

Raising Awareness for Development Cooperation

A periodical newsletter published by KOPIN's project "RADC" – a project funded by EuropeAid (DCI-NSA 2009/202-400)

IN FOCUS

Kalimera!

We are pleased to welcome you to the fourth newsletter for Malta issued within the project "Raising Awareness on Development Cooperation"! This edition will focus on the launch of the educational modules that were developed in the frame of the RADC project, with a focus on the module "Introduction to Sustainable Development".

Enjoy reading!

William and Dominik

The project "Raising Awareness on Development Cooperation"

Kopin is partnering the Centre for Environmental Education and Research (University of Malta) in an international project named "Raising Awareness on Development Cooperation" (RADC) and funded by EuropeAid Office. The project brings together NGOs and universities in Malta, Cyprus and Romania to strengthen the support of these countries' citizens in the fight against global poverty and to raise awareness on the historical context and scope of the EU international development cooperation policy.

The international consortium is made up by CARDET (Centre for the Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology), which is leading the international consortium, and the University of Nicosia from Cyprus, the University of Piraeus Research Center from Greece, World Vision Romania Foundation and the Academy of Economic Studies, Faculty of International Business and Economy (*Academia de Studii Economice – Bucuresti*) from Romania.

The project will also offer the possibility to NGOs and universities to build their capacities to get involved in helping the developing countries and to offer opportunities to those citizens who wish to commit themselves in the fight against world poverty.

Most importantly, the NGOs and universities will develop the first specialised curriculum on international development cooperation that can be implemented in Malta's University or used by anyone interested in furthering their knowledge on international development cooperation. They will also elaborate and distribute an information toolkit (that will include abstracts of the courses, methodological suggestions regarding their implementation, list of resources, case studies etc.), and deliver workshops, seminars and conferences for students, teachers, student organisations, volunteer centres and other NGOs interested in development issues. The curriculum will be made up of 8 modules of 4 ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) each. Each module will correspond to one of the 8 Millennium Development Goals and will present educational and informational resources for every person interested in comprehending the international development cooperation field: academia, students, civil society representatives, public and local authorities' representatives, mass media and the general public.



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RADC International Conference

On 4th November 2011, CARDET in collaboration with the project partnering NGOs and universities held the **International Conference on Development Cooperation**.

The Conference, which was held in the UNESCO Amphitheatre of the University of Nicosia, was attended by over 30 representatives from Cyprus, Malta, Romania and Greece.

Civil society and university representatives held presentations on practical applications for development cooperation, education for sustainable development, the role of non-governmental organisations in development and the political culture in the European Union.

A panel discussion invited the audience for an open discussion with representatives of the Cypriot Ministry of Education, of UNHCR as well as of university institutes focusing on development issues. Alternatively, the audience was invited to participate in a workshop on fair trade.

For more information on the conference as well as the conference materials, please visit:

<http://developmenteducation.org/conference2011/index.html>



JOIN THE DEBATES!

EU DEVELOPMENT POLICIES: DEVELOPMENT & MIGRATION

<http://forums.developmenteducation.org/discussion/10/eu-development-policies-development-migration-kopin-malta>

ETHICAL CONSUMERISM

<http://forums.developmenteducation.org/discussion/9/ethical-consumerism-university-of-malta>

THE EU AGENDA FOR CHANGE

<http://forums.developmenteducation.org/discussion/11/talk-on-the-eu-agenda-for-change-worldvision-romania>

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Launch of the educational modules!

By the end of 2011, the RADC project consortium has launched eight educational modules addressing issues related to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):

- ✓ **Introduction to Sustainable Development;**
- ✓ **Fair Trade;**
- ✓ **Poverty Eradication;**
- ✓ **Develop a Global Partnership for Development;**
- ✓ **Education for All;**
- ✓ **Climate Change;**
- ✓ **Civic Engagement;**
- ✓ **Combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other Diseases.**

The modules were designed for the tertiary education context and can be utilised in both the formal and non-formal educational setting.

Each module provides for a total of approximately 28 contact hours and has been developed according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS); in fact, each course provides for four ECTS.

The modules are divided into thematic units and offer various means of knowledge assessment, such as discussion fora and quizzes. They offer a multitude of resources which can also be utilised in lower educational levels.

KOPIN's module: Introduction to Sustainable Development

In an increasingly globalised world, the notion of sustainability has become progressively more important. Almost half of the world's population lives in poverty, and sustainability issues are becoming gradually more interdependent whether they are perceived from developed or developing nations. The subject of sustainable development has acquired a much broader meaning than mere economic development. It now includes social, political, cultural, environmental and ethical considerations.

The importance of educating about sustainable development, both locally and globally, inspired the Maltese NGO KOPIN (VO/0200) to develop an educational module on the subject. Together with Stefano Moncada, Assistant Lecturer at the European Documentation and Research Centre (EDRC) at the University of Malta, KOPIN has developed the course "Introduction to Sustainable Development" in line with tertiary educational standards and requirements (the ECTS accreditation method).

The module focuses on political-economic tools to understand, among other issues, theories and concepts of sustainable development, the international dimension and the engagement of the international community, as well as the role played by the EU to foster sustainable development and its Mediterranean

dimension. Sustainable consumption and production patterns, along with the different measurements of sustainability are also being analysed. In addition, the importance of promoting education for sustainable development, together with the role of government and civil societies in advancing sustainable development are tackled. Specific case studies and best practice, as well as future sustainability challenges in connection with the Millennium Development Goals, are addressed.

During a workshop and a seminar held on 9th and 12th December, the module was presented in depth to teachers and educators, civil society activists and Government representatives.

The current revision of the Maltese national curriculum already points towards a cross-curricular approach towards educating for sustainable development. This is also addressed through the module and the participating educators emphasised its usefulness in teaching their students. The module can also be utilised in the context of secondary and post-secondary teaching through minor changes and adaptations. Moreover, it could even be adapted to the primary school context, "[...] if it is brought down to a level where the students can relate to and empathise with the issues", as a primary school teacher suggested.

Teachers would be provided with a ready-to-use comprehensive tool that could be made use of in various subjects, such as geography, sciences, history and social studies.

It was suggested that the module should be presented to a broad audience of teachers through trainings during school staff development sessions, pre- and in-service trainings, in order to increase the capacity of teachers to make use of the comprehensive information and resources provided through the module.

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The educators also emphasised the fact that the module, which can be taught both in virtually and face-to-face settings, is an innovative alternative to textbook teaching. It is interactive and provides a variety of resources and assessment means and offers up-to-date information. An important aspect which was emphasised is the fact that the module can by no means be considered extra-curricular as many of its components can be incorporated in the existing syllabi.

Other participants were also positive about the use of the module in the informal and non-formal educational context. It was suggested to present the course to a variety of civil society groups that engage with children and youth as well as the general public, both by means of personal meetings and through the media.

This would not only help to promote the educational tool but to raise more awareness about the importance of education for sustainable development with decision-makers, stakeholders and the broader public, all of which have a direct or indirect impact in terms of sustainability, both locally and globally.

"An Introduction to Sustainable Development" forms part of eight educational modules on issues related to the Millennium Development Goals: sustainable development; fair trade; poverty eradication; develop a global partnership for development; education for all; climate change; civic engagement; & combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases.

These educational courses were developed by a consortium of partner organisations and universities from Cyprus, Romania, Greece and Malta, in the framework of the project "Raising Awareness on Development Cooperation" (RADC), which was led by the Cypriot NGO CARDET and co-financed by the European Commission. The project was supported locally by the VOICES Foundation.

**DISCOVER THE
INFORMATION TOOLKIT**

<http://developmenteducation.org/toolkit/>



For more info on the Workshop and Seminar offered by KOPIN, visit:

<http://developmenteducation.org/index.php/en/news/projectnews/64-workshop-and-seminar-in-malta-on-sustainable-development>

All modules will soon be available for use in the English language free of charge on the project website
www.developmenteducation.org.

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Making a difference in the world: Europeans and the future of development aid

(Special EuroBarometer 375)

This special EuroBarometer measures Europeans' views on the future of development cooperation in a time of far-reaching changes; against the backdrop of the economic crisis and the Arab Spring, it is most timely to ask Europeans if they still believe in international solidarity and help. Europeans continue to regard helping the poor as a priority.

84% of respondents support development aid to help people across the world out of poverty. The majority of EU citizens (84%) also support a strong focus of EU aid on good governance and human rights in developing countries, a direction proposed by EU Development Commissioner Piebalgs in his recent policy proposal, 'Agenda for Change'.

Europeans are also ready to actively participate in helping the poor – half of the EU citizens are willing to pay more for their daily shopping, if they know that this would benefit developing countries.



For further information, visit:
<http://developmenteducation.org/index.php/en/news/devnews/63-making-a-difference-in-the-world-europeans-and-the-future-of-development-aid->

Download the EuroBarometer here:
http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_375_en.pdf

Beyond the Millennium Development Goals– What happens post 2015?

Some readers...

BEYOND2015
<http://www.beyond2015.org/>

The GUARDIAN's PovertyMatterBlog: "Whither the post-MDG development agenda?"
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2011/jul/15/millennium-development-goals-beyond-2015>

BOND – The UK national NGDO Platform
<http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/beyond2015.html>

RIO+20
<http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&typ e=510&nr=118&menu=20>

Beyond2015

Useful links

WEBSITE OF THE RADC PROJECT

<http://www.developmenteducation.org>

ACADEMIA DE STUDII ECONOMICE

<http://www.ase.ro>

CARDET

<http://www.cardet.org>

GLOBAL ACTION SCHOOLS 2 COMMUNITIES

<http://www.kopin.org>

<http://www.schools2communities.eu>

KOPIN

<http://www.kopin.org>

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals> <http://www.stopovertymalta.org> <http://www.whiteband.org>

SKOP – THE NATIONAL PLATFORM OF MALTESE NGDOs

<http://www.skopmalta.org>

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA

<http://www.um.edu.mt>

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA – EUROPEAN DOCUMENTATION & RESEARCH CENTRE

<http://www.um.edu.mt/edrc/>

UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA

<http://www.unic.ac.cy>

UNIVERSITY OF PIRAEUS RESEARCH CENTER

<http://www.kep.unipi.gr>

WORLD VISION ROMANIA FOUNDATION

<http://www.worldvision.ro>

Background information

KOPIN is a voluntary, autonomous, non-profit and non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in Malta working in the field of North-South cooperation and global education. KOPIN aims at poverty eradication and the wholesome development and effective empowerment of the poorest communities. It carries out development education and advocacy work on North-South issues directed mainly at local and EU policies. Although KOPIN is not bound to any other organisation, it has good relations with a number of Maltese and foreign organisations and networks.

In fact, ever since its foundation in the year 2000, a main aim of KOPIN is to network with other NGOs so as to share experiences and expertise with a focus on development cooperation and global education, and to build a strong position in advocating for a rights-based approach to social global justice.

KOPIN is the founding organisation of The National Platform of Maltese NGDOs, today called SKOP (www.skopmalta.org), which it was mandated to coordinate from its establishment in June 2001 until May 2007. KOPIN also participates in a number of thematic working groups at local and European level. KOPIN is also a member of the Maltese Forum for Justice and Cooperation (FJC / www.maltaforum.org), and actively collaborates with networks like EUROSTEP (www.eurostep.org), the Terre des Hommes International Federation (www.terredeshommes.org), and in networking and advocacy projects such as TRIALOG (<http://trialog.or.at>) and DEEEP (www.deeep.org).

The organisation has implemented a number of projects in the fields of North-South Collaboration, such as *Global Action Schools* (GAS / www.globalactionschools.org), *Building Unity Through Diversity* (BUTD / www.butd.net), a project on “Strengthening the Capacity of Civil Society in Malta, Cyprus and Slovenia to engage effectively in Dialogue with the European Institutions over Sustainable Livelihood in the Mediterranean and the Barcelona Process”, and a policy research project on Development Issues in Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia. KOPIN’s current projects are a “Global Action Schools 2 Communities” (S2C / www.schools2communities.eu), **an awareness raising campaign on Food Security, a project to design eight university modules that provide a wide ranging introduction to International Development Cooperation (“Raising Awareness on Development Cooperation” / www.developmenteducation.org**), and a networking and capacity building project involving Maltese, Greek and Cypriot CSOs and local councils www.medevnet.org.

Following its research and partnership building visit to Ethiopia in late 2008, KOPIN is the first Maltese NGDO to bring a structural approach to the collaboration between Maltese and Ethiopian civil society. KOPIN has also substantially contributed to the MOU between SKOP and the Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Association (CCRDA / www.crdaethiopia.org), Ethiopia’s and East Africa’s biggest network of NGOs. Moreover, it has itself established partnerships with two Ethiopian NGDOs, namely the Emmanuel Development Association (EDA / www.edaethiopia.org) and the Women and Children Development Organisation (WCDO / www.wcdo.org.et). In 2009, KOPIN organised a visit of the director of CCRDA and the Ethiopia representative of the Catholic NGO MISEREOR to Malta, during which KOPIN’s representatives and their Ethiopian partners had meetings with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and with a number of Maltese civil society organisations.

KOPIN also acts as the Maltese focal point for Social Watch International (www.socialwatch.org). It submits a national report for the yearly publication and undertakes advocacy initiatives with the national authorities regarding the relevant policies.

KOPIN is a registered voluntary organisation with the Office of the Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations, ID Number VO/0200. KOPIN is also registered in PADOR (Potential Applicant Dated Online Registration), an on-line registration service of the EU Commission for organisations working for the development of developing countries.

For further information, visit www.kopin.org



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