

**Regional meeting Europe:
*Assessing the impact of Europe's internal dynamics on its external action***

**International Conference Center
Ghent, Belgium
January 15-16, 2018**

Draft Agenda

Monday, January 15

8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:30	<p>1. Welcome: What Europe do we want?</p> <p>Welcome speeches from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniël Termont, Mayor of Ghent, tbc - Stefano Manservigi, Director General, DG International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO), European Commission, tbc - Representative from the CSOs <p><i>Objectives: Open the meeting with an understanding of stakeholders' expectations and vision of Europe and its role in international sustainable development. Explain to all participants the role of the PFD in these discussions.</i></p>
9:30-11:00	<p>2. Update and discussion on the Multi-annual indicative program (MIP) for Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities</p> <p><i>Stefano Manservigi, Director General (DEVCO), European Commission DG will give an informational update and open the floor for questions and discussion on the MIP: Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities</i></p>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	<p>3. Plenary: Recent trends in Europe: How to increase policy coherence for development both at home and abroad?</p> <p><i>Objective: To look at the EU's commitment to policy coherence in light of the SDGs as a new, holistic approach. Understanding that the values inherent in EU policy support the aim of leaving no one behind, talk specifically about fragile contexts and how subsequent population movements test these values.</i></p> <p>Panel discussion on EU policies and Policy Coherence for development. Speakers will also discuss European responses and progress toward achieving the SDGs in the current political climate.</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	4. European Enabling Environment: how enabling is the context for European development actors?

	<i>Panel presentation of case studies and examples of shrinking space; experiences of recentralisation (guest from Committees of the regions?) and plenary discussion</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:30	4. Enabling environment: working groups
	<p><i>Objective: In light of the panel of session 2, participants will discuss the current working environment to highlight key challenges, solutions and impacts on EU development policy (internal and external).</i></p> <p>Working groups by stakeholder/actor to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do tendencies within Europe relate to the European Commission’s commitments to support the enabling environment for civil society organisations and to empower local authorities through decentralisation reforms? (positive and negative) ▪ What will be the impact of recentralization in EU member states on the effectiveness and credibility of EU initiatives to accompany decentralisation processes in partner countries and at continental levels? ▪ What will these internal evolutions mean for the possibilities of European actors to engage in partnership relations with their counterparts outside of the EU?
18:30	Networking dinner at City Hall, Ghent (TBC)
Tuesday, January 16	
9:00-10:00	5. Recap of Day 1 and intro to day 2
	<p>Recap of Day 1</p> <p>Policy Forum on Development: What is the role of the PFD in these discussions?</p> <p><i>Objective: Introduce the PFD and how it can support policy discussions amongst stakeholders</i></p>
10:00-10:30	Introduction of roundtables and Coffee break
10:30-12:30	6. Recent trends in EU external action policies and programmes
	<p><i>Objective: To examine more in depth several current EU policies and relate them to the current political challenges, stated policy values and European progress toward the SDGs discussed on the first day. Specifically, to look at the European Investment Plan and the increasing context of fragility and subsequent security and migration issues.</i></p> <p>Panels or Roundtables covering:</p> <p><u>Private sector accountability in development:</u> The private sector makes an important contribution to job and growth creation, but how to guarantee that jobs are decent and growth is sustainable? The debate will explore how to ensure private sector interventions in development are a matter of multi-stakeholder dialogue in donor and recipient countries. It will also explore how PFD constituents can engage in EU initiatives on innovative development finance (e.g. blended finance) and how to ensure these mechanisms abide by development effectiveness principles.</p> <p><u>Security, migration and peacebuilding:</u></p>

	<p>More than before in recent history, global dynamics are driven by insecurity, forced migration and inequality, as well as by climate change and increasing natural hazards. Development programming needs to better reflect this new situation in order to realize the SDGs for all. PFD members will discuss: the value added of whole of society approach; the role that Europe can play to further the peace and security agenda in and around Europe; and role of CSOs and local governments, and particularly of the PFD community, in contributing meaningfully to the broader aim.</p>
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	6. Recent trends: second panel or round table discussion or Plenary session on roundtable topics (brining in some questions from the morning)
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:00	7. Final session and closing