

Inside this Issue

Editor's notes	1
Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness.....	2
Network News.....	3
Network Marketplace.....	4
Training Opportunities.....	5
Publications	6

Editor's notes

Welcome to the seventh issue of the **dlgnews**, where an outlook on the perspectives for **dlgn** engagement in SDC cooperation strategies is presented. Also, main outcomes and documents from the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness are shared. Network news from **Burundi, Ukraine and LoGIn** were received and are shared in this issue.

Also, for the first time, we are happy to include a section called **Network Marketplace**, which has the aim of strengthening collaboration among **dlgn** members. **Thanks SCO- Bangladesh** for leading the way in requesting peer contributions to the discussion note on **Public provider Partnerships**.

Finally, **the section on Training Opportunities** for 2012 precede information on two publications from International IDEA: **A Guide to constitution Building** and **A study on contribution of women in constitution making in Nepal** and one from the Forum of Federations: **The Governance of Metropolitan Regions – European and Global Experiences** are included for free downloading.

Hoping that this issue provides you with the information and links you are looking for, I send you warm regards from Bern!

Kuno Schläfli,

Focal Point DLG, Western Balkans Division SDC

Dlgn engagement in Cooperation Strategies

SDC is reviewing and planning eleven new cooperation strategies for 2012. The **dlgn** has received numerous requests for thematic contributions in sector strategy processes such as commenting on draft sector strategies, among others; as well as, many other requests for thematic support linked to PCM. This situation shows that practitioners and decision makers believe that there is useful knowledge in the network and they expect valuable inputs. On the one hand, we value this demand as recognition for past efforts and investments into learning and knowledge generation. On the other hand, looking at increasing operational pressure on **dlgn** members, we are aware of the challenges ahead to be able to deliver. However, we think we are about to make an important step further towards the transformation of thematic knowledge into cooperation practice and we hope that the network takes stock of its collaborative work to be able to respond to such demands.

Furthermore, based on last year's pilot training course on dlgn attended by ten **dlgn** members and organized by the DeLoG subgroup on training (where the focal point is participating), the subgroup on Train4Dev (DANIDA, SDC, EuropeAid, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, GIZ, and the Belgian Technical Cooperation) will organize the first course in Switzerland during the last week of August. For the contents, see the **dlgn** Shareweb: <http://www.sdc-decentralization.net/en/Home/Training/Train4Dev>. SDC has a quota of around 10 participants, and those of you who are interested in participating might reserve the dates and inform an-nick.vuilleumier@deza.admin.ch.



Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness

Summary from meeting document

The official opening ceremony of the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan (HLF – 4 Busan) set the scene to commit the international community to improved development effectiveness. High level support became evident not only by the participation, for the first time, of US- Secretary of State, Ms. Hillary Clinton, but also with the stimulating speeches of Lee Myung-bak President of Korea; Angel Gurría, OECD General Secretary; Ban Ki-Moon, UN General Secretary; and Paul Kagame President of Rwanda, among others. For details have a look at: <http://www.aideffectiveness.org/busanhlf4/>

During the negotiations around the outcome document, it became evident that the international aid architecture is going through a profound transformation with some new powerful actors emerging and with some traditional donors losing their dominance in setting the rules and principles for development aid. Thus, the **"Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation"** indeed represents a more inclusive partnership than ever. Taking into account the high amount of actors and the difficult nature of negotiations, the inclusion of local governments in the outcome document can be seen as a success (Article 21). This document acknowledges for the first time, the important role that local governments play in "linking citizens with government and in ensuring a broad-based and democratic ownership of countries' development agendas." For more information about the document, follow the link: <http://www.aideffectiveness.org/busanhlf4/en/topics/busan-partnership.html>

This success provides a solid basis for DeLoG to continue working towards supporting decentralization and local governance, considering it an important element for development effectiveness and for attaining the MDGs. Within that framework, DeLoG co-organised the side event: **Aid effectiveness at the local level**, where Mr. Serge Tomasi, briefly presented DeLoG and acknowledged the need of harmonised support to decentralization and local governance. He highlighted that capacity development, increased financial support and a clear legal framework for decentralization will be necessary for more effective support. During this event, Mr. David Morrison officially launched the DeLoG publication **"Busan and beyond: Localising Paris Principles for more Effective Support to Decentralisation and Local Governance Reforms."** This publication can be downloaded at: <http://www.sdc-decentralization.net/en/Home/dlgnews> Additionally, Mrs. Thao Ngyuen used the **District Development Fund**, a multi-donor trust fund in Ghana, to illustrate that donors have started to use more harmonised and innovative approaches to make support to decentralisation and local governance more effective.

Finally Hubert Julien-Laferrière, representative of UCLG and vice-president of Lyon, France, read the **"Document of Conclusions"** endorsed by the participating organizations. The document can be downloaded following the link: <http://www.sdc-decentralization.net/en/Home/dlgnews>

Network News

Rapport sur la gouvernance NGOZI, Burundi

From [Annonciata Ndikumasabo](#)

L'asbl Twitezimbere, avec l'appui de la Coopération Suisse, est en train d'exécuter le Projet d'Appui à la Décentralisation (PAD) dans la province de Ngozi. Ce projet a démarré en 2007, d'abord dans deux communes pilotes, et ensuite étendu à toutes les neuf communes de Ngozi. L'objectif de ce projet est de contribuer, d'une part à l'établissement d'une gouvernance locale démocratique créant les conditions favorables à une coexistence pacifique entre les citoyens, et d'autre part, à lutter contre la pauvreté en assurant le développement socio-économique des populations rurales. A l'issue de la phase pilote, lancée en 2007, et à une année de la fin de la deuxième phase démarrée en 2008, une évaluation des performances des communes a été conduite. Cette évaluation a été menée principalement sur base de vingt critères recoupant trois catégories de la gouvernance, à savoir : la gouvernance administrative, la gestion des ressources budgétaires et l'inclusion sociale et de genre: <http://www.sdc-decentralization.net/en/Home/dlgnews>



Partners of the Swiss-Ukrainian Decentralization Support Project in Ukraine (DESPRO) participated in Knowledge Management Training and Exposure visit in Switzerland

From [Maryana Kulya](#)

In the framework of DESPRO, in November 2011, representatives of State Agency of Civil Service, Office of the President of Ukraine, Foundation on the Local Self-Governance Support, Members of the Parliament and faculty of academic institutions of Ukraine participated in a Training and Exposure Visit in Switzerland. The aim of this study visit was to learn about Knowledge Management (KM) approaches of Swiss Public Institutions. The KM training was organised by Skat Consulting and was hosted at the Institute of Federalism in Fribourg. Swiss institutions such as **SDC** and **SECO**, as well as networks such as **Savoir*** and **RegioSuisse** presented their KM strategies and tools. Afterwards, the delegation visited the **Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration**, the **Swiss National Archives**, the premises of **the Canton of Berne**, and the **Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport**, where they were introduced to: the concept of KM; KM practices, strategies and tools applied in the public sector and in the administration; and the concept of e-government, among others. At the end of the training and exposure visit, participants were invited to reflect on the implications and application of the lessons learnt in their working environment, in relation to the further implementation of the project. For more information about the project, please follow the link: <http://despro.org.ua/en/news/news/159> or visit the SDC Blog: <http://www.sdc-learningandnetworking-blog.admin.ch/2012/02/14/integrating-km-in-the-ukrainian-public-administration-%e2%80%93-some-lessons-learnt/>

LoGIn – Online repository on Social Accountability

From [Swati Dogra](#)

The Local Governance Initiative South Asia (LoGIn) set up an online repository on Social Accountability based on a request made by members at the LoGIn Annual Meeting 2011. The repository is available at: <http://socialaccountability.wikispaces.com/1.+Introduction>. This is an attempt to make available basic information on Social Accountability under one roof. Besides provision of information in the form of toolkits and case studies, it is hoped that the site becomes a platform for initiating e-discussions on Social Accountability among LoGIn countries and the wider SDC circles.

Indo – Swiss MoU on Mutual Cooperation for Local Governance

From [Swati Dogra](#)

On December 12th, 2011, his Excellency Mr. Philippe Welte, Ambassador of Switzerland to India, and Ms. Kiran Dhingra, Secretary of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for mutual cooperation on Local Governance. This MoU aims at establishing projects for transference of competence between India and Switzerland. Areas of focus would be e-governance, local governments' performance appraisal, public service delivery through local bodies, solution sharing and mobilization of resources: <http://www.eda.admin.ch/etc/medialib/downloads/edactr/ind.Par.0163.File.tmp/India%20&%20Switzerland%20sign%20MoU%20for%20Mutual%20Cooperation%20on%20Local%20Governance.pdf> or access the document at: <http://www.sdc-decentralization.net/en/Home/dlgnnews>

NETWORK MARKETPLACE

You can request feedback or comments from **dlgn** colleagues to specific documents (such as ToRs, ProDocs, evaluation reports, etc.) produced by your programs or by your Coordination Office.

Please take notice of this space and send any requests for peer collaboration to annick.vuilleumier@deza.admin.ch

Network Marketplace

Discussion Note on Public provider Partnerships in Bangladesh – Request for Feedback and Comments

From [Tommaso Tabet](#)

This discussion note links **Service Delivery at local levels (water and sanitation for instance) with the role of the Local Governments**. It argues that Local Governments shall be empowered to ensure services to all, regardless the origin of the Suppliers. Before publishing the paper on SDC Bangladesh's web-site, we would like to:

- Receive **your comments and feedback**
- Find out **where SDC stands with this specific thematic experience:**
- **Any field level experience testing a similar framework?**

The document can be downloaded from the dlgn Shareweb:

<http://www.sdc-decentralization.net/en/Home/dlgnnews>

Send back comments to: tommaso.tabet@sdg.net

Training Opportunities



Training Courses from The Hague Academy for Local Governance

The Hague Academy for Local Governance together with partner institutes has invested in the development of new, high-quality and practice-oriented training courses offered throughout 2012 on topics such as: *Decentralization, Democratization and Development; Citizen Participation and Accountability; Decentralization and Local Governance; Local Economic Development; Local Service Delivery and the MGDs; Peace building and Local Governance; Leadership and Municipal Management; Fiscal Decentralization and local Finance*, among others. Further details on the courses offered could be found in the

Course Brochure: <http://www.sdc-decentralization.net/en/Home/dlgnews>

Collaboration with The Hague Institute for Global justice

The Hague Academy for Local Governance is developing a research and training programme for fragile and post-conflict countries, together with the Van Vollenhoven Institute of the University of Leiden (VVI). The programme aims to develop knowledge and build capacity to promote state building from the bottom up. For more information about this programme, have a look at: <http://thehagueacademy.com/index.php?id=473>

Courses offered by the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction

The International Institute of Rural Reconstruction is offering different courses and training workshops in 2012:

Mainstreaming Gender in Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

March 19 - 30, 2012, Cambodia

Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

April 16 - 27, 2012, Philippines

Building Resilient Communities: Community-Managed Disaster Risk Reduction

May 7 - 18, 2012, Philippines

Community-based Integrated Watershed Management

May 28 - June 8, 2012, Philippines

Capturing Lessons from the Field: The Writeshop Process

June 18 - 29, 2012, Philippines

These courses are products of IIRR's extensive experience in the various participatory, sectoral and management approaches of development work in particularly in Asia. The courses include field visits to communities and practical application of knowledge to best facilitate the learning process. In case of questions about the courses, please email Dulce Dominguez at: dulce.dominguez@iirr.org or visit www.iirr.org

Courses offered by the University of Zürich on Democracy and Democratization

The University of Zurich offers courses on Democracy and Democratization, which aim at measuring democracy and its global spread. They also discuss processes of democratization in various parts of the world, focusing on specific regions or contexts. They provide students with a more general understanding of the various theories developed to study democracy and democratization. For more information about the different courses offered during the Spring and Autumn terms in 2012, please have a look at:

http://www.zdaarau.ch/en/courses/courses_uzh-democracy.php

UNSSC - 3rd course on Decentralized Governance and Conflict Prevention & Peace building

Registrations are open to the 3rd Course on "Decentralized Governance and Conflict Prevention & Peace building", which will take place on 23-26 April, 2012 in Turin, Italy. This 4-day course aims to provide participants with insights on the concept of decentralized governance and its relationship with conflict. The objective of the course is to ensure that participants gain sound grounding in the theoretical concepts and supply them with analytic tools and skills to better understand the complexity of decentralization processes and their effects in volatile and post-conflict contexts. Early enrolment is encouraged as we have a limited number of places.

To know more about the course, fees and deadlines please visit:

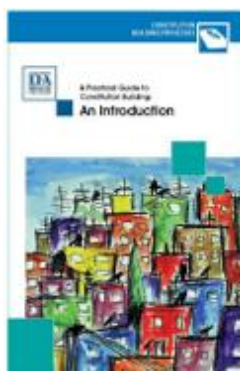
<http://www.unssc.org/home/activities/decentralized-governance-and-conflict-prevention-peacebuilding> To register, please follow the link:

<http://www.unssc.org/home/activities/enrolment-form-supervisor?key=10.DGCPP.001>.

For further information on the course, please contact us at peacesecurity@unssc.org.

ALDA Training, Information, Cooperation – Towards Active Citizenship

ALDA is launching a new project TIC-TAC (Training, Information, Cooperation - Towards Active Citizenship), which will last until January, 17th 2013. This project aims at strengthening the participation of potential stakeholders (Association of LA, CSOs, LAs, citizens) of the Europe for Citizens Programme http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/index_en.php through the creation of a platform for the establishment of long lasting partnership. The main activities will be: an international training course in Brussels focused on all the actions of the Europe for Citizens programme; 12 local Info Days; and an international Citizenship Fair. The latter has the aim of promoting exchange of good practices among partners and of creating and strengthening relations through the setting-up of a network using a dynamic and interactive method. For more information, please contact: Marine Henry, ALDA Project Manager Active Citizenship marine.henry@aldaintranet.org or have a look at: http://www.alda-europe.eu/newSite/news_dett.php?id=251



Publications

A Practical Guide to Constitution Building

This Guide published by International IDEA provides a foundation for understanding constitutions and constitution building. It is filled with real world examples of agreements and innovative provisions adopted during processes of constitutional change, and wide-ranging examination of how constitutions develop and how their development can establish and entrench democratic values. Beyond comparative examples, the Guide contains in-depth analysis of key components of constitutions and the forces of change that shape them. It urges practitioners to look carefully at the forces at play within their individual contexts in order to better understand constitutional dynamics and play a role in shaping a constitution that will put into place a functioning democratic government and foster lasting peace. For free downloading of this guide follow the link: <http://www.idea.int/publications/pgcb/#> This guide is complemented by a comprehensive website: <http://www.constitutionnet.org/start> which offers additional knowledge tools.



Women Members of the Constituent Assembly: A study on contribution of women in constitution making in Nepal

This book presents the stories of the women Constituent Assembly members in Nepal, which reflect their struggles, their hopes and their perseverance in struggling to bring equality to Nepali society. Their stories include journeys from battlefields to politics and from student politics to national politics; transformations from oppressed village girl to prominent politician; and life-long engagements in political movements, social work or professional life. For free download of this study, follow the link: <http://www.idea.int/publications/women-members-of-the-constituent-assembly/index.cfm>



The Governance of Metropolitan Regions – European and Global Experiences

This publication is the result of a joint seminar of the Committee of the Regions of the European Union and the Forum of Federations organized in Brussels in June 2011. It focuses on issues of how the livability of metropolitan regions can be improved by considering governance options, differing financing models and social inclusivity through comparative international experiences. It also explores the governance challenges posed by infrastructure planning and financing, as well as the management of diversity within and amongst metropolitan regions. The publication can be downloaded at: <http://www.forumfed.org/en/products/GovernanceofMetropolitanRegions.php>

Did you forget your password to Shareweb?

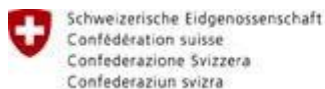
Please contact:
annick.vuilleumier@deza.admin.ch
to have it renewed!

Subscribe or unsubscribe

If you would like to receive **dlgnews**, please send a message to annick.vuilleumier@deza.admin.ch with the heading **subscribe** to **dlgnews**. If you do not wish to continue to receive this newsmail, please let us know by sending an email to annick.vuilleumier@deza.admin.ch with the heading **unsubscribe newsmail**.

dlgnews Contact

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC
Division Cooperation with Eastern Europe
Focal Point Decentralisation and Local Governance
Freiburgstrasse 130
3003 Berne
Switzerland
E-Mail: annick.vuilleumier@deza.admin.ch



Direktion für Entwicklung und Zusammenarbeit DEZA
Direction du développement et de la coopération DDC
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC
Agencia Suiza para el desarrollo y la cooperación COSUDE