

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

MERHBA!

Kopin welcomes you to the second newsletter for Malta issued within the RADC project.

The newsletter contains information relating to international development cooperation and global education. It also contains information on volunteer issues relating to development work as we see volunteer work as: (a) a more experiential way of building public support for the MDG agenda and the fight against world poverty; and (b) a way of bringing universities and NGOs ever closer together.

We look forward to this regular meeting with our readers and also to receive your views and feedback. We also welcome contributions from NGOs and other institutions working in the sector.

Regards,

William Grech and Dominik Kalweit
Project Management
kopin@maltaforum.org

"Raising Awareness on Development Cooperation" on the move!

Kopin (Koperazzjoni Internazzjonali – Malta) 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.

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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.

MODULE DEVELOPMENT

In fact, in the last quarter of 2010, KOPIN, in collaboration with Stefano Moncada from the European Documentary and Research Centre (EDRC) of the University of Malta, has developed the module "An Introduction to Sustainable Development". The module will be piloted by the end of January, in collaboration with representatives from academia, NGOs, teachers and a number of University students, and will be finalised in early 2011.

PROJECT WEBSITE

Furthermore, the project's lead organisation CARDET, in collaboration with all project partners, has established the project website www.developmenteducation.org, which offers to the reader interesting information about the project and other issues related to global education and development cooperation.

GAP ANALYSIS

During the first quarter of 2010, KOPIN worked on a gap analysis with a focus on Malta's ODP. The analysis comes to the conclusion that: "Whereas the ODP tackles most of the issues that are

inherent to EU development policy and strategies (albeit not in-depth), the weakest point of this policy is actually its implementation which lacks any form of medium or long term strategy but also because with the Ministry's short term outlook, any action taken departs from the stated principles that should guide it."

ONLINE DEBATE ON THE EC'S GREEN PAPER ON DEVELOPMENT

During the second Project Steering Group Meeting, held in Malta (15 and 16 November 2010), the partners agreed that the first of eight public online debates on current issues related to development should be held on the recent EC green paper on development. It was further decided that the debate should be moderated by KOPIN. In fact, the online forum, which was hosted between 1 and 21 December on the project's web portal, had received nearly 60 contributions from NGO activists, academia, students and other interested individuals. It is foreseen that the contributions to the debate will be presented to European networks such as Concord and Eurostep, both of which KOPIN is involved in indirectly (through the Maltese national NGDO platform SKOP) or directly, to feed into the wider international debate on the document.

The debate can be accessed on the project website:

<http://forums.developmenteducation.org/discussions>

The Green Paper can be downloaded from [http://bit.ly/aq4gaU!](http://bit.ly/aq4gaU)

EUROSTEP:

Comment on the Commission Green Paper on the future of EU-ACP Relations Summary - <http://bit.ly/foxoJdp>

CONCORD Response to EC Green Paper: EU Development policy in support of inclusive growth and sustainable development: Increasing the impact of EU Development Policy - <http://bit.ly/gLgJze>

THE DARE FORUM DEFINITION OF "DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION"

Development education is an active learning process, founded on values of solidarity, equality, inclusion and co-operation. It enables people to move from basic awareness of international development priorities and sustainable human development, through understanding of the causes and effects of global issues to personal involvement and informed actions.

Development education fosters the full participation of all citizens in world-wide poverty eradication, and the fight against exclusion. It seeks to influence more just and sustainable economic, social, environmental, human rights based national and international policies.

(This definition has been approved by the [DARE Forum](#) during the 2004 annual meeting, and endorsed by CONCORD during the General Assembly of November 2004.- <http://bit.ly/eRGdII>)

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DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION SUMMER SCHOOL 2011 "QUALITY AND IMPACT IN DE"

You are an NGO practitioner? You have experience on Quality and Impact in Development Education?

Then do not miss the opportunity to join the DEEEP Summer School, which will take place from June 12 to June 18 2011 in Finland!

The Development Education Summer School (DESS) is a weeklong learning and exchange event for NGO practitioners from the European Union, Candidate Countries and Economically Less Developed Countries (ELCDs - the so-called "South"), co-financed by the European Commission through the DEEEP project. It is meant for practitioners who want to recognise, motivate and engage Young People as Actors in Development Education, Campaigning and Advocacy.

The DESS is an event whereby we aim to bring together people with different background, experience, age, culture and language and to enable sharing, increase synergies, foster partnership. This year's DESS is aimed at DE practitioners who have proven experience in Quality and Impact or who have at least contributed to a DE evaluation process.

The DESS is a complex process where the learning is ensured by a mix of methodologies and activities designed in a coherent way to allow the participants achieve the expected results. Content and specific methodology of each activity are as important as the sequence proposed and the link between them.

During one week, participants from all over the world will meet and work on the topic of Quality and Impact, in an enabling environment, followed by expert facilitators and a valuable expert on the topic!

Read more here - <http://bit.ly/gYR4ye!>

CSOs demand holistic view of development: TRIALOG Conference in Nicaragua

From 24 to 26 November 2010, around 120 representatives of civil society organisations (CSO) from various parts of the world gathered in Nicaragua at the conference "Global Crossroads: The Role and Perspectives of CSOs in Development Cooperation", to reflect on these issues in the North and South in promoting inclusive and sustainable development. The conference was organised by TRIALOG, HORIZONT3000 and the University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Cost in Nicaragua (URACCAN).

The conference reiterated that CSOs claiming legitimacy as genuine agents for a positive change, must be based on the eight Istanbul principles of the Open Forum for Development Effectiveness and commit themselves to work together globally. Additionally, special attention should be paid to the concept of "buen vivir", or "collective well-being", as basis for development. For indigenous peoples "collective well-being" – to live well and with dignity - brings about physical, mental and spiritual health, leading to a life in complete harmony, complementarity and the most profound respect for Pacha Mama (mother earth).

TRIALOG had invited about 30 representatives from the New European Member States to participate in the conference and organised study visits to development cooperation projects following the conference. During the field trips people got an insight into the community work of the URACCAN university in the Autonomous Atlantic Regions of Nicaragua. For many it was the first time in a developing country outside of Europe, and the experiences will certainly be reflected in the development education work of many of the participants.

The full documentation and the final declaration will soon be available on the [http://www.trialog.or.at/!](http://www.trialog.or.at/)

Information provided by Ulrike Bey, TRIALOG (From the Trialog Information Service – TIS: <http://bit.ly/e4JXz6>)

KOPIN is a partner in the Trialog project. A representative of KOPIN attended the Nicaragua conference.

CARDET to Develop Information Guides for Migrants

The international NGDO CARDET was recently awarded two projects by the Cyprus Civil Registration and Migration Department, to conduct research and design two information guides for migrants. The first guide will provide general information on Cyprus and will be addressed to migrants living in the country. The Cyprus Information Guide will be developed in the context of the European Integration Fund. It is envisioned that the guide will facilitate the integration process of the migrants and help them learn basic aspects of local policies, culture and history. Furthermore, it will help migrants to identify opportunities for employment, access to education, health care and social security and increase their civic engagement.

The second guide will be developed in the context of the European Return Fund. It will be addressed to migrants living in Cyprus and who are about to return to their country of origin.

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The Country of Origin Guide will be developed for Syria, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The primary objective of the guide will be to help migrants, returning to their country of origin, to re-integrate to their local society. It will provide information on the local labor market of their country, opportunities for vocational training and education and contacts to local organizations (i.e. NGOs) that provide relevant assistance.

The development of the guides is co-funded by the European Solidarity Fund (75%) and the Republic of Cyprus (25%) and will be completed by the end of June 2011.

CARDET is also looking for information and contacts with similar experience. For further information please contact us at info@cardet.org or visit the website <http://www.cardet.org/>.

Information provided by Sotiris Themistokleous, CARDET (From TIS: <http://bit.ly/gHfteU>)



In 2010, the 5th edition of the European Development Days (EDDs) took place in Brussels on 6 and 7 December. Organised by the European Commission and the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the EDDs are a leading European forum where the questions and issues about international development cooperation are debated. The scope and scale of EDD are growing every year, as links with new networks and new partners are made, and new platforms are created. The first four EDD events have established some important characteristics:

PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

At every level, participants, hosts, moderators, debaters, exhibitors, whether they're from the North or the South, can all take part, put forward their ideas, examine creative solutions and question responsibilities. Male and female politicians, parliamentarians, representatives of international institutions, local authorities, NGOs, business leaders, researchers, journalists, artists and students - all share their knowledge and their experiences. The debates are in plenary sessions or in bilateral meetings, in workshops or in the framework of parallel events, in quiet lounges or before the press. The European Development Days represent an opportunity to make good use of the diversity of viewpoints and models operating in the world. The forum's agenda is the result of collaboration, in which every stakeholder can propose events, network meetings or exhibitions.

POLICY-MAKING "LABORATORY"

The European Development Days are a policy forum which highlights recent developments and important initiatives "to be continued" in the key areas of development cooperation, such as peace, security, democracy, good governance, the economic crisis, international finance, free and fair trade, food security, resources, the media, human rights and culture.



DAC THE KEY ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

The European Development Days offer the European Union and its Member States the chance to take stock regularly of some of its founding values, such as solidarity, respect between peoples, the elimination of poverty, commitment to international law and to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The previous four editions of EDD have all confirmed the role of Europe, not only as the leading donor of development aid but also as the leader of international thinking about development cooperation. They have strengthened public awareness of development issues and helped to improve European cohesion with a view to increasing the effectiveness of aid.

For the fourth consecutive year, SKOP, The National Platform of Maltese NGOs, formed part of the Maltese delegation, representing its 22 member organisations at the Malta stand in the EDDs' Development Village. SKOP's representative also participated in a number of conferences and fora organised during the EDDs, such as the high level panel entitled "Do Europeans Care about the Rest of the World? Measuring and Promoting Europeans' support for Global Development", organised by the Multi Stakeholder Group on DE (<http://bit.ly/fMAUur>).

For further information, visit <http://www.eudevdays.eu>

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KOPIN NEWS & EVENTS

15 – 17 FEBRUARY: TRAINING FOR NGOs AND LOCAL COUNCILS

KOPIN will be holding a second training for NGOs and local councils on issues related to global poverty and migration, in collaboration with the Local Council of Valletta and SKOP.

The training will focus on project cycle management and other themes related to international development cooperation and migration. It will be held at the InterContinental Hotel in St Julians. It is part of a cycle of trainings and other activities organised within the framework of the international project

"Mediterranean Development Network", MeDevNet in short, which is being implemented by NGOs and local authorities in Malta, Cyprus and Greece. The project is co-financed by EuropeAid and through the Co-Financing Fund for Local Councils administered by the Parliamentary Secretariat for Public Dialogue and Information.

Participation to the second training will be open to 20 participants per day and is again free of charge (including a dinner). Eligibility is open for representatives of both NGOs and local councils. Booking in advance is necessary.

1 MARCH: SCHOOLS2COMMUNITIES SEMINAR

KOPIN's project Schools2Communities is organising a seminar for Maltese teachers and educators on "The Relation between International Economic Interests and War", which will have a specific focus on child soldiers. The training will be held at Sta Lucija Secondary School, between 9h and 13.15h.

MARCH: PEER-TO-PEER PROGRAMME FOR NGOs AND LOCAL COUNCILS

Within the frame of the project "Mediterranean Development Network", KOPIN, the Local Council of Valletta, SKOP and their international partners will offer a P2P opportunity for non-governmental organisations and local authorities. The programme will bridge representatives of these institutions in Malta, Greece and Cyprus. This international exchange aims to build the capacities of both civil society and local councils in the fields of development and migration.

22 - 24 MARCH: WORKSHOP ON STRUCTURED DIALOGUE

In collaboration with its Cypriot partner organisation Future World Center, the MeDevNet partners will offer a three-day workshop on the Structured Dialogue Methodology, which will offer the participants insights in both theory and practical aspects.

KOPIN'S NEW PROFILE

Following the revision of KOPIN's vision and mission, and after developing a five-year strategy for the organisation throughout 2010, KOPIN has now launched its latest profile document, which can be downloaded from the organisation's website.

For more information about KOPIN, visit www.kopin.org and join our Facebook community - <http://on.fb.me/hVyTBt!>

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

MFA CALL FOR ODA FUNDED PROJECTS 2011

The Ministry of Foreign affairs is inviting expressions of interest from local non-governmental organisations involved in humanitarian and development assistance which are interested in submitting project proposals in line with Malta's Overseas Development Policy. Project proposals have to qualify as Official Development Assistance (ODA) and will be partly financed by the Ministry within the limits of its ODA financial provision for 2011.

Expressions of interest should be sent by not later than 18 February 2011.

An adjudicating committee will evaluate the submissions.

Additional information on this proposal can be obtained from:

The Directorate General European and Economic Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

tel: 22042225 or 22042237
e-mail: alfred.agius@gov.mt / daniela.sultana@gov.mt

[For further information visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - <http://bit.ly/gE1uay>](http://www.kopin.org)

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 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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