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EuCDN members join with colleagues attending a conference and stop work in support of striking Hungarian teachers in the capital Budapest, to demonstrate against the government's education policies.

Hungarian Association for Community Development (HACD) Conference, the Budapest Board and the 25th Anniversary

HACD Conference

Members attended the second day of a conference hosted by the Hungarian Association for Community Development (HACD) on planning monitoring and evaluating community development. Stuart Hashagen and Pawel Jordan both made presentations on their work around monitoring and evaluation. The discussion was lively, interesting and informative exploring HACD's experiences with LEAP in practice and monitoring and evaluation generally. The second topic for conference was community based services in small settlements exploring starting points, definitional framework, concrete experiences.

For more information contact HACD:

Gabriella Farkas - farkasgabi@kkapcsolat.hu

Budapest Board

Updates from each of the member countries raised both a number of concerns and some good news stories. On the down side we see a move towards more centralist, state control of community development in some countries and funding for community development and community development organisations becoming more

critical in others. We are already seeing some national organisations like the Community Development Foundation in the UK cease to exist.

As outlined in EuCDN's Statement on Community development: <http://eucdn.net/statement/>

Community development reflects European principles as:

- a true expression of the European principle of **subsidiarity**, ensuring that decisions, problems and issues are addressed at the lowest possible level;
- **democratic and egalitarian**: it values all citizens as equal and worthy of inclusion in the process of development;
- **social**, for it addresses social processes, such as exclusion, inequality, neighbourhood fragmentation, alienation and poverty;
- **inclusive**, for it seeks to unite divisions across gender and race, promote equality and thereby combat discrimination, racism, xenophobia or socially divisive politics or movements;
- **ergonomic**, for problems of exclusion are defined and addressed by those who know most about them and who are experiencing them. It provides an efficient means of analysing problems, addressing need and defining solutions;
- **political**, for it engages with the political process, uses democratic means to redress imbalances and inequalities in decision-making and engages with governmental structures;
- **improving**, for it drives up the quality of administration through the identification of shortcomings in the public sector;
- **effective**, for where used, it has empowered people, enabled them to take greater responsibility for their own affairs and led to a greater sense of citizenship. It has also improved public services, ensured a more just allocation of resources, improved the quality of life and has made government more accountable.

EuCDN will continue to vigorously promote community development across Europe which reflects these and argue strongly for the importance of community development in shaping communities and society now and in the future.

On a positive note the Community Workers Cooperative (CWC) in Ireland has been re-branded. It is now Community Work Ireland (CWI). CWI has a new logo and website: <http://communityworkireland.ie/>



In 2010 CWC produced 'Towards Standards for Quality Community Work'. This has now been reviewed and the 'All Ireland Standards for Community Work' published as a guide for key stakeholders that seek to support community work for the promotion of social inclusion, social justice and equality, and as an intervention for social change: <http://communityworkireland.ie/all-ireland-standards-for-community-work/>

The other main item for discussion is the membership structure. EuCDN has existed in its current form for 25 years while Europe itself and the European union has changed significantly in membership, politic and in the challenges facing communities and countries. EuCDN is therefore reviewing membership and the way we operate over the next months and we would also like to hear from you if you have any views, suggestions, comments. Email: alexander.downie@btinternet.com

25th Anniversary



With EuCDN being 25 years old we took the opportunity with invited guests active over those 25 years to reflect on all that has been achieved; the Budapest Declaration <http://eucdn.net/projects/eucdn-projects/community-based-learning/the-budapest-declaration-building-european-civil-society-through-community-development-2/> The Framework for Community Development <http://eucdn.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/2014-24-09-EuCDN-Publication-FINAL.pdf> The projects and exchanges we have been involved in <http://eucdn.net/projects/eucdn-projects/> and the resources produced.

Having looked back we also looked forward at the future challenges both for community development in Europe and for EuCDN.

- the persistence of poverty, social exclusion and growing inequality and the need to build more inclusive societies;
- the migration crisis and the need to ensure effective policies and programmes for integration and empowerment for migrants and refugees;
- the growth of racism and xenophobia and the need to more effectively ensure equality for all people and diverse groups in our societies and to recognise and celebrate difference and diversity;
- the democratic deficit at the heart of Europe where by those affected by issues feel they have no say in the policies and programmes that affect them; and
- the environmental crisis and the need to connect environmental and social justice issues in building a sustainable and fair future.

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 Work on the 25th anniversary publication is well advanced but we are 5 or 6 case studies short of those 25 examples of good practice from across Europe. If you think you can help with a case example contact; alexander.downie@btinternet.com

Sustainable Development and Community Development

At the EuCDN Board we were joined for a special agenda item by friends from IACD to reflect on the role of community development in delivering the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We shared the work both organisations had done already.

IACD: IACD's American representative was able to attend the Washington UN discussions on the SDGs. Since then IACD have produced a position statement; http://www.iacdglobal.org/files/iacd_june_draft_position_statement_on_sdgs.pdf and a major theme of their international conference in July will be the SDG implications. It is intended more resources will come from this. Also at the March Board meeting in New Delhi, the Board approved the association's 2016-20 forward strategy. For the next twelve months the focus is on a programme of events and resource development, supporting members and the field to engage with the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

EuCDN: EuCDN has begun raising awareness of the UN Sustainable Development Goals through our Members Update Newsletter. 2 features have been run, the first outlining the goals themselves and the relevance to CD and the second looking in slightly more depth at what it means.

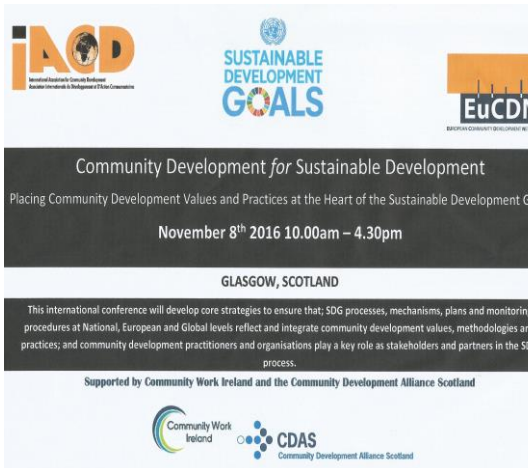
This will continue in future Newsletters. We have also initially written to the Campaign Director co-ordinating 30 other European networks developing a common response to the UN Sustainable Development Goals expressing our support for the campaign. Subsequent to this EuCDN has formally joined the campaign.

There is a strong synergy between the SDGs with community development and the role community development could / should play in contributing to achieving the SDGs. Reflecting on past and current community development work in member countries on sustainable development the picture is patchy. For example Norway and Scotland have made progress in developing explicit practice on sustainable development. In Hungary, Romania and Poland it is has not been an important issue and we see tensions between the desire for economic development; jobs, wealth rather than sustainable development.

We should note that with the description of the UN SDGs, the first 5 form a key focus for CD and sustainable development is implicitly community development;

- No poverty
- No hunger
- Good health
- Quality education
- Gender equality

Diary Date!



iACD
International Association of Community Development
Member Organisations: Community Development of the Commonwealth

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

EuCDN
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Community Development for Sustainable Development
Placing Community Development Values and Practices at the Heart of the Sustainable Development Goals

November 8th 2016 10.00am – 4.30pm

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

This international conference will develop core strategies to ensure that; SDG processes, mechanisms, plans and monitoring procedures at National, European and Global levels reflect and integrate community development values, methodologies and practices; and community development practitioners and organisations play a key role as stakeholders and partners in the SDG process.

Supported by Community Work Ireland and the Community Development Alliance Scotland

Community Work Ireland | CDAS
Community Development Alliance Scotland

November 8th 2016, Glasgow

Keep this date in your diary. IACD and EuCDN are organising a one-day event to develop core strategies to ensure that; SDG processes, mechanisms, plans and monitoring procedures at National, European and Global levels reflect and integrate community development values, methodologies and practices; and community development practitioners and organisations play a key role as stakeholders and partners in the SDG process. More details will follow.

In the meantime if you have any resources, examples, thoughts, comments on community development and sustainable development or the UN SDGs email:

alexander.downie@btinternet.com



BREXIT

As you will be well aware on Thursday 23 June the UK voted to leave the European Union. Leave won by 52% to 48%. The referendum turnout was 71.8%, with more than 30 million people voting. It was the highest turnout in a UK-wide vote since the 1992 general election. England voted strongly for Brexit, by 53.4% to 46.6%, as did Wales, with Leave getting 52.5% of the vote and Remain 47.5%. Scotland and Northern Ireland both backed staying in the EU. Scotland backed Remain by 62% to 38%, while 55.8% in Northern Ireland voted Remain and 44.2% Leave.

In the aftermath of the referendum result so far Britain's prime minister resigned, there has been a coup against the leader of the Labour party (still playing out), sterling has had one of its biggest one-day falls in history, the banks are starting to talk about moving jobs to Europe. Scotland has opened the process of exploring all the options to remain including the possibility of calling a second independence referendum. The Leave vote, said Enda Kenny, Ireland's *Taoiseach* (prime minister), was a "political earthquake".

The relationship between the UK and Europe and Scotland and Europe will play out over the coming months (years!). What of Europe itself and the Civic Service Organisations (CSOs) with an involvement or active interest in community development?

Under the initiative of the European Social Platform a meeting of CSOs was held on 28 June to consider the impact of BREXIT. The key points and actions are listed;

1) We don't want to remain silent as civil society organisations – at European level and through our national organisations and we want to take the leadership on the Europe we want. There can be no such thing as neutral. Let's get political!

2) Social Platform will create a civil society email to work on follow up actions to address the Brexit vote:

- Keep each other inform of our individual activities on Brexit
- Invite as many CSOs at European level
- Each CSO is invited to disseminate the notes and proposed actions to any CSOs you deem relevant for the work we want to carry on

- Need to think of ways to also bring in feedback from outside Brussels about the impact of any efforts.
- Civil Society Europe has offered to support future actions.

3) We want to engage with EU leaders: what will they do to make the life better for Europeans?

- Request a meeting Juncker, Schulz, Tusk and the leaders of the political groups of the European Parliament – please let me know with whom you have entries in order to get a meeting
- Social Platform will ask for an additional meeting during its meeting with Timmermans on 4 July

4) Target /engage Eurosceptics – the 52% who voted to leave more than the 48% who wanted to remain. Plot ways to get beyond our echo chamber and engage in real discussions for the future we want to build. Connect to the national level beyond the capitals

5). Work on a wake-up call narrative on what it means to be Europeans

- Joanna Maycock (Secretary General of EWL) will take the lead with all people who want to contribute to an initial strategic reflection workshop in July– she will send an invitation for meeting in July to the group
- We want to be brave and radical and avoid that the EU cares more about the Euro than Europeans
- What do we want to achieve with the narrative?
- The narrative should target people and explain "Europe, what for"
- The narrative should address people's perception of Europe and address key underlying elements such as migration, the economy
- The summer meeting(s) could be structured as follow:
- What do we want in the narrative?
- Why?
- Who shall be responsible for it?

6). Address hate speech and racism

- Need to address the issue in a very concrete and personal manner to avoid normalising hate speech: racist and sexist and anti LGBT including online. Need to make a political real point that this will not be tolerated.
- Hook our work into existing campaigns in the UK
- Prioritise social media activities
- Social Platform secretariat will reflect on potential actions that respond to the above points

Already the initiative has gained much wider support from across Europe from other CSOs with a volume of email traffic! The socialist and democratic group members of the European Parliament have invited CSOs and NGO's to a meeting in the European Parliament on 7 September at 14.30 in room A3G3. The theme of the day will be the role of civil society in the European political and legislative process.

Civil society has an important role to play in the European political process, and NGOs' expertise can positively contribute to the preparation of European legislation in many respects. NGOs are active in many policy fields where the European Parliament has its say, such as Human Rights, aid to development, education, Humanitarian aid, the environment, consumers' protection etc.

Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament

IACD



IACD have just produced Practice Insight 5. It features an article from Stuart on EuCDN's first 25 years along with features on community development practice in Scotland, China, India, Oceania, and North America. Let's keep up to date with the lessons from practitioners around the world.

http://www.iacdglobal.org/file/s/pi5_print_v3_low_res.pdf



News from Around the Networks

Social Innovation Europe features an article written by Eddy Adams on the latest URBACT projects. Each generation of URBACT projects tells its own story about shifting urban priorities in Europe. Previously, we've seen clusters of projects around themes including neighbourhood renewal, mobility and youth employment. So it's interesting to explore the new wave of 21 URBACT Action Planning Networks (APNs) and to see some clear themes emerging. One of these is what you might call people-powered policy making.

Of course, all URBACT projects emphasize the need for multi-stakeholder participation, so to some extent that focus on citizen involvement is always there. But this looks a little different. I would argue that what we are seeing in this round of projects is a much greater emphasis on citizens assuming a meaningful active role in city developments. This reflects growing concerns about governance generally – at all levels – and in particular a mistrust of established institutions. In this respect URBACT is doing what it has always done; functioning as a mirror to wider urban issues in Europe and building capacity for change. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/socialinnovationeurope/en/magazine/local-development-and-communities/articles-reports/sign-times-new-urbact-projects-reflect>

European Disability Forum: a delegation from the European Disability Forum (EDF) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) met the EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides. The meeting was arranged to discuss follow-up to the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) where the European Commission endorsed the [Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action](#) (the Charter), and to the [UN's concluding observations: the recommendations by the United Nations \(UN\) to the European Union \(EU\) on how to better promote and protect the rights of 80 million people with disabilities](#) – in particular the recommendations on the refugee crisis and humanitarian emergencies.

In its concluding observations, UN recommends the EU:

- to ensure that the emergency number 112 is fully accessible across the EU to all persons with all types of disabilities,
- to ensure that all aspects of disaster risk-reduction (DRR) policies and programmes are inclusive of and accessible to all persons with disabilities,
- to mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in all its policies on humanitarian aid and crisis management,
- to mainstream disability in migration and refugee policies, and
- to issue guidelines to its agencies and member states that restrictive detention of persons with disabilities in the context of migration and asylum seeking is not in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD)

http://www.edf-feph.org/Page_Generale.asp?DocID=13855&thebloc=34456

European Adult Education Association. As a tool for change, EAEA has published 'Manifesto for Adult Learning in the 21st Century'. It sets objectives for creating a Learning Europe: a Europe that is able to tackle the future positively and with all necessary skills, knowledge and competences. The Manifesto is targeted at European, national and regional policy makers to learn about the benefits of adult learning. It can also be useful for European education providers in advocacy work. It is available in a wide range of European languages. It lists seven contemporary European challenges in which adult learning can answer:

- Active citizenship, democracy and participation.
- Life skills for individuals.
- Social cohesion, equity and equality
- Employment and digitalization.
- Migration and demographic change.
- Sustainability.
- European policies.

<http://www.eaea.org/en/policy-advocacy/manifesto-for-adult-learning-in-the-21st-century.html>

European Social Policy Network. Social Agenda n 44– Integrating refugees. Ahead of the European Commission adopting an action plan on the integration of third country nationals (i.e. from outside the EU), the latest issue of Social Agenda looks at the refugee issue from an employment, social affairs and inclusion angle.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2548&furtherNews=yes>

European Network Against Racism, Muslim women experience the same inequalities as other women in employment and in relation to verbal and physical violence, but they are compounded by additional factors of (perceived) religion and/or ethnicity. However, very little is done to collect comprehensive data and tackle this intersectional form of racism. This is the conclusion of the European Network Against Racism’s new report [“Forgotten Women: the impact of Islamophobia on Muslim Women”](#), covering eight European countries: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom. It can be downloaded;

<http://www.enar-eu.org/Women-are-the-first-to-pay-the-price-of-Islamophobia-in-Europe>

European Youth Forum. The Human Rights Council of the United Nations adopted a resolution on Youth and Human Rights, which emphasises the importance of young people’s political participation and calls for a panel on youth and human rights in the autumn at which youth organisations should be represented. The European Youth Forum welcomed the Resolution, which as well as highlighting the role of youth organisations, emphasises the importance of giving young people real opportunities for full, effective and constructive participation in society. It also anticipates that the UN should work towards identifying and addressing the obstacles to young people enjoying their full human rights. Today’s generation of young people is the largest the world has ever seen and – if the challenges that are specific to young people, as well as their potential, is not addressed by policy making – then the wellbeing and livelihood of future generations will be impacted.

<http://www.youthforum.org/pressrelease/un-human-rights-council-resolution-on-youth-and-human-rights-a-step-forward-for-youth-rights/>

European Anti Poverty Network. EAPN presents its assessment of the 2016 Country-Specific Recommendations (CSRs), released on 18 May 2016, and is based on inputs from National Networks and European Organisations in our membership. Members have assessed progress on Social Europe and delivery on the Europe 2020 Strategy targets on poverty reduction, employment and education. A detailed country-by-country analysis is also available.

The 6 Key Messages from the paper are:

- Poverty CSRs increased but lack coherence and integrated strategy
- Austerity still dominant rather than social investment and redistributive tax policy
- Adequacy of minimum income undermined by cuts to universal social protection
- Increased access to quality health, integrated services and housing but efficiency comes first
- Employment policy continues to be a numbers’ game with emphasis on the supply side
- Some progress on inclusive education, but no link to Europe 2020 targets

<http://www.eapn.eu/eapn-assessment-of-the-2016-country-specific-recommendations-june/>

Preventing and fighting poverty and social exclusion, especially in-work poverty, in an effective way requires acknowledging the multidimensional nature of poverty. This calls for an integrated approach also at the household level by considering each specific situation from a holistic perspective, ranging from a lack of income to social exclusion, and by recognising the role of and consequences for other life domains, such as employment, health and long-term care, reconciliation of work and family life, education and housing. This integrated approach should address the different risks of poverty for women and men throughout the life cycle, from early childhood to old age.

Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion: An integrated approach - Council Conclusions (16 June 2016)

<http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-10434-2016-INIT/en/pdf>

Snippets

"SCALE ME UP"

6 Member States led by Luxembourg have launched the call for projects to create new collaborations between European stakeholders and to illustrate the potential of job, activity and innovation creation that social economy enterprises represent across Europe. The deadline is 10 September. Read more; <http://www.esspace.fr/c-est-quoi-scalemeup-eu-esspace.html>

CIVIL SOCIETY EUROPE SURVEY on civil dialogue mechanisms

Civil Society Europe is carrying out a survey. The responses to the questionnaire as well as the results of interviews with NGOs and EU institutions will contribute to the preparation of a report on the State of the Union of civil dialogue in the EU to be issued in the autumn. There is an online questionnaire on an assessment of civil dialogue mechanisms open for both European and national NGOs and associations. The survey aims at analysing Civil Society Organisations (NGOs, associations) interaction with the different European Union institutions and the possibility to share their expertise and influence decisions on EU policies and legislation.

<https://civilsocietyeurope.eu/2016/05/12/civil-dialogue-survey/>

[www.eucdn.co.uk /](http://www.eucdn.co.uk/) <https://www.facebook.com/CDinEurope/?ref=profile>

Any news, new resources, tools, case studies, stories you want to share, let us have them.

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