

Van: Lora Verheecke <Lora.Verheecke@ituc-csi.org>
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Trade Union Focus on Development

Newsletter of the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network

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Focus

The UN discusses environmental issues and the Sustainable Development Goals

The seventh session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals took place in New York in January 2014 and focused on environmental issues.

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Will Sustainable Development Goals include gender equality?

The International Trade Union Confederation and Public Services International participated in the 8th Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in the United Nations.

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Observations on the latest negotiations to improve development cooperation

"We are coming from completely different universes" (Matt Simonds)

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Policies

OECD Study on Illicit Financial Flows from Developing Countries

The OECD has found that huge sums of money leave developing countries illegally. OECD countries can do more to stop these flows by adhering to their own rules and by implementing best practices.

This [briefing](#) reveals how stopping illicit financial flows is possible and essential for keeping more resources in developing countries.

Microfinance and the illusion of development

Milford Bateman and Ha-Joon Chang studied the contemporary model of microfinance. They argue that microfinance actually constitutes a powerful institutional and political barrier to sustainable economic and social development, and so also to poverty reduction. They suggest in their article that microfinance programs serve the neoliberal/globalisation agenda.

[Read more >>>](#)

Undue credit: Are France, Germany and Japan subverting the definition of aid?

Last April, former OECD [Development Assistance Committee](#) chair Richard Manning revealed how donors were inflating their aid totals by including loans that would profit the donors if paid in full.

In recent years, a few donors, notably France, Germany and Japan, have pushed along that slippery slope, increasing their aid totals and riling their peers.

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News from the network

Changes in the International Development Agenda: the role of Civil Society in

Upcoming events

Open Working Group Co-Chairs 1st decision-making session
3-7 March, New York

TUDCN General Meeting
18-20 March, Sao Paulo

CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) Global Council + Ministerial Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)
14-18 April, Mexico

[ITUC Congress](#)
19-23 May, Berlin

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



the Development Policies

During the past years, the development policies and the global development agenda have suffered important transformations that have led to a redefinition of the strategic role of the different development actors. One of the actors who is feeling the reconfiguration more intensively is civil society and its organisations. They are being incorporated into new dynamics that affect the way they participate in relevant areas of the development policies and the development agenda. In this paper, we analyse some of the most relevant trends in each of these areas.

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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.

Launch of the UNI Africa/BBTK-SETCA project in Kinshasa, DRC

The UNI/DRC liaison committee welcomed a UNI Africa delegation to Kinshasa from 11 to 14 January 2014 within the framework of the UNI Africa/BBTK-SETCA project.

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The informal economy village

Hann Montagne, a small district on the outskirts of Dakar

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Development Platform for the Americas (PLADA)

Speech by Rafael Freire, Economic Policy and Sustainable Development Secretary, on the Development Platform for the Americas (PLADA), which the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas is about to finalise

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The President of Uruguay, José Mujica, discusses with the Development Platform of the Americas

"I welcome the fact that workers can unite, I share your fight" - José Mujica, President of Uruguay

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Lora Verheecke
Communications and Outreach Officer

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ITUC International Trade Union Confederation
CSI Confédération syndicale internationale
CSI Confederación Sindical Internacional
IGB Internationaler Gewerkschaftsbund
Boulevard du Roi Albert II 5, B 1, BE-1210 Brussels, Belgium
email: Lora.Verheecke@ituc-csi.org
Tel (direct): +32 222 40 307
www.ituc-csi.org

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