



Focus

2015: Development at the crossroads



Dear Reader,

2015 marks the 'European Year for Development': all over the EU, events and discussions take place under the motto "Our world, our dignity, our future".

Each month the Development Committee raises awareness of a different development theme, supported by briefings prepared by the DG EXPO Policy Department with infographics from EPRS. In June we focus on "sustainable growth" which can be a powerful driver of poverty eradication, but must go hand in hand with good governance and the reduction of social and gender inequalities.

How to make growth work for sustainable development and poverty eradication are also issues for this year's UN conference on financing for development and the UN summit to adopt sustainable development goals (SDGs). Parliament has already defined its positions and will follow closely the upcoming negotiations.

*Linda McAvan, MEP
Chair of the Committee on Development*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The impact of biofuels on transport and environment

TRAN

Study presentation

16 June 2015 - 15.00 to 16.00 - ASP 5G3

Civil judicial experts in the EU

JURI

Workshop

17 June 2015 - 09.00 to 12.30 - ASP 1G2

The EU's role in international economic fora

ECON

Workshop

17 June 2015 - 09.30 to 12.30 - ASP 3G2

Dual-use goods export controls

INTA

SEDE

Workshop

17 June 2015 - 10.00 to 12.30 - ASP 1E2

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Committee	Title	Publication date
CULT	Internationalisation of higher education	June 2015
FEMM	Female entrepreneurship	June 2015
SEDE	Pooling and Sharing in Europe (workshop proceedings)	June 2015
ITRE	Open innovation in industry, including 3D printing	July 2015
CONT BUDG	Composition of the Commission's expert groups and their register	Sept 2015

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HIGHLIGHTS

The European Year for Development: sustainable growth

Policy Department on External Policies

June 2015



Economic growth is considered a key driver of poverty eradication, but it must be inclusive and environmentally sustainable. In international development debate desirable growth is increasingly linked “with adjectives”: Growth should be inclusive (or pro-poor), and environmentally sustainable (or green). This trend is clearly reflected in the EU’s Agenda for Change, and in the EP’s position on the new framework for Sustainable Development Goals.



Employment conditions in international road haulage

Policy Department on Economic and Scientific Policy

March 2015



With the EU road haulage sector becoming more competitive there are doubts as to whether existing legislation is adequately protecting the employment conditions of drivers. Road haulage is governed by comprehensive EU legislation, aiming to provide for both market integration and protection of employees. Although this is deemed to be adequate in general, there are issues around weak application and enforcement in an increasingly integrated, internationalised and competitive sector.



The impact of biofuels on transport and environment

Policy Department on Structural and Cohesion Policies

February 2015



The use of biofuels in transport is being promoted as a means of tackling climate change, diversifying energy sources and securing energy supply. It also provides new options for using agricultural crops. However, it also gives rise to environmental, social and economic concerns. This study provides a detailed overview of biofuels production and consumption and of related policies worldwide. It also contains comprehensive analysis of key aspects affecting the overall sustainability of biofuels.



Candidate selection procedures for the European elections

Policy Department on Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs

May 2015



Both formal procedures and informal practices that determine the selection of candidates for the EU elections by the national parties are very heterogeneous. The study provides a systematic account of candidate selection procedures by major EU parties for the European elections, investigates relations between national parties and EP political groups, and draws recommendations for improving democratic quality of the candidate selection.



Control challenges in the EU’s own resources system

Policy Department on Budgetary Affairs

April 2015



Background document for the Budgetary Control and Budgets committees’ joint hearing on “Control challenges in the EU’s own resources system” held on 5 May 2015. This briefing defines and presents the EU budget financing system and highlights discrepancies between Member States. It then discusses key-issues on the GNI-based own resource and the VAT-based own resource.



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