

**THE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS
(Stockholm, October 22-24 2009)**



Seminar "Citizens at the heart of the Africa-EU Partnership"

Mobilising stakeholders

Stockholmsmässan¹

23 October 14:00 – 16:45

Hall A, room A2

This event will consider ways of mobilising stakeholders in order to deliver on the commitment in favour of a 'people-centred' Africa-EU Partnership.

The citizen dimension lies at the heart of the Africa-EU Partnership and of the Joint Strategy adopted in 2007 in Lisbon by the Heads of State and Government of both continents. One of the main objectives and key innovations of the partnership is to be "people centred". To this end, a permanent dialogue has been established with parliaments, local authorities and non-State actors, among which the private sector, economic and social partners including trade unions, and civil society.

What are the key issues at stake? Which progress has been made so far? What are the main challenges? How to reconcile interests, which appear sometimes scattered, or even divergent, between heterogeneous actors? Which implementation mechanisms should be set up? How to organise a structured and efficient dialogue between civil society and official actors? Do local authorities have a specific role to play? Which similarities and differences exist between the European and African approach? What should be the role of the African diasporas in Europe? What should be the role of foundations? How to go ahead?

Participants will be invited to share their expectations, analyses and proposals on these issues. The outcomes and ideas of the seminar will feed the reflection of policy makers and facilitate the involvement of citizens in the Partnership.

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¹ The European Development Days 2009 will take place at the Stockholmsmässan, Stockholm International Exhibition and Congress Centre, Mässvägen 1, Älvsjö, Sweden. It is located in the southwest area of Stockholm and can easily be reached by public transport or by car. From the central station, it can be reached in 9 minutes by commuter train. From Arlanda airport, it takes less than an hour by car or by bus. Further practical details can be found on the EDD website: http://eudevdays.eu/if_you_wish_to_attend/practical_details_en.htm
In case of any emergency affecting your participation in the seminar, thanks to call: +32.498.98.23.02