



**Meeting of the  
Informal Development Partners Working Group on  
Decentralisation and Local Governance (DPWG-DLG)**

**18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> of May, 2011 in Brussels**

**Hosted by  
EuropeAid &  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation**

Venue: EuropeAid Development & Co-operation Directorate General  
L-41 - rue de la Loi, 41, 1000 BRUSSELS  
7th Floor - Room 23



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## Background

The Development Partners Working Group on Decentralisation and Local Governance (DPWG-LGD) was established in recognition of the prominent role these issues play in overall Public Sector Reforms and Poverty Reduction Strategy processes in many developing countries. A first planning workshop took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, 2006 in Frankfurt, as a joint initiative of KfW and the European Commission. Since its inception, membership of the DPWG has increased significantly.<sup>1</sup> Annual meetings have been held in Brussels 2006, Berlin 2007, Paris 2008, Bratislava 2009 and Washington 2010. Despite its informal character DPWG-LGD has consolidated itself as the reference group for donor harmonisation in the field of LGD. This continuity has as well been possible through the establishment of a secretariat at the beginning of 2008 funded by BMZ and hosted by InWEnt, now GIZ.

In 2008 the group approved general guiding principles for enhancing alignment and harmonisation on local governance and decentralisation, that were complemented in 2009 with specific guiding principles to provide more practical guidance at the field level. In this regard the first American based annual meeting in Washington in June last year has been focusing on identifying key purposes and challenges from improved donor coordination, highlighting practical tools and approaches to achieving greater coherence in country engagements. Three case studies on DRC, Indonesia and Uganda have been presented that provided valuable insights on the challenges of harmonisation on the county level within the DLG sector.

Based on the outcomes of the Washington meeting, the secretariat elaborated a work-plan that is focusing on using the country cases as an "evidence based advocacy tool" to be presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, South Korea at the end of 2011. The initial 3 case studies are going to be complemented by 4 additional ones, Benin, Mozambique and Peru funded by EuropeAid and Ghana funded by France. In January 2011 a synthesis paper on the existing case studies has been finalised that provides valuable inputs for the publication.

Further on the work-plan is also aiming at consolidating the other core issues DPWG-LGD has been working on since its establishment, being this capacity development, fiscal decentralisation and the elaboration of concrete instruments to improve harmonisation and alignment. Studies on capacity development and fiscal decentralisation have been produced as well as a training course under train4dev on harmonisation, decentralisation and local governance is being developed. So during the annual meeting it is foreseen to further work on these areas to determine future activities of the group.

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<sup>1</sup> Members of the Group are: African Development Bank; Austrian Development Agency; Belgian Technical Cooperation; Canadian International Development Agency; Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs; EuropeAid, European Commission; French Ministry of Foreign Affairs; French Development Agency; German Development Bank (KfW); German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ); Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); Inter American Development Bank; Irish Aid; Joint Africa Institute; Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland; Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation; Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Swedish International Development and Cooperation Agency; Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; UN Capital Development Fund; United Nations Development Programme; UN-Habitat; United Kingdom Department for International Development; U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID); World Bank

## Objectives

The general objective of the 6<sup>th</sup> annual meeting is to take stock of the activities of the group carried out in 2011 and explore ways forward to make donor support more effective.

This year a special focus will be given to the publication in preparation for the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness to be held on 29 Nov. – 1 Dec. 2011 in Busan. The publication will focus on the Paris Declaration and Accra principles and will look at the extent to which beneficiary countries and donors have found ways to increase ownership, used mechanisms to align and harmonise aid for decentralisation, and used results-based frameworks and mutual accountability mechanisms.

The meeting will also be an opportunity for donors and other participants to share good practices and experiences related to DLG. Especially issues such as the dynamics between decentralisation and sector programmes, fiscal decentralisation and how to measure the results and impact of decentralisation will be considered.

Consequently, the agenda will be articulated as follows:

- Days 1 and 3 will be used to push forward several issues of interest for the group members. Different sessions will allow participants to present studies, tools and any other relevant material to improve donor support in the DLG area.
- Day 2 will be fully dedicated to the presentation and discussion of the DPWG-LGD flagship publication. A presentation of the publication will be made in order to inform all group members about the process and the results achieved. Then working groups will be organised in order to discuss, amend and improve the recommendations made by the study. This should allow us to internalise and enrich the conclusions of the study.

In addition to donor organisations, the participation of aid recipients, representatives of local authorities and the academic community will be encouraged to benefit from the inputs of a wide range of stakeholders.

## Proposed Agenda

Time	Wednesday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>
10:30 – 10:45	<b>Opening and Welcome Speech</b> Francesca Mosca (EuropeAid) Hans Wollny (BMZ)
10:45 – 11:30	<b>Presentation of the agenda</b> (Kuno Schläfli, SDC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Round of introductions</li> <li>- Presentation of new / external actors (10 min each):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All Africa Ministerial Conference for Decentralisation and Local Development (AMCOD)</li> <li>▪ UNDP ART</li> <li>▪ United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)</li> <li>▪ Local Economic Development Network of Africa (LEDNA)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
11:30 – 12:30	<b>Activities of the DPWG-LGD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brief activity report of the DPWG-LGD (Jochen Mattern, GIZ)</li> <li>- Presentation Train4Dev (Francois Bary, Lux Development)</li> <li>- Video on Train4Dev course harmonisation, decentralisation and local governance</li> </ul>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:45	<b>Dynamics between decentralisation programmes and sector programmes</b> (Pekka Sepälä, MFA Finland) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bridging the micro-macro gap in the sector wide approach (Jan Willem Nibbering, MFA Netherlands)</li> <li>- World Bank experience in South Asia (Tara Sharafudeen, WB)</li> <li>- Education&amp; Decentralisation: Implications for sector policy dialogue (Begoña Bravo Hevia, EuropeAid)</li> <li>- Discussion</li> </ul>
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:20	<b>Measuring Progress of Decentralisation Reforms and Impact of Donor Support</b> (Sebastian Bartsch, BMZ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impact measurement of LGD (Kai Kaiser, WB)</li> <li>- Constructing indicators to measure and monitor decentralisation in Sub-Saharan Africa (Klaus Veigel, KfW)</li> <li>- Independent Evaluation on GTZ support to decentralisation (Rainer Rohdewohld, GIZ)</li> <li>- Discussion</li> </ul>
17:20 – 17:30	Closure Day 1

## Proposed Agenda

Time	Thursday, May 19 <sup>th</sup>
9:00 – 11:00	<b>Presentation of the DPWG-LGD Publication</b> (Gabin Hamman, EuropeAid) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Purpose of the publication (Jochen Mattern, GIZ)</li> <li>- Main findings and recommendations (Soeren Villadsen, EC consultant)</li> <li>- Discussion</li> </ul>
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:30	<b>Road to Busan</b> (Alex Gerbrandij, EuropeAid) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Towards 4HLF Busan (Eduardo González, OECD)</li> <li>- Decentralised cooperation (Giovanni Camilleri, UNDP ART)</li> <li>- Local Government perspective (Nestor Vega, UCLG)</li> <li>- Discussion</li> </ul>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	<b>Working Groups</b> (Paul Smoke, NYU) 3 or 4 working groups to discuss findings and recommendations of the study. Themes will be defined based on provided inputs.
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 17:20	<b>Restitution Working Groups</b> Feedback of group work in plenary
17:20 – 17:30	Closure Day 2

Time	Friday, May 20 <sup>th</sup>
9:00 – 10:30	<b>Fiscal decentralisation and linkages to PFM</b> (Waltraud Rabitsch, ADA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation based on Gold II report on local finance (UCLG) (Paul Smoke)</li> <li>- Presentation of the SDC study on fiscal decentralisation (Kuno Schläfli, SDC)</li> <li>- Discussant: Francois Yatta (LEDNA)</li> <li>- Discussion</li> </ul>
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee break
10:45 – 12:00	Interactive session: <b>DPs Response in LGD to the situation in Northern Africa</b> (Anki Dellnäs, ICLD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Panel Discussion                MAEE France, UNDP, World Bank, EuropeAid</li> <li>- Plenary Discussion</li> </ul>
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 14:00	<b>Closing session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussion on future activities of the DPWG-LGD (Jochen Mattern, GIZ)</li> <li>- Next Year's Meeting?</li> </ul>
14:00 – 14:30	<b>Synthesis and ending of the conference</b> (EuropeAid, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)