



ideals at work

overview of materials produced during LAPAS' Presidency project

introduction

The first half of year 2015 marked the time of the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the EU. It gave opportunities to Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation (LAPAS) to cooperate actively with other European platforms and civil society organisations working in the field of global development, to accumulate knowledge and experience, talk to wider audiences about the challenges and opportunities of development and to advocate for aid quality and effectiveness in the Parliament and ministries in Latvia.

Priorities of LAPAS within the Presidency project were divided into four parts: developing and applying the **approach of glocalization** to sustainable development; choosing **responsible food consumption as a topic** to improve the understanding of interconnectedness of global and local dimensions; promoting the **non-financial means of implementation** for post-2015 agenda and highlighting the important **role that the new donors** can play in global sustainable development.

The full text of the Manifesto of LAPAS is available here:

http://ej.uz/LAPAS_manifestoENG

This overview combines all materials that have been produced within this project by LAPAS. We hope it can be useful also to others working on global development topics.

the approach

glocalization

— ideals work when people think globally and act locally



Environment is our common resource. Its protection and mitigation of climate change is our common task.

In Mongolia building bricks are now produced from fly ash from coal-fired plants. This helps to recycle and use less of natural resources.

In Getliņi, Latvia, the energy from decaying waste in closed land-fills heats up the greenhouses that grow ecological tomatoes all year long.

More initiatives - in LAPAS on-line case book.

Glocalization is an approach that combines global and local in an interdependent chain of events and causalities. It provides an illustration of how this interconnectedness works, explaining the global through the understanding of the local and showing how local activities influence global processes.

LAPAS in 2015 developed an extensive **methodology of Glocalization** which can be used by anyone wanting to understand the interconnectedness of the two dimensions in any field. Methodology is available in English here:

http://ej.uz/LAPAS_glocalization

June 3rd - 5th of this year brought together participants from over 15 countries to the **Development Forum** in Līgatne. The agenda of the Forum provided space for discussions and experience sharing on global topics important also on local level (food sovereignty, migration and security). More about the forum:

http://ej.uz/LAPAS_devforum

LAPAS also created a visual **online casebook** featuring 12 pairs of initiatives from Latvia and other countries in the World aimed at improving lives of people and Planet. Many of the ideas are ready for adaptation in other communities, so are the recommended recipes - in other kitchens. It's all available here:

<http://stories.lapas.lv>



the topic

responsible food consumption

— ideals work when people know that they are the ones who choose and are responsible for where their food comes from, how it is treated and what happens to it after the expiration date



According to statistics, a person in Latvia consumes more than 320 kg and throws into garbage about 50 kg of food every year. The origins of most of this food are unknown to consumers.

Responsible food consumption was the main topic during the **social campaign “Stop Playing Food Circus!”** Within the campaign environmental posters were displayed in public spaces around Riga, a social experiment was carried out, a film “The Economics of Happiness” was screened in 100 communities across Latvia and discussions with food producers and consumers organised. The campaign was carried out in cooperation with Homo Ecos: and Latvian Farmers’ Federation.

In addition an **opinion paper on responsible food** production and consumption was prepared to inform interested parties about policy options in line with food security and sovereignty.

Though most of the material is available in Latvian, here is a quick look into the campaign homepage:

http://ej.uz/LAPAS_kampana



means

non-financial means of implementation

— ideals work when a mother knows that it is not the fish, the fishing-rod or the know-how in fishing that will give her quality life, but the actual availability of resources (fish) that she herself is free to manage in the way that will keep them available also for her daughter's use

India's Alwar district used to be a dry place with people leaving to try farming and surviving in other parts of India. About three years ago a local senior with a help of a young doctor started rainwater harvesting projects, using mostly volunteer manpower and local knowledge on how to store drinking water and get enough also for agricultural activity. Three years later along with water in the formerly dried-out rivers, also people, antelopes and leopards returned to the region.



2015 is the year when global discussions take place not only about the development goals for the next 15 years, but also about the means of implementation. These include both financial and non-financial ones, giving an opportunity for everyone to join the development efforts in their own capacity.

LAPAS this year has specifically focused on the non-financial means of implementation useful and necessary in many spheres of development.

With the focus on non-financial means of implementation in mind, LAPAS:

- organised a **multistakeholder workshop on the means of implementation** “4 months to Post 2015: can money save the world?”
- organised a **multistakeholder workshop on the changing paradigms in development (global, sustainable) education** “New experiences, new paradigms, new sectors”
- prepared **nine opinion papers** on burning issues in sustainable development (development financing, policy coherence for development, ODA effectiveness, gender equality, private sector and accountability, human security aspects of migration, media independence, humanitarian assistance, climate and development)

The **opinion paper on the relations between climate change and development** prepared in English by Janny Ramakers is available here:

http://ej.uz/LAPAS_klimats



resources

the potential of new donors

— ideals work when every experience and all knowledge is considered valuable



CSO that works with rights of women with disabilities in Kazakhstan already for several years cooperates with organisations in Latvia and Estonia. They don't call their common projects development assistance, but rather cooperation projects that allow them to learn from each other and give them resources to pursue advocacy activities when needed.

EU has a chance to use the competencies of 28 member states when developing high quality and effective approaches to global development, involving local people from various sectors in planning development, using local knowledge and mixing it with modern technologies for new solutions and ensuring sustainability, accountability and transparency of development-aimed activities.

The so-called new donors (newest EU member states) have special experiences, knowledge and skills that can be useful in global sustainable development work. Some of these are identified and described in the **research paper “Glocalization: Flipping Around the Development Paradigm”**:

http://ej.uz/LAPAS_petijums

In August 2015 LAPAS organised a study visit to Ukraine, meeting experts and representatives of various CSOs and state institutions. The aim of the study visit was to identify the main needs in Ukraine, especially in the field of anti-corruption, and to conclude on the contribution of Latvia as a new donor to development of Ukraine.

For more information about the outcomes of the study visit and/or any other of LAPAS activities please write to info@lapas.lv



Material was prepared by Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation (LAPAS)

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Photos from the events of LAPAS and our partner organisations

Rīga, 2015

Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation (LAPAS) was established in 2004 and unites 30 organisations that work in the field of development cooperation and/ or development education. The aim of LAPAS is to ensure and promote opportunities for Latvia's civil society organisations to get involved in quality development cooperation activities on national and international levels. More about LAPAS: www.lapas.lv

This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union

Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation project: "Glocalization - key to sustainable development from local to global level. EYD 2015 and EU Presidency Project for the Latvian EU Presidency 2015". www.lapas.lv

This project is funded by the European Union.

