

Opening of the European Year for Development 2015 **EYD2015: one vision for an inclusive and sustainable post-2015 world**

Date: January 9, Friday

Place: Riga, Latvia

Venue: National Library of Latvia

A high-level live-streamed event to:

- Raise visibility - launch the European Year for Development (EYD2015) and attract the highest attention to the EU and Member state stakeholders' development cooperation results in the EU and beyond,
- Inform and raise the profile of the post-2015 process and highlight the opportunities of EYD2015 activities for it,
- Rally support for good governance and effective, inclusive and accountable institutions (SDG16) as a linchpin for achieving a sustainable and inclusive development for all within planetary boundaries,
- Activate public involvement through sharing stories and introducing actions that can create 'snowballing' and 'butterfly' effects on development cooperation.

Preliminary programme

9:00 – 09:35

Registration

10:00 – 10:30

Launch of the European Year for Development – Imants Ziedonis Hall

Opening statements by:

- H.E. Ms Laimdota Straujuma, Prime Minister of Latvia
- H.E. Mr Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission
- H.E. Ms Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
- Ms Linda McAvan, Chairperson of the European Parliament Committee on Development
- Mr Henri Malosse, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
- Mr Michel Lebrun, President of the Committee of the Regions
- Mr Seamus Jeffreson, Director of CONCORD

10:30 – 11:00

“Tell your story and get others actively involved”: the activities during the year ahead – Imants Ziedonis Hall

- Launch of the video-competition “Shining Stars of Europe”
- Launch of the motorcycle expedition “2 Wheels 2 Capes”
- Towards the "Civil Society Alliance for the European Year 2015 for Development"

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee break – 1st Floor

Heads of Delegations family photo - 1st Floor

11:30 – 12:45

Panel 1: The EYD2015 and its role in fostering dialogue on the results, benefits and challenges of sustainable development cooperation - Imants Ziedonis Hall

The EYD2015 is an unparalleled opportunity for each of the EU Member States and for us all as a Union to highlight our results in development cooperation, and raise awareness of its mutual benefits. This panel will focus on the aims of and possibilities from the EYD2015, highlighting why everyone in the EU should be informed about and get involved in development cooperation.

Panelists:

- Mr Karmenu Vella, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- Prof. Dr. Vaira Vīķe - Freiberga, former President of the Republic of Latvia, President of the Club de Madrid
- Mr Romain Schneider, Minister of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs of Luxembourg
- Ms Isabella Lövin, Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden
- Ms Annick Girardin, Minister of State for Development and Francophonie of France
- Mr Seamus Jeffreson, Director of CONCORD

13:00 – 13:30

High-level press conference - Imants Ziedonis Hall

- H.E. Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia
- Mr Neven Mimica, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development
- H.E. Ms Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
- Mr Karmenu Vella, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

13:30 – 15:00

Lunch break - National Library of Latvia restaurant

Working lunch on Means of Implementation (Invitation only) - Hall Jūra

Panelists:

- Mr Dirk Willem te Velde, Lead Researcher of the European Report on Development 2014 on “Financing and other means of implementation in a post-2015 context” (Overseas Development Institute)
- Mr Erik Solheim, Chairperson of the OECD Development Assistance Committee

15:00 – 16:30

Panel 2: Toward the post-2015 development agenda: a focus on good governance and effective, inclusive and accountable institutions as the linchpin for the sustainable and inclusive development - Imants Ziedonis Hall

The EU and its Member States put a strong focus on transparency, accountability and effective institution and capacity building in partner countries to support their efforts in inclusive and sustainable growth of societies and their national economies. Focus on best practice and stories from the field in Central Asia and Eastern partnership countries, and their possible implications for a universal post-2015 agenda.

Panelists:

- H.E. Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia
- Mr Neven Mimica, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development
- H.E. Mr Irakli Garibashvili Prime Minister of Georgia
- Ms Elvira Sarieva, Minister of Education and Science of Kyrgyzstan
- Ms Cihan Sultanoğlu, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, UNDP
- Ms Tanya Cox, European Task Force Co-Chair of the global civil society campaign “Beyond 2015”

16:30 – 17:00

Coffee break – 1st Floor

Arrival of people only attending the Kapuscinski development lecture

17:00 – 19:00

Kapuscinski development lecture “Transitioning from ‘the Developing World’ to ‘a Developing World’” by Mr. Homi Kharas - Imants Ziedonis Hall

Mr. Homi Kharas is a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, the Lead Author and Executive Secretary of the Secretariat supporting the High Level Panel advising the U.N. Secretary General on the global development framework beyond 2015.

Introductory remarks by:

- Prof. Mārcis Auziņš, Rector of the University of Latvia
- Mr Fernando Frutuoso de Melo, Director General of the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development
- Ms Cihan Sultanoğlu, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States

Lecture and Q&A

19:00

Closing remarks by Ms. Zanda Kalniņa – Lukaševica, Parliamentary State Secretary for EU Affairs of Latvia

19:10

Reception – 1st Floor

For any further questions regarding the Opening Event, please do not hesitate to contact: Ms. Madara Silina (e-mail: madara.silina@mfa.gov.lv; phone: +371 670 16 420) for content-related questions and Ms. Ilze Logina (e-mail: ilze.logina@prae.lv) or Ms. Zane Ievina (e-mail: zane.ievina@prae.lv) for logistical/participation queries.