The role of decentralized cooperation to address rising inequalities

Tuesday, 18 June 2019
Lab debate – D1
10.00 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.

Organized by the Regional Government of Andalucia
With the support of the United Nations Development Programme and PLATFORMA

Context

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers decentralized cooperation the potential to harmonize and strengthen its vision and actions towards more equitable territorial development.

Andalucia is a region of Spain committed to foster territorial cohesion as well as international solidarity and cooperation. Its model of development cooperation has demonstrated great capacity to mobilize institutions, knowledge and local and regional experiences through long-term partnerships. It has provided results in a proximity basis and served as catalyst to address rising inequalities. However, challenges remain.

Across Europe, cities and regions are looking at the Agenda 2030 as a framework to strengthen the dialogue and coherence of international cooperation policies, proposing more inclusive, transparent and effective cooperation modalities. Based on these experiences, the session will discuss how the 2030 Agenda presents an opportunity to address shortcomings that are still
inherent in development cooperation models, and to what extent such findings are applicable to the overall decentralized cooperation modality.

Relevance

In line with the EDD’s overall theme and sub-topic on understanding the structural causes of inequalities as well in the territories, the session aims to address the main question of how the 2030 Agenda can become an opportunity to rethink decentralized cooperation into a truly transformative SDG based territorial partnership model, thereby furthering territorial cohesion and equality in partner territories.

The main idea is to provide enough theoretical and practical elements to present how decentralized cooperation can shift from more traditional development projects into a networked and process-based approach that transcends actors, levels and sectors.

Outcomes

Participants will learn key elements on how the alignment and harmonization between decentralized cooperation actors, in place of origin and of action, can be promoted through the 2030 Agenda lens. Special attention will be paid to i) foster effective alignment towards locally SDG driven strategies and plans, as well as how to ii) increase integration with other development partners.

Panelists

Introduction and moderation: Mr. Johannes KRASSNITZER, International Coordinator of the ART Initiative, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Speakers:
- Ms. María Luz Ortega, Director of the Andalusian Agency for International Development Cooperation (AACID);
- Mr. Paolo Ciccarelli, Head of Unit, DEVCO C5 - Cities, Local Authorities, Digitalisation, Infrastructures, European Commission;
- Ms. Marlène Siméon, Director of PLATFORMA;
- Prof. Eddy Maloka, Chief Executive Officer of African Peer Review Mechanism;
- Mr. Gabriel Ferrero, General Director of Sustainable Development Policies of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain;

Special guests:
- Mr. Ángel Calle, General Director of the Extremadura Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AEXCID);
- Mr. Antonio Zurita Contreras, Director General of International Action and Global Citizenship of the City of Madrid.
Profile of panelists

Moderator

Johannes Krassnitzer, Coordinator of the ART Initiative, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)


Speakers

María Luz Ortega, Director of the Andalusian Agency for International Development Cooperation (AACID)

María Luz Ortega is the director of the Andalusian Agency for International Development Cooperation (AACID), an agency under the Counselor for Equality, Social Policies and Conciliation of the Regional Government of Andalucía. She has been professor of applied economics and international relations at the Loyola University of Andalusia and holds a PhD in Business Studies from the Faculty of Economic and Business Sciences (ETEA). Her research focus on the field of development and the fight against poverty through the analysis and study of institutions and development policies. From 2008 to 2011, she worked as a researcher and consultant for the Spanish Agency of International Cooperation for Development (AECID) and the Secretary of State for International Cooperation of the Government of Spain. From 2001 to 2007, she was a member of the Follow-up Committee of the Code of Conduct of the Spanish NGO Coordinator. She regularly collaborated with numerous NGDOs, including: Intermon Oxfam, Entreculturas and Intered. In 2001, she was an expert member of the Development Cooperation Council and part of the working group on education for development. She is also a founding member of the Spanish Network of Researchers for Development (REEDES).
Paolo Ciccarelli, Head of Unit, DEVCO C5 - Cities, Local Authorities, Digitalisation, Infrastructures, European Commission

Paolo Ciccarelli is Head of the Unit Cities, Local Authorities, Digitalisation, Infrastructures at DG DEVCO, leading on EU support to local and regional governments in their key role to localize the Agenda 2030.

Marlène Siméon, Director of PLATFORMA

From 2010 to 2013, Marlène was Policy Officer for the Provence Alpes Cote d'Azur Region (PACA) in charge of Decentralized Cooperation, Research & Innovation and Structural funds. In 2013, she joined CEMR first as Policy Officer and later as Policy Adviser in Charge of Regional and Urban Policy. In this position, she followed the negotiations on the Urban Agenda for the EU and the link with the Global Urban Agenda and followed the Habitat 3 Quito negotiation for PLATFORMA and CEMR. Marlène holds a Doctorate in Economics; she did her thesis on Urban Development in Latin America and a Master on Development Economy.

Prof. Eddy Maloka, Chief Executive Officer of African Peer Review Mechanism

Professor Eddy Maloka is the Chief Executive Officer of African Peer Review Mechanism and Adjunct Professor (University of Witwatersrand, School of Governance, Public and Development Management). He was previously a Special Advisor to the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation (Republic of South Africa), South Africa’s Special Representative to the Great Lakes Region, and Special Advisor to the Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa. He has also been an advisor to the Governance, Public Administration and Post-Conflict Reconstruction (NEPAD Secretariat), a member of the African Legacy Delegate, 2010 FIFA World Cup Organizing Committee, Chief Executive Officer at the Africa Institute of South Africa, and a lecturer at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.
Gabriel Ferrero, General Director of Sustainable Development Policies of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain

Gabriel Ferrero holds a doctorate from the Universitat Politècnica de Valencia and has lectured in development planning and international cooperation. From 2017 he was a consultant member for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. Prior to this he was the Deputy Director-General of Planning and Development Policies in the State Secretariat for International Cooperation and a coordinator of the United Nations High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Global Food and Nutrition Security.

Special guests

Ángel Calle, General Director of the Extremadura Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AEXCID)

Diploma in Social Work, specialty Marginalization and Social Exclusion from the Pablo de Olavide University of Seville; Degree in Social Work and Master in Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid by the University of Extremadura. Mr. Ángel developed his professional experience as a specialist in refuge and asylum policies in Spain. Later, he worked as an foreign aid worker in Nicaragua, Honduras, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Namibia, etc. He has been representing cooperation NGOs in Extremadura, and in recent years he has worked as an evaluator of international cooperation projects for development in Morocco, the Dominican Republic or Palestine.

Antonio Zurita Contreras, Director General of International Action and Global Citizenship of the City of Madrid

Mr. Zurita has more than 33 years of professional experience linked to international cooperation, in which he has been Director and President of several NGOs, founder of companies of social economy and fair trade, President of the Andalusian NGO Coordinator, General Director of FAMSI and General Coordinator of CONFOCOS. He is a member of the International Council of the World Social Forum and Technical Secretary of the World Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion. He is also a member of the Executive and Scientific Committees of the World Forum on Local Economic Development. Between 2007 and 2011, he was the coordinator of Latin America and Spain for the UNDP ART Initiative. He has taught for 20 years in different European and Latin American universities, conducting postgraduate courses on decentralized international cooperation.

With the support of: