

Raising Awareness for Development Cooperation

A periodical newsletter published by World Vision Romania's project "RADC",
a project funded by Europe Aid (DCI-NSA 2009/202-400)

IN FOCUS

A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear readers,
Welcome back to the 6th edition of our newsletter. We wish you a great 2012 and we are happy to have you with us for exciting news that the New Year brought. We are looking forward to your feedback and contributions.
Enjoy the reading!

Daniela Buzducea,
Advocacy Director,
World Vision Romania

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 has been developed according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). In fact, each course provides for 4 ECTS and a total of 28 study hours per course.

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.

MORE ON THE MODULES DEVELOPED IN ROMANIA

Module 3: Poverty Eradication

OBJECTIVES:

After completing this module, the students will be able to:

- Distinguish between various definitions and approaches to poverty and poverty eradication;
- Understand the openings and limits of the major approaches to poverty eradication, and place them into the appropriate theoretical category;
- Identify and assess the usual policy choices that supporters of each approach would prefer;
- Use these approaches to place in various categories policies formulated and implemented by major international organizations involved in international development;
- Use the conceptual, theoretical and multimedia tools provided in the module to document and build independent projects related to poverty eradication.

Module 4: Global Partnership for Development

OBJECTIVES:

After completing the module, the reader should be able to:

- Understand the ideas behind forming a global partnership for development, its rationale, logic and legitimacy;
- Critically describe the international system, its actors and their interactions within the field of international development;
- Identify the most important actors engaged in the global partnership for international development;
- Independently explore the relationship between development and democratization, including its theoretical and ideological underpinnings;
- Become aware of the most contested issues in development and their potential solutions.

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Links and invitation for debates!

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MORE ON THE MODULES DEVELOPED IN ROMANIA

Module 3: Poverty is one of the fundamental challenges for the sustainable and harmonious development of the world. More than 1 billion people live on one euro a day or less. Such a phenomenon has to be dealt with for at least two reasons. First, it is critically important to address major challenges in the developing countries, such as food security, gender issues, environmental problems, or civil unrest and abuses against human rights, all of them representing potential consequences of extreme poverty. Second, poverty exists in the developed world too, and it is commonly associated with politically sensitive issues left unsolved, such as undocumented immigration or racism. Within this context, this module explores the contemporary phenomenon of poverty across the world, as well as the most important inter- and trans-national policies and initiatives focused on its reduction. Placed at the intersection of science and policy, poverty is understood here as a concept that transcends boundaries of academic disciplines and the field of academic inquiry in general. Poverty is also a construct constantly scrutinized by both public opinion and policy-makers in developed countries, and is strongly related to other global issues that affect each and all the societies in the world, such as violation of human rights, climate change, and gender.

In order to address these complex puzzles, the module first introduces to the historical context that various definitions and key concepts are related to poverty and poverty eradication. Then it critically assesses the causes and consequences of poverty, presents the challenges of measuring poverty and the impact of various measuring tools on policy-making, and finally maps the major theoretical approaches embedded in the current policies for poverty eradication.

Module 4: United Nations formulated the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as arguably the most daring as well as an all-encompassing political initiative/project in the field of development cooperation in the world.

This module aims to offer a critical overview of the Millennium Development Goals formulated by the United Nations and then detail Goal number 8: **Develop a Global Partnership for Development**. MDG8 links development with different pillars of the world economic system such as the trade system, the financial architecture as well as the technological infrastructure. The critical role played by the policies grouped under the title "Official Development Assistance" (ODA) in the global efforts towards development is of particular interest since it is the clearest expression of each country's willingness to engage in "the production" of international development. At the same time, in the relationship between developed and undeveloped countries, the global partnership for development includes not only economic and political components, but also farther reaching normative concerns focusing on the legitimacy and justness of this partnership.

For this reason, equally important topics to be addressed in this respect are the relation between public support and attitudes towards development, and the shape and weight of official development assistance in the donor countries. Ultimately, the purpose of this module is to put the analysis of the MDG 8 on scientific grounds, addressing both the compatibility of the Millennium Development Goals and actions with economic and political rationales, and the need for political and public support of the MDGs ambitious initiative.

ACCESS THE MODULES HERE:

<http://www.developmenteducation.org/moodle/>

OR HERE:

<http://developmentcourses.worldvision.ro/>

GIVE US FEEDBACK:

Claudia_pedersen@wvi.org



JOIN THE DEBATES ON OUR PORTAL!

THE EU AGENDA FOR CHANGE

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

ETHICAL CONSUMERISM

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

EU DEVELOPMENT POLICIES: DEVELOPMENT & MIGRATION

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

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DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION: MADE IN ROMANIA 2

World Vision Romania organized the second series of events "Development Education MADE IN ROMANIA 2!" that started at the beginning of May in Cluj and Bucharest, with the support of Babes Bolyai University and of the University of Bucharest. This time, the events took place in Timisoara and in Bucharest, on the 9th and 15th December within the Faculties of Political Science, of the Western University, Timisoara and of the University of Bucharest. The seminars gathered development issues specialists, national authorities, NGO representatives, lecturers and students.

The purpose of these events was to present 100% Romanian initiatives and educational resources from the field of development education. The seminars approached subjects such as human rights, fair trade and the right to development in the context of international development. Moreover, discussions tackled the European Union's "Agenda for Change" and the debate concerning South Sudan's gain of independence and fresh start of the development process, followed by the viewing of a photo reportage done in 8 countries in Africa by Alice Ling, photographer collaborator for REUTERS.



15th December, Bucharest



Photo by Alice Ling in Niger

DISCOVER THE INFORMATION TOOLKIT

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

RAISING AWARENESS ON
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

INFORMATION TOOLKIT

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



Beyond2015

Beyond the Millennium Development Goals– What happens post 2015?

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&type=510&nr=118&menu=20>

Background information

WVRF is a child-rights oriented organization, with considerable amount of experience in implementing development and awareness raising projects. Curricula development is hardly a new activity for World Vision Romania. Since its early days in Romania (the beginning of the 1990s), WVRF contributed to the elaboration of alternative curricula (egg. in the field of health education in a context in which many health-related topics were not considered by the formal curriculum). At the same time, WVRF is a member of the development education working group (DEWG) in FOND, the Romanian NGDO platform, and since the creation of the federation, WVRF was actively involved in the organizing of major events in the field such as DEEEP Summer School in Romania 2009 or Third Edition of The Romanian Development Camp 2010.

Moreover, WVRF initiated various activities for raising the awareness regarding Romania's new role as a donor country (ex. Stand-Up Against Poverty Campaign, promoting the MDGS, etc.). Starting with December 2008, WVRF implemented a UNDP-financed project to raise citizens' awareness on the MDGs. MDG6 was chosen by WVRF as focal awareness raising objective. The project had two main aims: 1) advocate for Romania to introduce innovative funding mechanisms for development (ex. the UNITAID system so that Romania can contribute to fighting HIV on a wider scale); b) show concrete examples for involvement for the regular citizens. Through the first component a high-level international debate was organized at Bucharest with the participation of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance and other relevant ministries. In the framework of the second component, a group of volunteers trained by WVRF started an awareness and fund-raising campaign in favor of malaria-infected children in Africa.

Apart from the "Raising awareness for development cooperation project", WVRF is also implementing another EU funded project in development education called "Peer Up!" which is run in partnership with World Vision Germany and World Vision Austria. "Peer Up!" will raise the global development awareness of Romanian citizens, and in particular of young people from Cluj. The main development issues that will be reflected are as follows: HIV / AIDS, maternal and child health and food security.

"The Youth Civic Education and Community Participation" project aims to promote responsible citizenship and community participation for youth in Georgia and Romania. The purpose of the project is to provide youth in both countries with an understanding of a democratic society and the principles of civic participation and advocacy.

The project has three objectives that lead to the main goal. These objectives are: 1) to enhance civic education and community development, 2) to incorporate advocacy methodologies into youth groups and 3) to connect youth to the Global Youth Network in both Georgia and Romania.

World Vision Romania is an active member of the Romanian NGDO platform, FOND, since its early beginning in 2006 and has been board member of FOND since 2008.

Links:

World Vision Romania:
www.worldvision.ro

Raising Awareness for Development Cooperation
www.developmenteducation.org

PeerUp:
www.peer-up.ro

The Romanian NGDO platform, FOND:
www.fondromania.org

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