



Local governance and cooperation between Local Authorities (LAs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) for development

WTD National workshop
Brussels 9th April 2014

Rue de la Science 14b

Background information:

ALDA, the Association of Local Democracy Agencies, in cooperation with the Enlargement, Pre-Accession and Neighbourhood (EPAN) Working group of CONCORD (the European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs), are organising a workshop in Brussels on the 9th of April 2014 which will focus on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the post-2015 agenda of development policies from the perspective of local authorities and civil society organisations.

While the post-2015 framework for development policies is still under discussion in the framework of the United Nations, the need to continue addressing post-2015 development goals through action at local level is clear. Involvement of local actors in the design of the post-MDG framework and good understanding of their perspectives and needs are important in order to strengthen global partnership for development post-2015.

Our workshop will seek to facilitate sharing of information and to strengthen cooperation between LAs and CSOs or their associations and other relevant stakeholders of the post-MDG framework. It will discuss the possible broadening of the post-MDG framework's objectives (including to tackling climate change or ensuring good governance) and what this implies for the involvement of local actors and civil society. As such, the workshop will directly relate to the goal of the *Working Together for Development* (WTD) project, namely to improve LAs' and CSOs' capacities to act as development agents in and outside Europe, in partnership with European and national institutions.

A specific part of the discussions will address the connections between the European Year for Citizens 2013 and of the European Year of Development (EYD) 2015, in an attempt to bridge those initiatives and clarify the likely role of LAs and CSOs in the context of the EYD 2015.

Key stakeholders involved:

- Local authorities and civil society organisations from the EU, (Pre-)Accession and Neighbourhood countries
- International associations/platforms of LAs and CSOs (ALDA, CONCORD, Civicus, Platforma)
- Representatives of EU institutions and UNDP Art

Key elements of Working Together for Development (WTD): The project focuses on strengthening the capacity of LAs and CSOs to act as development actors and implement development policies, in particular by promoting democracy, social justice and human rights, based on the method of multilateral decentralised cooperation.



Project funded by the European Union



Working Group for Enlargement, Pre-Accession and Neighbourhood (EPAN)