

EDD 2015 / **NOTE FOR EU DELEGATIONS**



EU Delegations have an outstanding opportunity to contribute to the European Development Days, enhance its impact and generate local debates on the European Year for Development context.

/ EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS

European Development Days shows the European Union's commitment to the eradication of poverty. The forum builds on the core belief that cooperation is the cornerstone of a fairer world. An essential aim is thus to facilitate networking and inspire the desire to work together even more closely in a spirit of true partnership. European Development Days is an incubator of new ideas to inform our shared aim of a poverty-free, sustainable and fair world where everyone has the chance of a decent life.

Each year, European Development Days attracts about 7 000 participants from over 140 countries, representing 1 200 organisations in the field of development cooperation, human rights and humanitarian aid. In bringing together the global development community, the European Union also engages political leaders, development practitioners, the private sector and civil society in shaping the EU's policies for tackling poverty worldwide. Everyone is given a voice in this open, collaborative and inclusive platform. We will debate, brainstorm and share best practices and showcase results in our project village. This is all with one aim in mind – to constantly improve our concepts and instruments in securing better lives for people across the globe.

A list of prominent speakers from previous editions can be found <u>here</u>.

European Development Days, this year, will take place in Brussels at Tour & Taxis on 3-4 June 2015.

/ THREAD, THEMES AND TOPICS

This year, European Development Days will serve as the flagship event of the European Year for Development in 2015. In line with its motto – our world, our dignity, our future – we will address the key challenges ahead, such as creating sustainable growth within the limits of our planet, developing a shared vision of universal and fundamental rights, ensuring that each of our policies make a difference and that all actors, including citizens, remain engaged and willing to collaborate.

1. Our world / Creating sustainable growth within the limits of our planet

- → Halting climate change and building resilience
- → Sustainable energy for growth
- → An urban world: challenges and opportunities

2. Our dignity / **Developing a shared vision of universal** and fundamental rights

- □ Gender equality
- ≥ Right to health
- □ Inclusion and inequality

3. Our future / Each of our policies can make a difference

- □ Feeding the planet together
- → Fair globalisation
- → Migration

4. Our future / We are all actors in development

- ☑ Growth and poverty eradication
- → Global citizenship
- → Decent jobs

The EDD15 programme will include plenary sessions, high-level panels, brainstorming labs, project and report presentations and working meetings. The forum will also feature a **Practice Village** to showcase successful practices.

The tentative **agenda overview** of the forum can be found **here**. This agenda will be updated in April, once the selection of the sessions will be closed.

We will update you in the coming weeks about the forum. As for now, we would like to draw your attention to two initiatives for which we would need you to support the promotion:

- → The Future Leaders programme
- □ The Youth Photo Contest

/ FUTURE LEADERS PROGRAMME A CALL TO ALL FUTURE LEADERS

This year, the European Commission is inviting young people from around the world to play an active role during EDD15. We invite you to spread the news about EDD15's Future Leaders Programme through your network of youth organisations and young individuals who are making a difference!

Young people actively contribute to the fight against poverty on a daily basis through innovative projects and initiatives. The European Commission wants to recognise this contribution and put their achievements in the spotlight; helping to give them a role in shaping the development policies that will affect them and their future.

EDD15 will select 12 extraordinary young people ages 21-26, who can represent the powerful impact that youth are having in the development field. These Future Leaders will be invited to speak in high-level panels about a topic they are passionate about, alongside other global leaders.

How to apply

Candidates should submit their applications on the Future Leaders page (www.eudevdays.eu/futureleaders) before the 18th March 2015. They will be required to submit their CVs, a short 2min video presenting themselves and their vision, and explain the ways in which they are making a difference in their community.

Promotional packages

In order to spread the word more effectively, promotional packages are at your disposal on www.eudevdays.eu/futureleaders in English, French and Spanish. These packages include banners that you can put up on your webpage and on your social media channels, as well web releases in each language. We have also included posts for your Facebook and Twitter pages.

3 Should you have any queries regarding the youth initiatives, please contact Claire Veale at youth@eudevdays.eu.

/ PHOTO CONTEST 'OUR FUTURE IS ON THE TABLE'

EDD15 is also launching a <u>Youth Photo Contest</u> on the relationship between food and sustainable development. Young people between 15 and 25 from all over the world are invited to submit photos and a short story to explain their vision of how food affects our future.

How to apply

The contest is hosted on EuropeAid's Facebook Page, and participants will have the opportunity to share photos in three different categories: how food affects the environment, society or the economy.

The final deadline for submissions is **10 April** and finalists will be announced on **22 April 2015**.

Six finalists

The six talented finalists, one per continent, will win an all-expenses paid trip to Brussels to attend EDD15. Their photos will be displayed during the forum and they will have the opportunity to meet global leaders in development. The finalists will be determined by a jury who will choose from the 30 photos attracting the highest number of votes on Facebook.

Promotional packages

In order to spread the word more effectively, promotional packages in English, French and Spanish are at your disposal on www.eudevdays.eu/photocontest. These packages include banners that you can put up on your webpage and on your social media channels, as well as web releases in each language. We have also included posts for your Facebook and Twitter pages.

5 Should you have any queries regarding the youth initiatives, please contact Claire Veale at youth@eudevdays.eu.