

Van: ITUC Development Cooperation & Education <dce@ituc-csi.org>
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Trade Union Focus on Development

Newsletter of the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network

Issue no. 36, September 2013

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Following the General Meeting of April, we are now launching the online task teams. Please find below the list of the proposed working areas. To find more information of the content and objectives for each area, please read the document on [TUDCN Advocacy Strategies](#).

- TU Task Team on the UN+2015 and SDGs
- TU Task Team on Effective Institutions
- TU Task Team on Private Sector
- TU Task Team on South-South and Triangular Cooperation
- CSO Task Team on HRBA and Enabling Environment
- Interest Group on DAC/Donor Policies on CSO & TU support
- Interest Group on Development Education
- Interest Group on Human Rights and Democracy Instrument
- Working Group on EU Development policies & Advocacy
- Working Group on TU Development Effectiveness

We thank the TUDCN members who have already registered and we ask those who are interested to do it as soon as possible by sending a mail to marion.levillain@ituc-csi.org, mentioning the name of the working area.

Focus

TUCA publishes its Development Cooperation strategy

The Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA) launches the strategic document "International Cooperation for the development of workers of the Americas". The draft document is the result of the most recent meeting of the TUCA representatives that are members of the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN), organised with support from the European Commission in Buenos Aires on the 29 and 30 of July 2013.

[Read more >>>](#)

Policies

African trade unionists and the Millennium Development Goals

The head office of ITUC Africa in Lomé, Togo, hosted a Regional Seminar of the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN) from 26 to 28 June 2013 on the theme of: "Development Cooperation in Africa in the Dynamics of Post-2015 Development Prospects: Issues and Challenges for the African Trade Union Movement". The participants drafted a roadmap on the assessment of the implementation of the MDGs and prospects of the Post-2015 agenda for african

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Policies

trade unions. The more detailed action plan of ITUC Africa TU development cooperation network will be elaborated soon in September.

[Read more >>>](#)

Report of the TUDCN General Meeting in Slangerup (Denmark) 17-19 April 2013

Over 40 representatives of trade unions, solidarity support organizations and global union federations gathered from 17 to 19 April 2013 in Slangerup (Denmark) to discuss the future of the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network, which is now in its third phase.

[Read more >>>](#)

Post-2015: From charity to justice: all rights for all

Human rights have surged to the forefront of the debate about what will succeed the Millennium Development Goals in 2015. As human rights and social justice organizations worldwide, we feel compelled to lay out some of the baseline implications of embedding human rights into the core of the sustainable development agenda this time around.

[Read more >>>](#)

Leave No One Behind: The agenda of the United Nations should respect Nature and listen to the people

To leave no one behind means beginning any project and creating any policy framework with the full participation of people living in extreme poverty who know what it is to live and survive and overcome poverty.

Statement by the ITUC, ATD Fourth World and Social Watch.

[Read more >>>](#)

News from the network

The programme for international cooperation of the ABVV-FGTB: how we go about it

The ABVV – FGTB was officially recognised as partner in the Belgian Development cooperation in 2002-2003. This does not mean that we only then started to work with trade unions in the south, but the recognition did enable us to obtain more funding and to elaborate long-term programmes with our partners in different continents.

[Read more >>>](#)

Organising workers in banana plantations in Guatemala

TUC Aid has joined hands with BananaLink in an initiative to improve the reach and effect of collective bargaining in the banana sector in Guatemala by providing training for men and women shop stewards. The Project launched early this year aims at promoting unionisation in plantations in both the Caribbean province of Izabal and in the Pacific South of Guatemala through organising and advocacy campaigns and encourages social dialogue. Enhanced capacity in the unions representing workers in the banana sector is expected to increase the coverage and effectiveness of Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs).

[Read more >>>](#)

Workers at the China Road and Bridge Corporation celebrate Labour Day on 1st of May for the first time

The China Road and Bridge Corporation (SNCTPC) began its activities in Rwanda in the 80s. Workers at this Chinese company never had any rights. They worked in poor conditions, were not registered for social security and were not entitled to bank holidays and particularly, Labour Day on the 1st of May.

[Read more >>>](#)

Business and human rights, only “human” or all rights for all?

Spanish governments, whatever their political orientation, in line with other European countries, has been pushing for the incorporation of the private corporate sector in

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Upcoming events

TUDCN Workshop on Development Education
“Towards a shared Trade Union programme”
12-13 September, Firenze (Italy)

Meeting of the steering group of the African network

development cooperation. There has been increasing support for this approach due to a reduction in the national development cooperation budget and also as a means for companies to increase their overseas activities and so that can “bring back” the profits from the various development cooperation projects and the investments made in countries with lower average incomes.

[Read more >>>](#)

“Health Solidarity” Federation from Romania (FSSR) - Arguments and solutions for the romanian healthcare system reform

“Health Solidarity” Federation from Romania (F.S.S.R. - Federația “Solidaritatea Sanitară” din România), a federative trade union organization in health sector, affiliated to CNS Cartel Alfa confederation, is participating for more than six months in a comprehensive process of reconstruction of Romanian healthcare system.

[Read more >>>](#)

The European Investment Bank consults the trade unions. A first....or merely a formality?

The European Investment bank grants loans and loan guarantees to support private and public initiatives to combat poverty, one of its official goals. Does this constitute development cooperation? In a way, yes, because their loans and guarantees are awarded under more advantageous terms than those available on the “open market”. Only 10% of the projects supported are based in EU countries. The EIB however awards the most development loans in the world after the World Bank and regional European banks...It is therefore an important instrument for the EU’s foreign policy!

[Read more >>>](#)

Solifonds: 30 years of trade union solidarity from Switzerland

The Union syndicale suisse (USS) has a long history of involvement in trade union development aid and policy. The USS is active in this area through the Solifonds organisation which it co-founded and also through other organisations. Solifonds, the “Solidarity Fund for Social Struggles for Liberation in the Third World” this year celebrated 30 years involvement in development aid. Solifonds’ objective, in accordance with its Constitution, is to support the social liberation movement in the Third World and the struggle to achieve and ensure human rights. In particular, SOLIFONDS supports political and trade union fundamental rights throughout the world and disseminates information about these struggles in Switzerland and Europe.

[Read more >>>](#)

News from the platforms

Decent Work and the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Statement of Catholic Church-Inspired Organizations

As a contribution to the ILO discussion of the post-2015 development agenda, a working group composed of Catholic Church-inspired organizations, published a statement noting that the promotion of decent work, good quality jobs and social protection for all workers, including in the informal economy, is essential to do away with poverty. It underlines that challenges created by the economic crisis are even more acute for young people and migrants and urges to pay special attention to their needs.

[Read more >>>](#)

GPEDC: Civil society raring to put Effective Development Co-operation into action

Civil society sees strengthening implementation as the most important agenda for the first Ministerial-level meeting of the Global Partnership, says Steering Committee member Tony Tujan.

“Civil society is quite hopeful on the progress since Busan and our constituencies are really raring to look at implementation, especially at country level,” said civil society representative Tujan on the sidelines of the third Global Partnership Steering Committee meeting.

[Read more >>>](#)

23-24 September, Accra (Ghana)

**UN General Assembly
(including special event on the MDGs on the 25th)**

23-26 September, New-York

CPDE meeting

24-25 November, Brussels

European Development Days

26-27 November, Brussels

**EU Policy Forum on
Development**

28-29 November, Brussels

Publications

Job creation: lessons from abroad

Amna Silim, Institute for Public Policy Research

[Read more >>>](#)

Post 2015 - A View from 39 Countries

GCAP, Beyond 2015

[Read more >>>](#)

Sustainable Development and the Post 2015 Implications: A Closer look at the MDG and SDG Processes

Lichia Saner Yiu & Raymond Saner with D. Andrew Boehmer (CSEND)

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ITUC economic briefing series

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ITUC Global Poll 2013

Economic and Social Outlook

[Read more >>>](#)

Other newsletters

Sustainable Development in Action Newsletter

United Nations Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform

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International Development Matters

TUC

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Civics Newsletter

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Final outcome of the AP CSO Consultation on a Just and Transformative Development Agenda: the Bangkok Civil Society Declaration

Asia and the Pacific civil society groups representing 92 organisations from 21 countries representing various major groups and stakeholders gathered in Bangkok to formulate a just and transformative development agenda towards post-2015 and beyond.

They asked for a transformative and redistributive framework that aims to reduce inequalities of wealth, power and resources between countries, between rich and poor and between men and women. They called on the implementation of a model of Development which should be framed by five foundational shifts: redistributive justice, economic justice, social justice, environmental justice and accountability to peoples.

[Read more >>>](#)

Human Development in the news

Human Development Report Office

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ITUC Equality Department

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Contact us!

International Trade Union Confederation, TUDCN

Bvd du Roi Albert II 5, B1
1210 Brussels, Belgium

dce@ituc-csi.org

www.ituc-csi.org



About us

The Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN) is an initiative of the International Trade Union Confederation that brings together affiliated trade union organisations, solidarity support organisations, regional ITUC organisations and the Global Union Federations.

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