

In Cooperation with:



Workshop

The Africa-EU Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure Putting Rural Development First

Thursday 26th November 2009

Gustav-Stresemann-Institut, Langer Grabenweg 68, 53175 Bonn

Two years after the approval of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy in Lisbon, progress in the Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure is still lagging behind.

Enhanced trade, especially within and between African countries, strengthened regional integration and promotion of infrastructure are essential for development. Therefore, this partnership has an important role to fulfill within the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES). In view of the focus outlined in Action Plan 2008–2010 the predominance of export-oriented growth and a top-down approach in infrastructure development seem to guide the priority areas and actions. Rural development only plays a marginal role but has a huge potential for poverty reduction. The food crisis in 2008 made the importance of a paradigm change vis-à-vis rural development evident. Furthermore, the ongoing negotiations of the Economic Partnership Agreements, which are excluded from the JAES, are hindering regional integration more than they foster it.

The workshop “Putting Rural Development First” will address shortcomings of the Action Plan 2008–2010. Recommendations on how to promote local and regional markets in support of rural development and regional integration will be discussed and proposals to decision-makers in Europe and Africa will be made for the Action Plan.



PROGRAMME

9:30 a.m. Arrival of the Participants

10:00 a.m. **Welcome**
Prof. Dr. h. c. Christa Randzio-Plath, Vice chairperson

Chair: Kerstin Lanje, Germanwatch

Learning and Reflection:
Consequences of the Partnership on the work of NGOs

10:10 **The Africa-EU Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure:
State of Play and Role of Civil Society –**

an European NGO perspective
**with special reference to the current discussions at the WTO Ministerial
Conference**
Karin Ulmer,
Aprodev, Chair of the CONCORD trade working group, Brussels

an African NGO perspective
Malcolm Damon,
Economic Justice Network (FOCCISA), South Africa

The EPA-negotiations and the Africa-EU-Strategy
Add-on Statements by
Jane Nalunga, SEATINI, Uganda
Jacob Kotcho, ACDIC, Cameroon

Discussion

12:00 **Lunch**

Looking ahead:

**How does the Africa-EU Partnership promote local and regional markets in support of
rural development and regional integration?**

13:00 **Introduction to the working groups:**

- **Rural development left behind? Critical assessment of the Africa-EU
Strategy (based on the Synopsis of Frameworks of Rural Development)**
Rolf Künnemann, FIAN

- 13:30** **Parallel working groups**
- A)** **Decent work and rural development**
– **A common impulse with Lali Naidoo, ECARP, South Africa**
Presented by Dr. Hildegard Hagemann, German Commission for Justice and Peace
Facilitator: Henry Richard Kimera, CONSENT, Uganda
- B)** **Infrastructure for smallholders and small and medium producers in rural areas**
– **Two perspectives**
Kerstin Lanje, Germanwatch
Zachary Makanya, PELUM, Kenya
Facilitator: Francisco Mari, EED
- C)** **Access to finance and investment in human resources in rural development**
– **Two perspectives**
Prof. Dr. h. c. Christa Randzio-Plath, VENRO
Graça Samo, Forum Mulher, Mozambique
Facilitator: Klaus Schilder
- 16:00** Coffee Break
- 16:30** **The Action Plan: putting rural development first!**
Proposals and recommendations from the working groups and discussion
- 17:30** **Next steps for civil society: reactions to the**
Africa-EU Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure
- 18:00** **Come together**

The Workshop will be held in English.

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“The Africa-EU Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure: Putting Rural Development First”

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*** MEETING REPLY FORM ***

*Please complete and return
by fax: +49 228 946 77 99 or by email to afrikas.perspektive@venro.org*

Please confirm if you are interested in attending the meeting.

Yes **No**

Name :

Organisation :

Function :

Address :

E-mail :

Tel & fax :

Working language will be English.