

Civil Society Summit Europe 2016
The future of development cooperation – who is really benefitting?

Organised by: CONCORD Aidwatch with the support of Eurodad, CPDE, Reality of Aid, The ONE Campaign and CAN Europe

Date: 16 February 2016

Venue: Maison des Associations Internationales – MAI, Rue Washington, 40, 1050 Bruxelles

Rationale

In discussions around the world on development it is often heard that we are in a new era of development cooperation - the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda is lauded as a new universal agenda, different than anything that came before; a universal agenda aiming to address social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in an integrated way. While this may or may not prove to be true, the challenges the global community faces in the post 2015 world are quite similar to those faced in the pre-2015 world. The question of how to finance and implement this new agenda remains a cause for concern. The concepts of development cooperation and aid, understood as a public transfer of resources from north to south, has changed. In our advocacy on development finance and aid, we must take these changed notions into consideration while also addressing new challenges and needs.

The negotiations of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the outcome of the Third Financing for Development Conference (FFD3), the failure of northern countries to uphold their climate finance responsibilities and the north-south divide on international tax and sovereign debt cooperation in the UN, reviewing the EU Consensus for Development as the EU questions how the SDGs will be implemented and how the new agenda will tackle old problems... all raise practical and political questions about how this new agenda will be implemented. The EU – with a few exceptions - has failed to live up to its aid commitments. At the same time they were promoting the EU recommitment to the 0.7% target in the FFD3 negotiations, many member states were slashing their development cooperation budgets, double counting aid with climate finance, discussing how to redefine ODA at the OECD DAC and committing spending to activities that have a dubious development rationale particularly including factoring in costs for security and in-donor refugee programmes.

Moving beyond the negotiations to implementation in the coming year, this civil society summit aims to engage European and international CSOs in a discussion on the future role of aid and financing for development. It will aim to facilitate discussion and debate amongst civil society to take stock of our priorities and strategies, evolving these in line with the demands and challenges of a new financing and development era.

Key themes

- Reality check and new challenges
- Getting back on track with quality and quantity of development assistance
- Sharing experiences including new innovative tools

Key issues to be addressed

- Aid and beyond – the role of ODA in a changing world (including migration, climate finance, tax, private sector and other resource flows)
- Holding up a mirror to Europe – the view from the South

- From aid to development effectiveness – and from promises to action on effectiveness

Expected outcomes

An honest reflection on the strengths and weaknesses of advocacy on ODA from the last 10 years and how this has played off in advocacy on the broader financing for development agenda. A (re)new(ed) narrative on the role of ODA in financing for development, the responsibilities of various actors herein and at least initial agreement on how to complement advocacy messages/strategies of CSOs in their specific geographic/thematic context with regard to the future of aid.

Dates/ location

Tuesday 16th February includes a strategic meeting followed by an exchange with external stakeholders. Before this, Monday 15th, a strategic meeting on Financing for Development will be held, where the ODA work will look more specifically at 2016 workplans. meetings held at MAI, Brussels.

Block 1: Registration, welcome and setting the context

Time	Item	Speakers	Objectives and outcomes	Background documents
9:00 - 9:30	Registration and coffee			
9:30 - 10:15 Plenary	Welcome, presentation of the agenda, setting the scene	Amy Dodd, UK Aid Network, Chair CONCORD AidWatch Celine Charveriat, Oxfam International, Director of Advocacy and Campaign	Introduction and agreement on key objectives for the day. Placing aid and effectiveness in context – linking to the FFD agenda, COP, SDGs, development governance (EU, OECD, UN) Ensuring that all participants are familiar with key issues around development cooperation such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What has changed • “Beyond” ODA? • The risks and opportunities of the new discourse on aid 	Programme

Block 2: Presentation of the challenges and opportunities ahead

Time	Item	Facilitator/Speakers	Objectives and outcomes	Background documents
10:15 - 11:15	An interactive session where	Moderator: Mareen Buschmann, BOND,	Challenging our narrative on aid	

Plenary Magistrat room	experts will discuss key issues that surround development cooperative and the use of ODA in the current climate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Sector – ODA’s catalytic role? • Climate Finance – is there anything additional? • Migration crisis – use of ODA for Refugee Costs and curbing migration • Development and aid effectiveness - from promises to action 	member of the Advocacy Group of CONCORD Aidwatch Maria Jose Romero, Eurodad Eloise Todd, ONE Campaign Brian Tomlinson, Chair Monitoring Advisory Group, GPEDC Lies Craeynest, Oxfam International, member of CAN Europe Jean Saldanha, CIDSE, Co-Chair International FFD CSO group	Getting more specific and building our SWOT analysis Getting our power map right and utilising all the tools in the tool box Question and answer session to ensure issues have been bottomed out.	
11:15 - 11:30	Quick fire presentation of the different workshops (2 mins each)	1) Focus Quantity 2) Focus on Quality		
11:30-11:45	Coffee break - participants sign up for workshops and go to groups			

Block 3: Getting deeper into the opportunities and challenges: Focus on Quantity

Time	Item	Facilitator/Speakers	Objectives and outcomes	Background documents
11:45-13:15 Commission room 1, 3, 6 and Magistrat room	Participants can chose to participate in one of four working groups focusing on quantity: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Politicisation of Aid 2. Commitments galore – from promises to 	Run by: Luca De Fraia - ActionAid- CONCORD AW Run by: Isabelle De Lichtervelde, The ONE Campaign	The aim of these working groups is to build on the discussions heard in the morning and your expertise to start : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking stock and sharing information • brainstorm challenges and opportunities • discuss main joint messages • capture main issues discussed through 	Each working group will send in advance a max 2 pager background document to participants laying out the main SWOT analysis of the issue and questions to be explored during each working group

	<p>reality</p> <p>3. After the Paris COP and the NY SDGs: a new agenda for looking at climate finance and aid</p> <p>4. The reality of aid budgets and its effect on CSO space</p>	<p>Run by: Maeve McLynn, CAN Europe</p> <p>Run by: Åsa Thomasson, CONCORD Sweden, Co-Chair CONCORD FDR</p>	<p>sticky notes for the innovative wall and short notes for final Summit communique.</p>	
13:15-14:00	lunch			

Block 4: Getting deeper into the opportunities and challenges: Focus on Quality

Time	Item	Facilitator/Speakers	Objectives and outcomes	Background documents
14:00 - 15:30 Commission room 1, 3, 6	<p>Participants can chose to participate in one of three working groups focusing on quality:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting better development cooperation through Agenda 2030 Q+A session with the OECD DAC Effectiveness and impact of private sector and blending 	<p>Run by: Farida Bena, CPDE</p> <p>Run by: Jeroen Kwakkenbos, Eurodad – RoA - CONCORD AW</p> <p>Run by: Marie Jose Romero, Eurodad</p>	<p>The aim of these working groups is to build on the discussions heard in the morning and your expertise to start :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking stock and sharing information brainstorm challenges and opportunities discuss main joint messages capture main issues discussed through sticky notes for the innovative wall and short notes for final Summit communique. 	<p>Each working group will send in advance a max 2 pager background document to participants laying out the main SWOT analysis of the issue and questions to be explored during each working group</p>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break – Time to write on the Innovations wall on ‘new Tools’, ‘New Messages’, ‘New Actors’			

Block 5: wrapping up

Time	Item	Facilitators/speakers	Objectives and outcomes	Background documents
16:00 - 17:00 Plenary Magistrate room	Back to plenary for brief overview of discussions of workshops and discussion on next steps and taking ideas forward	Hilary Jeune, Oxfam International, member of CONCORD AidWatch Advocacy Group	Each workshop needs to report back 3-5 key elements of challenges, opportunities, messages to plenary. (5 mins)	