – and within – regions provides a rich set of experiences.

Region-specific challenges include major conflicts and growing fundamentalism in the Arab world and South Asia, set-backs in democratic states in the Americas, and the discrimination of minority rights within the European Union.

The next step is a more systematic approach to creating inter-regional partnerships on democracy building and development. The time is ripe for a paradigm shift, away from a donor-recipient relationship, towards a relationship based on dialogue and the sharing of experiences in real peer-to-peer partnerships.

Training Africa’s future leaders – iLEDA

A new initiative presented at European Development Days aims to build and support responsive and responsible democratic leadership in Africa. The Initiative for Leadership and Democracy in Africa (iLEDA) is a democracy-training programme for political and civil leaders. It offers three programmes: the Political Leadership Programme (iLEDA Academy), the Citizen Leadership Programme (iLEDA School) and tailor-made consulting services.

“African democratic leadership has made much headway in the decades since African states attained independence,” said Olmo Von Meijenfeldt, Acting Programme Manager of iLEDA. “The aim of this partnership is to create an institution that will empower a new generation of political leaders.”

The initiative’s partners include IDASA, an African Democracy Institute based in South Africa; the Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy; and the Forum for Former African Heads of State and Government, Africa Forum. “It is critical that we get to the level where Africa can stop whining and complaining about the lack of leadership. We want to breed a wealth of citizens and politicians who are thinking about democracy as something they do everyday,” said Francina Mhundwa, Head of Advocacy and the Economic Governance Programme, IDASA.

Recommendations for action

A global consultation on the European Union’s role in democracy building was led by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA). The report underlines the potential for projection of the European Union’s values and principles as an example for other regions.

It stresses the importance of moving from donorship to partnership and the need to think beyond traditional electoral assistance activities.

It complements existing regional integration policies covering trade, climate change and other global challenges individual countries cannot tackle alone.
REWARDING JOURNALISTS COMMITTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

From the black market in corpses to child witch doctors, this year’s winners of the Lorenzo Natali journalism prizes have demonstrated enormous courage and commitment to their profession by bringing important stories to public light. The Lorenzo Natali Prize is the EU prize for journalists committed to human rights, democracy and development, organised since 1992 by the European Commission.

This year the independent jury, chaired by Barbara Serra (Al Jazeera), selected the Grand Prize winner, Yee-Chong Lee, among the more than 1 000 entries from 133 countries. By reporting on the 2008 Sichuan earthquake, the award-winning TV report discloses the corruption in the Chinese construction sector. His report focuses on the issue of substandard construction, especially public schools, which many people blame for the huge death toll during the 2008 earthquake. Lee’s report gives a voice to the relatives of the victims.

The award ceremony took place in Stockholm on the 22nd of October with several high level figures presenting prizes, such as Nobel Peace Laureate Muhammad Yunus, BBC presenter Stephen Sackur, Vice-President of the European Commission Margot Wallström, Prime Minister of Haiti Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis and the European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid Karel De Gucht.

“Media is power but the question is, for what purpose you want to make use of that power.”
Muhammad Yunus
Citizenship was at the heart of the fourth edition of the European Development Days. Linking citizenship and development involves addressing two big issues. There is “European citizenship” and how development policy shapes that identity. There is also the role of citizens in the development process, in each town, district, region and country. Citizens, at the heart of the Joint EU-AU Strategy, play a key role in upholding the principles of transparency and accountability. They can also play a key role in promoting rural development or protecting the rights of women, mothers and children. Culture can help build citizenship. As a common denominator between citizens, culture constitutes a “social blender” that can promote mutual understanding and cohesion. As such, it can foster development.

European Commission President José Manuel Barroso described the European Union’s development policy as based on three values, at the heart of the European identity:

- Solidarity with partner countries
- Global governance based on universal values
- Respect for the environment

This may help explain why European citizens, across the Union, are such staunch supporters of development aid. The October 2009 Eurobarometer Survey, Development Aid in Times of Economic Turmoil, reminded European leaders that they have the support of European citizens to pursue a strong development agenda.

European citizens as actors of development
Citizens can make a difference. Their vibrant and creative energy can be harnessed to assist the fight against global poverty, through social work, a commitment to NGOs, and advocacy.

Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Laureate 2006 and Managing Director of the Grameen Bank, urged young citizens to “use business techniques to solve problems in a sustainable way”. Professor Yunus described the Grameen social business model, which has a proven track record and shows that inclusive projects can be successful.

Yet, some warned that the trends were not all positive. “When I was young, the youth from European political parties would go to Africa. I see this as declining now.” Benjamin Mkapa, Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Member of the Club of Madrid, lamented the decline in such cooperation programmes and cultural exchanges. He believes that these are important: “Otherwise things will be determined by a network of leaders and not a network of citizens.”

How can European citizens further promote global change? Through the revitalisation of the European Volunteer Service, said Margot Wallström, Vice-President of the European Commission. “The potential is enormous,” she said. “We could expand and do more with the European Volunteer Service.” It would enable more Europeans to gain first-hand experience in partner countries.

Europeans support development aid
Despite hard times, when many are unemployed or are feeling the pinch of the economic crisis, 90% of Europeans believe that development is important, 72% believe in honouring or going beyond existing commitments and one in two see poverty as the greatest challenge faced by partner countries. A large majority – 61% – feels that Europe can positively contribute to the debate on global development.
Citizenship and Development

Development education

Development education is also an essential policy tool to mobilise European citizens in favour of a fairer and freer world, as it can make them more aware of global challenges. “We would like to have more dangerous citizens in order to have a less dangerous world,” commented Denis Huber, Executive Director of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe.

Yet, much-needed national strategies on development education are still missing in many EU member states. “Development education is even more important than aid support,” said Justin Kilcullen, President of CONCORD.

Meanwhile, it is also essential to promote the role of citizens in partner countries. Åke Larsson, FOLAC (Swedish Folk High Schools), argued for greater efforts to allow citizen exchanges in both directions. “Young people in Europe have the opportunity to go to Africa, but we need to turn around the traffic,” he said. “It is very difficult to bring African young people to Europe.” Their involvement is essential to the successful implementation of development strategies. Behind rural development, ownership, accountability and culture, you need the power of mobilised, active citizens.

East meets South

Cultural programmes and mutual cooperation exchanges with Eastern Member States have the potential to help partner countries reach the Millennium Development Goals and establish democratic institutions.

Former Eastern bloc countries faced many challenges transitioning from socialist regimes to democratic governance, free market economies and EU membership. Southern partner countries face similar challenges today. Together, they can build on best practices in democracy building and the transition to market economies.

As recent aid donors, Eastern European Member States are strengthening their presence in partner countries and extending financial commitments for better cooperation with the South.

Citizens at the heart of the Africa-EU Partnership

The relationship between Africa and the EU has evolved from cooperation to a Strategic Partnership based on an equal relationship and an inclusive process, said Alpha Oumar Konaré, former President of the African Union Commission. Two years after the signature of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy by 80 African and European Heads of States and governments, progress has yet to be made to put the people-centred partnership between Africa and Europe into practice.

There is a rich diversity of ways citizens can be – and have already been – involved in the partnership between the two continents: the participative partnership signed in Lisbon guarantees a role for both the institution and citizens, notably through parliaments and civil society on both sides of the Mediterranean. However, challenges remain on how to achieve a structured and efficient dialogue between all actors, which would ensure that the voice of citizens further contributes to the process.

A central role should be assigned to the African Diaspora in designing cooperation projects, as citizens living within Europe enjoy a strategic position, at the crossroads of Africa and Europe.
Strengthening transparency and accountability

Citizens also have a key role to play in upholding the principles of transparency and accountability. Huguette Labelle, Chair of the Board of Directors of Transparency International, urged citizens to pressure politicians to keep their promises. “Unless citizens insist that promises are kept, politicians feel very lonely.”

For example, in many partner countries, citizens often face challenges in accessing transparent information on natural resource revenues. Empowerment of civil society organisations is fundamental. Alfred Brownell, Director of Green Advocates in Liberia, described an initiative to empower citizens and communities to participate in natural resource management. Green Advocates has created a user-friendly contract review and monitoring kit that will permit citizens to track finances in the extractive industries sector.

Clear and accessible information is crucial. “Civil society organisations, the media and parliamentarians need information to follow money and hold governments accountable for management and use of nations’ natural resource revenues,” said Antoine Heuty, Deputy Director of the Revenue Watch Institute. The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) was used as an example. EITI improves the quality of information on natural resource management systems. It brings together civil society, governments and companies to reconcile government receipts with company payments.

Anna Orlia Chifungula, Auditor General, Zambia, emphasised the use of communication in all phases of the auditing process to achieve accountability and combat corruption. In the past, government entities often disputed audit findings, but with better communications, disputes have decreased. “We communicate that we are not conducting a witch hunt, but just auditing to see if the finances are correct. We have developed understanding and respect among the entities we audit,” she noted. Ms. Chifungula said she encourages NGOs to act as watchdogs.

Young citizens promoting rural development

The future of rural areas also depends on the commitment of young citizens. Rural areas need not be doomed to continuous brain and body drains. They need schools, accessible and affordable medical services, roads and employment opportunities. Revitalisation of rural areas would give a reason for young people to stay. Reconstruction measures in some partner countries have focused on urban areas and rural areas have fallen behind. As a result, many of those who have migrated to the cities “don’t see rural areas as attractive places”, argued Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President of Liberia.

Rural areas have potential to provide self-sustaining livelihoods and opportunities. Services such as banking are increasingly available in rural areas through mobile communications. Expanding Internet access will open new opportunities in education, business and medical services.

Citizenship includes gender equality

“Citizenship is the right to enjoy human rights. Implicit in this is gender equality. Women are victims of discrimination in every country in the world,” said Fredrik Reinfeldt, Prime Minister of Sweden.

“All of us have failed” in stopping the sexual violence against women, agreed Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund. “Sexual abuse is not a woman’s issue. It is a human rights issue,” added Margot Wallström. “Sexual violence against women is regularly met by impunity. Impunity is not an option and must be ended,” demanded Patricia Buritica, Member of the National Commission for Reparation and Reconciliation, Colombia.
According to United Nations resolution, women’s networks should be supported to participate in peace negotiations and peace building, including fighting sexual violence. Indeed, United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889 call on countries to engage women in conflict resolution, peacemaking and peace building and to prevent violence against women.

Ruth Ojiambo Ochieng, representing the Women’s International Cross Cultural Exchange, complained that after years of war in Uganda, women were not invited to the peace negotiations. Short of being promoted as decision-makers, women looked for channels to communicate their experiences. They collected women’s testimonies from war zones and distributed the information on DVDs.

“*The perception that women are only victims of war and conflict, and not drivers for peace, must change.*”

Gunilla Carlsson

For change to happen, unprecedented levels of cooperation between development and defence actors would need to be explored. National Action Plans for the implementation of the Resolutions are crucial to allow monitoring and follow-up.

“A resolution is only as good as its implementation,” agreed Margot Wallström. Gender imbalance remains a major problem, even in Europe. She noted that all 11 EU special representatives are male, and women head only seven of 133 EU delegations. A critical mass of women and affirmative action, including quotas, are necessary to ensure inclusion of women.

Culture for development

“Culture connects between the past, the present and the future. Without the past and without a transformation of the past, there can be no development,” noted Ong Keng Sen, Director of TheatreWorks, Singapore. Culture can thus serve to connect generations and bring communities together. In South Africa, Georgina Thomson, Artistic Director of the Dance Umbrella Festival, South Africa, explained that “the festival – launched 21 years ago during the apartheid era – was created specifically to bring people from all cultures.”

As such, culture can help build identity and citizenship: “Marginalised young people were brought into full economic and civic life of the country as they became dancers in Kenya,” explained Joy Mboya, from the GoDown Arts Centre in Nairobi.

Culture also plays a fundamental role in conflict prevention, post-conflict situations and reconciliation processes. “In conflict and post-conflict situations, culture is often the only thing that makes societies stick,” said Koos Richelle, Director General of the European Commission’s Cooperation Office, in Kenya, where the last election of 2007 was highly contested and resulted in two months of disturbing violence, artists in music, poetry and visual arts began to explore the question of ethnic conflict.

Though it is not always easy to make the arts economically viable, creativity represents tremendous economic value. The cultural and creative industries are increasingly becoming a major source of income and employment. Senegalese singer Youssou N’Dour alone has created 250 permanent jobs to support his professional activities.
IN Volving Young citizens in development through creative works

Development Youth Prize

The moment they had been waiting for finally arrived. A big envelope was opened and all the whispering in the packed hall stopped: Who would get the first prize? And who would be the runner-up? Fifty-four finalists, their teachers and 200 students in the audience listened carefully to the announcement of this year’s winners of the EU’s Development Youth Prize. The delight on the faces of those 27 students who won the fantastic first prize was obvious – they are going on a five-day trip to Africa.

But the runners-up were also called on stage to receive their certificates from Development Commissioner Karel De Gucht and Senegalese singer Youssou N’Dour. The award ceremony in the Kulturhuset – a trendy cultural centre in the city of Stockholm where the youth outreach programme of Development Days was held – was an event in itself.

All the finalists did a great job – that was clear when the posters and videos created by all the 54 laureates were shown on a huge screen. They were very creative in imagining this year’s themes: “Gender Equality”, “Children and Youth” and “Cultural Diversity” in Africa. No wonder the Grand Jury had selected their art works out of more than 1,200 posters and videos that were sent in by 16 – 18 old students from all the 27 EU Member States. Laureates got a taste of what Africa is like, its sounds and rhythms, when listening to Mokoomba, a young band from Zimbabwe, who are winners of the Music Crossroads InterRegional Festival (IRF), a competition for young musicians in Southern Africa. When they hit the drums, the audience could hardly keep still, and moved to the rhythm of the young band.

But the big surprise was kept until the very end: where in Africa will the 27 prizewinners go? Moderator Shire Raghe, an MTV and Swedish TV personality, gave no hint whatsoever. The European Commissioner, Karel De Gucht, was also tight-lipped until the very end. In his very personal opening speech he talked about his own children and how impressed they were when they visited Africa for the first time. Laureates will feel the same, he said, when they see the poverty, but also the hope in people’s eyes and the joy in their lives. Students will witness development projects on the ground and, it is hoped, will become ambassadors for development, talking about their experiences with their friends and family.

And finally, where are the winners going? European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, Karel De Gucht, revealed it at the end of the ceremony: Ghana in West Africa.
IN INVOLVING YOUNG CITIZENS IN DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MUSIC
Music against poverty contest

The Music against poverty contest, organised by the European Commission in order to mobilise youth in the fight against poverty, has been a real success: 250 songs from more than 20 countries have been submitted! With their song Let’s join together, the contest winner Ensemble pour la paix urges the world to unite in the fight against poverty and for peace.

During the summer, young EU citizens were invited to share their message on fighting poverty and promoting development through the first Music against poverty contest organised by the European Commission. With over 250 contributions and a wide variety of styles – from a classical piano piece to rock and hip-hop – the participants approached the issue of poverty and development in their own different ways. The prize of the contest included a professional recording of the winning song as well as the possibility to get the message out on fighting poverty through performances at the European Development Days in Stockholm and during the award ceremony.

In their winning song the multinational group Ensemble pour la paix, sings – in not less than four languages – about the importance of fighting poverty and working for peace together. “We deeply believe that music can unite people and cultures that often are divided. We have several times met situations of poverty and difficulties in Rome but also in our home countries and in Africa where some of us have worked. These experiences gave us words, images and feelings to our contribution to the contest. We want to dedicate this victory to all poor people we met in the streets of our cities, in Africa and worldwide. We keep all of them in our hearts in this joyful moment,” the members of the winning group Ensemble pour la paix say.

Ensemble pour la paix is made up of nine university students in Rome in the age of 23-24, coming from different parts of Italy as well as from Germany and Romania. The group was founded in the beginning of this year with the aim to assemble different musicians from different traditions and with different instruments. Music influences such as pop and rock, folk, classic and traditional Italian music gives Ensemble pour la paix a significant sound. The song Let’s join together was written especially for the Music against poverty contest and by singing in several different languages Ensemble pour la paix wanted to express and transmit a European spirit.

The Music against poverty contest was organised in the frame of the I fight poverty campaign which encourages teenagers to get involved in the fight against poverty. The campaign website also explains EU development policy and provides information projects on issues from food security to conflict prevention.

www.ifightpoverty.eu/index_en.htm

A winning logo for the Kapuscinski Lectures

The award ceremony of the logo competition for the Kapuscinski Lectures took place during the East Meets South roundtable. Students at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw submitted logos in a competition organised with the support of the European Commission Representation in Poland. The winner was Aleksandra Dębińska, a 4th year student.

The logo helps to promote the identity and visibility of the Lectures, named after the late Ryszard Kapuscinski, a Polish reporter and writer renowned for his coverage of developing countries. From 2009 to 2010, experts from around the world will give lectures on development cooperation at universities in the 12 recent EU member countries. Together, these Member States provide €1 billion of development assistance. The lectures are supported by the European Commission and the United Nations Development Programme.
Two years after Lisbon, climate change was back at the centre of the 4th edition of the European Development Days. It was an opportunity, yet again, to garner support and call on the international community to take up its responsibility, ahead of the Copenhagen Summit in December 2009. Responding to the investment challenge was a key topic. There was a strong consensus that climate change mitigation and adaptation would be less expensive if addressed right away. It is a question of political leadership but local authorities also have a key role to play. Furthermore, climate change can also be understood as an opportunity, especially in terms of green growth.

“Climate change is already causing havoc,” said Raila Odinga, Prime Minister of Kenya. The least developed countries, and among them small island states, are most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change – droughts, severe storms, floods, disease, salinisation of soils and food insecurity.

“Climate change is not only an environmental issue, but a development priority. Climate change poses a serious risk to poverty reduction and threatens to undo decades of development efforts towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,” said Margot Wallström, Vice-President of the European Commission.

Just six weeks before the December 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, European Development Days gave a voice to those least likely to be heard, though they are already suffering from climate change.

Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis, Prime Minister of Haiti, described the severe storms, including 24 hurricanes, which have ravaged the Caribbean region between 1996 and 2008. Hurricanes have caused thousands of deaths and destroyed agriculture and infrastructure.

Developing countries can shift to lower-carbon paths while promoting development and reducing poverty, but this depends on financial and technical assistance from high-income countries, says “World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change”. A key way to do this is by ramping up funding for mitigation in developing countries, where most future growth in emissions will occur.

The report examines the use of existing low-carbon technologies and best practices to significantly reduce energy consumption, cut energy consumption in industry and the power sector by 20-30%, and help to reduce carbon footprints without sacrificing growth.

In addition, many changes to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases also deliver significant benefits in environmental sustainability, public health, energy security, and financial savings. Avoiding deforestation, for instance, preserves watersheds and protects biodiversity, while forests can effectively serve as a carbon sink, absorbing carbon dioxide.

Solving the climate problem requires a transformation of the world’s energy systems in the coming decades. Research and development investments in the order of €70-470 billion annually will be needed – a major increase from the modest €9 billion a year of public funds and €25 billion to €40 billion a year of private funds currently invested.
Thanks to rising sea levels and storm surges, “Micronesia is on the verge of drowning,” said Emanuel Manny Mori, President of the Federated States of Micronesia. “Climate change threatens our very existence. The small island states cannot address climate change alone,” Manny Mori added.

Mary Simon, President of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the indigenous people of Arctic regions of Canada, Greenland and Alaska, stated: “The small island states are sinking because the Arctic is melting.” The Inuit’s lifestyle, homes and infrastructure are threatened by melting ice caps and permafrost. “My homeland is melting. The effects of climate change are being felt on a day-to-day basis in the Arctic. Adaptation is now a policy imperative, but we cannot adapt to unrestricted carbon emissions.”

“Ultimately, our islands represent our collective global destiny. For if you fail to understand and prioritise the plight of my people and other vulnerable people throughout the world, I guarantee you that you will lead your own people and nations down a parallel course,” Emanuel Manny Mori

A global challenge calling for a “roadmap to sustainable development on a global scale”

“European Development Days reflects the engagement of the European Union in promoting sustainable mutual development,” said Tertius Zongo, Prime Minister of Burkina Faso.

Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt urged all countries to put aside their narrow national interests and “not fall into cynical calculations of how to avoid lowering one’s own emissions. The challenges are too serious and great to be bargained with. We must build the resilience of the poorest and the ecosystems on which they depend.”

Leaders at European Development Days invited the world community to confront this “millennium” challenge as one. “When our endangered planet sinks as a result of climate change, we all will go under. There will be no distinction between developed and developing countries. This is therefore not another time for a blame game. It is no longer a question of who has started the damage, and who has created the most havoc. We must hold each other’s hands and work together,” said Raila Odinga.

“What is needed now is a roadmap to sustainable development on a global scale and that is what Copenhagen must provide, in the shape of an ambitious, fair and binding agreement, covering the period after 2012,” said Commissioner Wallström.

“We believe that we all can come to an agreement in Copenhagen which both promotes economic advancement in the developing world and effective measures against global warming,” concluded Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt. “We have to act simultaneously on warming up a deep-frozen economy and cooling down an overheated mother Earth.”
Developing countries are crucial to sealing the deal
Much of the developing world’s scepticism is focused on the United States. Nobel Chemistry Laureate and Obama Administration advisor, Professor Mario Molina, reminded the audience of US political realities: “Obama is personally committed to reaching an effective deal at Copenhagen, but the US Senate must approve and time is growing short.” He intimated that for an agreement to be approved by the US Senate, emerging economies such as China and India must commit to binding emission reductions.

“China is serious and willing to commit to specific emission reduction actions, but will not commit to specific emission targets,” predicted Wu Changhua, Greater China Director of the Climate Group. She noted that domestic considerations, including the Chinese leadership’s ongoing analysis for the next five-year plan, means that China cannot commit to binding reductions right now.

Rich world climate negotiators “lack a sense of historical responsibility for climate change”, said Satu Hassi, Member of the European Parliament. Clarisse Kehler Siebert, Research Fellow at the Stockholm Environmental Institute, noted that rich country negotiators don’t like to talk about responsibility, but rather want to talk about climate change as a problem to be solved efficiently. For developing countries, however, “climate change is a matter of compensation and a hindrance to development”.

“Mistrust between developed and developing countries is undermining hopes for Copenhagen. The negotiations can succeed, but it will be difficult. We need to break the vicious circle of mistrust and build a virtuous circle in its place,” said José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission.

The European Commission analysis is that about €100 billion of additional finance for mitigation and adaptation may be needed in developing countries by 2020. Between 20-40% of that could come from domestic sources; about 40% from the carbon market and the remainder could be funded by international public finance. Based on the twin principles of an ability to pay and a responsibility for emissions, the EU contribution could reach €2-15 billion by 2020. But this requires a sufficiently ambitious overall agreement and corresponding contributions by other countries.

It is of particular importance to address emissions from deforestation and forest degradation as part of the Copenhagen agreement. About 20% of global emissions result from these activities. The Commission calls for the cessation of the loss of global forest cover by 2030 at the latest and the halving of gross tropical deforestation from current levels by 2020.

A major World Bank study released in Stockholm estimated the cost for developing countries to adapt to a 2-degree Celsius increase in temperature at between €50-70 billion a year for the period 2010-2050.

While developed countries are historically the most responsible for greenhouse gas emissions causing climate change, President Barroso argued that even if developed countries shut down their emissions to zero today, but developing countries, such as China, India, Brazil, Mexico and others, continued business as usual, the world’s temperature will almost certainly increase by more than 2-degrees Celsius.

Raila Odinga agreed: “In this game there are no offenders or victims. Ultimately, all of us will be victims.”

“There are no winners or losers – either we all win or we all lose,” said Margot Wallström.

“Developing countries are crucial to sealing the deal in Copenhagen,” said José Manuel Barroso. With developing countries having to curb emissions, he called upon the European Council to finalise “credible funding arrangements” to help partner countries with climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
Global Climate Change Alliance

In response to the climate change challenges posed to most vulnerable and poor developing countries, in particular the Least Developed Countries and the Small Island Developing States, the European Commission launched the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) at the European Development Days in 2007. Its aim is to foster dialogue on climate change policies between the EU and groups of target countries (e.g., Africa, the Caribbean, the Pacific) and to enhance financial cooperation at country and regional level in the field of climate change, in particular for adaptation, but also on access to the Clean Development Mechanism, research and development and disaster risk reduction. A first set of 15 countries has been selected as beneficiaries of the GCCA.

Financing adaptation and technology transfer

“If we as developed states can create an International Monetary Fund and a World Bank to stabilise monetary and fiscal conditions among states, then I propose we agree in Copenhagen to establish an international climate adaptation and mitigation fund with an initial investment of US$ 20 billion by the G20 countries to help citizens of the planet to adapt to the inevitable changes and to accelerate technology transfer,” said Mary Simon.

Financing for adaptation is urgent. Least developed countries are more dependent on their natural resources and therefore more vulnerable. Adaptation needs to include new production approaches to ensure food security, improved access to water resources, new energy sources, early warning systems and capacity to deal with disasters. Development strategies must enhance resilience.

A fair and equitable agreement on climate change must take full consideration of the right of poor people to economic development, including access to water, food security, infrastructure and economic prosperity. Anders Wijkman, of the Tällberg Foundation, noted that there is a “wide trust gap” between North and South that must be bridged for Copenhagen to produce a climate change agreement that fairly incorporates the right of poor people to development.

Disaster risk reduction – more inclusiveness and coordination

The impacts of climate-change related disasters – severe storms, droughts, epidemics and plagues – are already prevalent. Poor women and children are the most vulnerable. Actions are needed to strengthen their resilience. “We need change at the frontline,” said Marcus C. Oxley, Chairman of the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction.

Children, as one of the most vulnerable groups, should be involved in climate decision-making processes. “Children are competent citizens of the world. They have a right to participate in decisions that affect their lives,” argued Amri Avianto, Disaster Management Specialist at Plan International, Indonesia.

Disaster risk reduction is an integral part of climate change adaptation. Investing in reduction measures is highly cost-effective. Prevention, mitigation and preparedness all need to be integrated into policies and concrete actions.
Prime Minister Tertius Zongo considered technology transfer as an “absolute need”, especially if Africa is to rely on renewable energy instead of fossil fuels. Edward Natapei, Prime Minister of Vanuatu, requested that the EU ensures that the required technology be transferred in order for Pacific countries to be able to implement Copenhagen.

For Copenhagen to produce a meaningful agreement, developed and emerging economy nations must provide adequate funding to pay for mitigation, adaptation and clean development in the developing countries. Jeremy Hobbs, Executive Director of Oxfam International argued: “The EU needs to come up with €35 billion. This money must be new. It is not acceptable to recycle previously committed aid money. No new money, no deal.” Raila Odinga agreed: “Development partners should not give with one hand and take away with the other.”

Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis called for climate justice. “Vulnerable states are not asking for gifts. We ask for fair and just reparations for the harm we have suffered.”

“We must work with and depend on one another to save the world. That is what climate justice is about,” said Mary Robinson, Vice-President of the Club of Madrid and former President of Ireland.

Climate change adaptation strategies must be built on the existing capacities of people and families – their local knowledge, livelihoods and social networks. Community facilitators, governments and local authorities have important roles to play in disaster risk reduction. Development and humanitarian assistance can be more effective by emphasising disaster preparedness, rather than disaster relief.

Some argued for a vulnerability index to be developed to guide distribution of financing for adaptation. There was also a general reminder that in delivery and governance of financial resources, lessons should be learned from the aid effectiveness agenda.

Europe and climate change

The EU’s Climate Change and Energy Package will unilaterally cut greenhouse gas emissions in the European Union by 20% compared to 1990 levels, by 2020. Moreover, EU leaders have committed to a 30% reduction by the end of the next decade if other developed countries commit themselves comparably and if more advanced developing countries contribute adequately.

For the European Union, the challenge of Copenhagen is to agree mid-term actions consistent with the long-term objective of developed countries reducing emissions by at least 80% compared to 1990 by the middle of the century, so that global emissions peak by 2020.

It’s time for political leadership

Sara Hlupekile Longwe, social activist in Zambia, drew a parallel between issues of gender equality and climate change. “If politicians were to apply a feminist perspective to climate change, there would be more caring, solidarity and long-term commitments, and less worrying about winning the next election.”

“The climate negotiations are being conducted like trade negotiations. Everyone is holding back,” complained Mary Robinson. “This is a political leadership issue. We need to see heads of state in Copenhagen.”

“President Obama must put his political weight behind Copenhagen,” added Rajendra K. Pachauri, Nobel Peace Laureate 2007 and Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Despite rumours that Obama will not attend, President Barroso optimistically noted: “I expect Obama will come to Copenhagen.”

Europe is making significant efforts to ensure success at Copenhagen, said Carl Bildt, Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs. “While the economic crisis is a crisis of a generation, climate change is a once-in-a-millennium crisis. The EU and the Swedish presidency are committed to doing everything we can to shape the deal we know is necessary in Copenhagen.”

Rajenda K. Pachauri, praised Europe for taking the lead in fighting climate change. “Europe has been a beacon,” he said. “Clearly, Europe represents our best hope.”
Green growth – and fairer growth

“We should not think about this only as a burden or a cost. We should think of this as an opportunity to build a healthier, cleaner and fairer world,” concurred Margot Wallström.

“The good news is that solutions are available that can increase resilience. We need a combined approach from development actors, governments and private companies to make these solutions work for those most in need,” argued Martin Frick, Director of the Global Humanitarian Forum.

Jeremy Hobbs expressed some optimism that business opposition to an effective climate change deal can be overcome. “Industry wants certainty and a price on carbon to permit planning. Industry in the US is splitting. Industry will be pushing for a deal,” he predicted.

Nevertheless, the market on its own cannot and will not save the planet. Political leadership remains essential. “I do realise that market mechanisms do have a role to play to encourage innovation. Left to its own devices, the market is not going to be enough to save the planet. The current financial crisis has demonstrated this,” said Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis.

Cities and territories – key actors of sustainability

Enlightened regional and local governance is essential for sustainable development and poverty reduction. Regional and local authorities are important actors in addressing the energy crisis and climate change. Proactive regional policies must focus on decentralised renewable energy production and smart grids, improved building insulation and enhanced energy storage.

“Regions need to lead in promoting decentralised, distributed, renewable energy generation and energy-efficient buildings. This will serve as a motor for economic recovery and create thousands of jobs,” said Jascha Scheele, of the Assembly of European Regions. “Depressed regions in the South can benefit from European expertise promoting links across borders and amongst regions,” added Martin Guillermo Ramírez, Secretary General of the Association of European Border Regions.

Climate Change – the time to act is now

To break the apparent political impasse, Mario Molina urged focusing on the economic arguments for acting now. It will be much more expensive if action is deferred. “There is an economic imperative as well as an ethical imperative to act now. We don’t have time for more consciousness raising before Copenhagen, but we can make the economic case.”

Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, agreed: “Time is of supreme importance in facing climate change. Delay would only increase the cost of adaptation and mitigation.”
Calling climate change a “major development challenge”, José Manuel Barroso acknowledged that developed countries are largely responsible for climate change. “[However], we are all in this together. Developing countries are crucial to sealing the deal in Copenhagen.”

José Manuel Barroso,
President of the European Commission

“We have difficulty making headlines, but a recent poll showed that 42% of Europeans want more media coverage of development.”

Karel De Gucht,
European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid

“The Bretton Woods institutions are beginning to show their age. Some say it is time to consider their retirement.”

Otive Igbuzor,
Head of International Campaigns at ActionAid International

“I think the IMF is going back to its roots.”

Dominique Strauss-Kahn,
Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund

“Rich countries have no use for the special drawing rights.”
(recently allocated by the IMF as part of efforts to boost global liquidity).
“If Europe took advantage of this it could put together a package worth US$100 billion.”

George Soros,
Chairman of the Open Society Institute
“It is not enough to say what will happen if there is a two-degree [Celsius] increase in 2050. We need US$2 billion a year now to adapt, and other African countries have similar needs.”

Raila Odinga, Prime Minister of Kenya

“Countries must put narrow national interests aside and not fall into cynical calculations of how to avoid lowering one’s own emissions. The challenges are too serious and great to be bargained with.”

Fredrik Reinfeldt, Prime Minister of Sweden

“Europe has been a beacon and can take the lead. Clearly, Europe represents our best hope.”

“We still have weaknesses with democracy in Europe; we must fight for democracy everyday.”

Jerzy Buzek, President of the European Parliament

“It has the potential for many people to become informed, get knowledge, expand one’s capabilities for learning from the experience of others. (...) But there are clear downsides – kids don’t read anymore.”

“It [new media] enables young people to have informed choices and informed opinions which in itself is a major contribution to the building of society and to the enhancement of the polity in the society.”

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President of Liberia

“Urgent action is needed to avoid a genocidal impact on small island states.”

Edward Natapei, Prime Minister of Vanuatu
“It would be very irresponsible for our generation not to act.”

Mario Molina,
Nobel Laureate in Chemistry
and Founder of Centro Molina

“Some people say that Copenhagen is impossible, but as Nelson Mandela put it, ‘It always seems impossible until it is done’.”

Margot Wallström,
Vice-President of the European Commission

“There are no winners or losers – either we all win or we all lose. There is no Plan B because there is no Planet B.”

“Time is of supreme importance in facing climate change. Delay would only increase the cost of adaptation and mitigation.”

Sheikh Hasina,
Prime Minister of Bangladesh

“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.”

Muhammad Yunus,
Nobel Peace Laureate,
Managing Director of the Grameen Bank

“If the world changes it is because citizens are engaged and aware.”

Eva Joly,
Member of the European Parliament

“The land rush is like the Gold Rush, everybody is going for a piece of Africa.”

Akin Adesina,
Vice-President for Policy and Partnerships,
Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
“Governance has to be transparent, inclusive and totally honest and that goes for both receiving governments and donors.”

_Huguette Labelle_,
Chair of the Board of Directors of Transparency International

“We need to take the debate out of the development arena and into the real world to make a difference. We want to see the EU institutions delivering on their obligations.”

_Olivier Consolo_,
Director, CONCORD

“Children see you on television and then they think ‘I could do that too, I can succeed in the way he succeeded’. If you think you can’t succeed in Africa, you’re wrong. You can succeed in Africa.”

_Youssou N’Dour_,
Singer, Senegal

“We need to see more innovation in the relationship between governments and the private sector.”

_Mary Robinson_,
Vice-President of the Club of Madrid,
Former President of Ireland

“Whatever the conclusions of Copenhagen, and even if no substantial compromise is found, what is sure is that we need to achieve green growth.”

_Matthias Ruchser_
Head of Media and Public Relations,
German Development Institute

“We all know that the poor are not responsible for climate change, but are the hardest hit. As they struggle to meet the Millennium Development Goals they have another impediment. They cannot afford to wait until 2012 [for additional aid]. They need it now, not in 2012.”

_Louis Michel_,
Co-Chair of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly
Thursday 22 October 2009

**TRADE AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN TIMES OF ECONOMIC TURMOIL**
Organised by
Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs,
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

**BEYOND THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS: EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AFTER 2015**
Organised by
European Association of Development Institutes,
Development Gateway.

**HOW CAN CIVIL SOCIETY AND COMMUNICATION STRENGTHEN TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY?**
Organised by
Revenue Watch Institute, Global Reporting, BearingPoint.

**VOICES FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT – DIALOGUE OF GENERATIONS**
Organised by
Young Ambassadors for Rural Development (YARD),
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**BEYOND AID: IS OUR AID FOCUS TOO NARROW?**
Organised by
Development Policy Forum, French Development Agency,
UK Department for International Development,
Friends of Europe, World Bank, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung,
International Monetary Fund, Transparency International,
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit.

**WOMEN AND SECURITY**
Organised by
Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs,
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

**GETTING DEVELOPMENT RIGHT IN THE EUROPEAN UNION’S NEW ARCHITECTURE**
Organised by
UK Department for International Development, Overseas Development Institute, French Development Agency,
German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungs politik.

**CAN THE HEALTH MDGS STILL BE MET IN TIMES OF CRISIS?**
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The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria,
United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS, Stop AIDS Alliance, The Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization,
AIDS Accountability International.

**GLOBAL LAND ACQUISITION: TRENDS AND CHALLENGES**
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Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU.

**CULTURE IN ACTION – HOW CULTURE CAN PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT**
Organised by
European Commission, EuropeAid Cooperation Office.
Friday 23 October 2009

**Democracy in Development**
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International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

**New Media for a New World: Democracy, Development ...**
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**Key to Survival: Defending Human, Sexual and Reproductive Rights**
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**East Meets South**
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**European Citizens as Catalysts for Change**
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**Legal Empowerment of the Poor**
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Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, United Nations Development Programme.

**Citizens at the Heart of the Africa-EU Partnership – Mobilising Stakeholders**
**Organised by**

**Green Growth**
**Organised by**
German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik, PROGIS, ADCON, Practitioners’ Network for European Development Cooperation, German Development Bank / KfW Entwicklungsbank.

**Disaster Risk Reduction – Early Warning, Early Action**
**Organised by**
Swedish Red Cross, Red Cross EU Office, Red Cross-Red Crescent Climate Centre, Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction, CONCORD Sweden, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Plan International’s EU Office, Plan Sweden, Save the Children Sweden, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.
Friday 23 October

ELECTIONS AND DEMOCRACY: OBSERVING THE OBSERVERS
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European Commission, EuropeAid Cooperation Office.

FINANCING ADAPTATION
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Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Commission on Climate Change and Development.

THE COPENHAGEN CLIMATE DEAL AND THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT
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SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT – THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS ON LOCAL SOCIETY
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SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND TERRITORIES – NEW FORMS OF GOVERNMENT AT A TIME OF CRISIS
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Assembly of European Regions, Association of European Border Regions, French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, FNAU, ISTED, Maires de Grandes Villes, Cités Unies, France.

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Youssou N'DOUR, Singer, Senegal
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Julian SCHWEITZER, Director of Health, Nutrition and Population in the Human Development Network, World Bank
Alassane SEIDOU, Minister for Decentralisation, Benin
Georges SERRE, Deputy Director General for Development, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs, France
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Dominique STRAUSS-KAHN, Managing Director, International Monetary Fund
Joakim STYMNE, State Secretary to the Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden
Andy SUMNER, Fellow of the Vulnerability and Poverty Research Team, Institute of Development Studies

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