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INTRODUCTION: What is Eurodad?

**Organisation profile**

Eurodad is the European Network on Debt and Development. It is a regional network of 48 NGOs and national platforms from 15 countries across Europe. The members represent the lead organisations in Europe on issues of debt, financing for development and poverty reduction. The Network facilitates cooperation between members, and acts as an information hub - both within the membership base and between members and the wider international development community - on its focus issues.

**A brief history**

The Network was founded in 1990 by a group of European NGOs who had begun education and lobbying work on debt and related issues in the mid-1980s. The aim was to promote coordination between NGOs at the European level, and to establish a European focal point for information exchange and research and joint lobbying on debt and structural adjustment, to which people and organisations from both inside and outside Europe could relate. Eurodad was a key player in pushing for and in initiating early civil society responses to the introduction of both the Heavily Indebted Poor Country Initiative and the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers.

In 2001 Eurodad launched the Economic Policy Empowerment Programme, (EPEP is funded by the Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs) with the aim of facilitating the enhanced involvement of Southern civil society in bringing a more poverty-focused perspective to national processes and international debate on economic development policies, and promoting greater cohesion between social sector strategies and macroeconomic and structural policies. The second and final phase of EPEP is due to finish in April 2004. Subsequently, the programme will be reviewed with the lessons learnt from EPEP being integrated into the work of the secretariat.

**Vision, aims and objectives**

The overall development aim of the Network is the pursuit of global economic justice and the elimination of poverty.

The Network seeks to contribute to worldwide efforts striving for fairness, equity and the improved effectiveness of economic strategies, policies and practices. The primary areas in which the Network pursues this aim are: **financing for development, with a special focus on debt cancellation; and poverty reduction strategies, including macroeconomic and structural policy.**

Eurodad’s specific **aims** are:

1. The increased influence of European civil society on economic strategies policies and practices of multilateral institutions (in particular the IFIs and, EC) and European member states.

2. Increased collaboration and complementarity within and between European and Southern civil society working on these issues.

The strategy of the Network is to promote, catalyse and facilitate innovation and progress towards the above aims through the pursuit of the following **objectives:**
- Increased alternative and progressive thinking within and between civil society, policy makers and other key stakeholders on our primary focus areas.

- Increased effectiveness and impact of our members and Southern stakeholders on European and international policy making bodies, through improved knowledge and utilisation of the opportunities for civil society engagement in economic policy and increased partnerships (research, advocacy and lobbying) on our primary focus areas.

- Increased cooperation between civil society actors in the South and North working towards these goals.

- Improved accessibility and multidirectional exchange of information.

The intervention strategy of the Network is focused on finding a balance between being demand-driven, identifying and responding to members and partners priorities, and being innovative - seeking new ways to enhance the impact of the work of our stakeholders. This applies to all elements of civil society strengthening: knowledge and information sharing, capacity enhancement partnerships, advocating for political space for civil society in economic development policies, and lobbying and advocating on member and partner priorities.

Eurodad seeks to add value to the initiatives of members and partners through the pursuit and facilitation of good practice in civil society cooperation, collaboration and poverty reduction policy intervention, and through augmenting our stakeholders’ work on policy research, lobbying, strategising and knowledge sharing.

The types of activities that the Network engages in, facilitates and supports can be broadly clustered as follows:
- Knowledge and Information sharing (pro-actively and in response to demand)
- Networking and Alliances
- Lobbying and Advocacy
- Research Partnerships
- Resource Development

Office move

In July 2003 Eurodad moved offices. Please ensure that you are using the current contact for all correspondence, including newsletter subscriptions. Eurodad’s office is at:
Avenue Louise, 176 (8th floor)
1050 Bruxelles
Belgium.

The phone and fax numbers remain: +32 2 543 90 60 (tel) and +32 2 544 05 59 (fax).
LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR A NEW BEGINNING...

A note from the Chair of the board: Jean Somers

2003 was an extremely eventful year for Eurodad involving many institutional and operational changes and a concerted effort to refocus, re-energise, and re-strategise. The Eurodad board believes that the invaluable groundwork done this year has laid the foundations necessary for the organisation to achieve its aims and objectives over the coming years.

Eurodad experienced two major developments in 2003. Firstly the longstanding Coordinator of Eurodad, Ted van Hees, left the organisation. Ted - one of the first members of Eurodad staff – gave eleven years of dedicated service to the Network and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of the Eurodad board and the Network members for his substantial contribution and to wish him all the best for the future. Subsequent to Ted’s departure, Jacqueline Woodman – who at the time was Coordinator of the Economic Policy Empowerment Programme (epep) – took over as Interim Coordinator in May. A new permanent Coordinator will be appointed in early 2004.

The second major development related to funding. In the spring we were informed that our bid to the European Commission for continued core funding had not been successful. We were fortunate that the Dutch foreign ministry - which had provided the funding for our Economic Policy Empowerment Programme - indicated its willingness to provide further funding for the coming period.

Following these developments Eurodad board and staff undertook a comprehensive strategic planning process in order to redefine the role, focus, aims, objectives, and strategies of the Network. Where did we want Eurodad to go, and what is the most effective and efficient way of getting there? With input from staff, network members, other stakeholders and external consultants Eurodad has clarified its mission and objectives and developed a new strategic plan and organisational structure. I would like to thank all those who contributed time, insights and energy to this important process, which leaves Eurodad in a great position for a new phase starting in 2004.

Last year involved periods of uncertainty and more board and staff time than expected focussed on internal issues. However, the wide range of activities covered in this report are a testament to the initiative and diligence of the Staff who ensured that the organisation continued to fulfil its multiple roles in research, advocacy, and information sharing/coordinating. These activities are outlined in detail over the following pages, as are the plans and priorities for 2004 and the new organisational structure that will be implemented in 2004.

2003 was certainly a challenging year. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Jacqueline Woodman and all of the staff for their impressive and diligent work. We look forward to working together with all of our members in 2004 in order to continue to produce valuable and high quality work and to make an impact on the vital policy issues which Eurodad focuses on.
Eurodad Staff 2003

Jacqueline Woodman: Interim Coordinator

Secretariat
Francis Lemoine: Senior policy analyst
Jonathan Wolsey: Policy Analyst (until end July)
Soren Kirk Jensen: Poverty reduction / structural adjustment analyst
Tom Streather: Programme officer
Maggie Carroll: Administrator

EPEP
Rafael Gomes: Research and European liaison officer
Sadaf Lakhani: Capacity building and West Africa liaison officer
Deo Nyanzi: South East Africa liaison officer
Kath Noble: Information Management Officer
2003 ACTIVITIES

Debt and Financing for Development

Debt

During 2003 Eurodad continued to focus strongly on the debt issue. In February a meeting of campaigners from across Europe was convened to examine opportunities for creating change and for working together. Among the outcomes from this meeting was the determination to produce a report comparing the approaches to debt by the G7 countries. A report - *Evian, the G7 and HIPC:s: the bottle is still half empty* was produced ahead of the G7 meeting. This ranked G7 countries' debt policies for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries and made suggestions for improvement. The report was circulated among civil society groups and officials before and at the official G8 conference and civil society parallel summit meeting.

Based on campaigners’ concerns that money for debt relief was being taken from existing resources pledged for aid, a further briefing was produced. *HIPC additionality: some concerning projections*: used IMF/World Bank projections to highlight this lack of additionality. Eurodad also tabled the issues in its reports at a series of meetings of officials and of civil society groups, for example the IFI network strategy meeting in Paris in November.

Financing for Development

In the context of on-going work on debt sustainability in low-income countries Eurodad realised the importance of looking in more detail at overall resource picture for these economies. This includes debt service on old loans, disbursements of new loans, new grants and foreign direct investment.

At the same time it also became increasingly clear that the mobilisation and the allocation of the additional resources needed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will have an enormous impact the issues addressed above. For example, whether resources are mobilised through an International Facility (IFF) as proposed by Gordon Brown, by reaching the 0.7 target or introducing a global tax will have very different effects on the 'beneficiary' countries. It might have significant adverse effects on their debts after 2015 when IFF aid levels fall abruptly). Eurodad intends to closely monitor these developments and studies have already been commissioned for 2004 (see OBJECTIVES and ANTICIPATIONS for 2004).

Role of IMF in low-income countries

As representative of creditors' interest and as the main institution assessing the financial policies of developing countries, the IMF plays a central role in the resolution (but also creation) of debt problems. In the context of HIPC the IMF was instrumental in designing the debt sustainability criteria such as the 150% debt to exports thresholds upon which debt relief is based. The fund also played a fundamental role in designing - through its PRGF programmes - the policies that countries must pursue to reach completion point.

"Today, I was asked to be a discussant in a roundtable discussion held by the Indonesian Central Bank on policy of using Export credit facility. Indonesia's debt to ECAs is around 22% of the total stock of our external debt, and, interestingly, the coordinating minister of economic affairs in his statement in the seminar said that Indonesia should use more ECA facilities. Thanks to EURODAD's paper on ECA, I managed to draw people's attention about the need to also reform ECA and ECA's policy. “

Binny Buchori
Executive Secretary,
Indonesian Forum on International Development (INFID), August 2004
Now that the role of IMF in low-income countries is being reviewed by its shareholders, it is good a time for us to take step back and reflect a little on what should be the role (if any) of this institution in poor countries, notably whether its role of creditor (through the PRGF) and 'judge' of a countries' macro economics in the context of Paris Club debt negotiations is appropriate.

At the 2003 Eurodad Annual Conference the Eurodad secretariat (Soren Kirk Jensen) - in conjunction with two network members: Oxfam GB (Max Lawson) and Trocaire (Caoimhe de Barra) - facilitated innovative workshops on the role of the IMF in LIC's. This involved network members acting out prepared role-plays of a PRGF negotiation (for three fictional countries) where the facilitators played the part of an IMF mission and the participants assumed the role of LIC country authorities. This led to a lively discussion about the realities of the Fund’s role in such countries and the very limited options facing many government negotiators in talks with the Fund. Participants appreciated the chance to learn about and debate the key concepts and issues emerging from the IMF’s recent papers in an interactive manner.

The workshops resulted in a preliminary draft of a civil society response to what the role of the IMF should - or should not - be in low income countries (LIC). This includes 17 points where the IMF has to change if it is to play a role in LICs. These points are due to be discussed more in details in a process in which the strategy shop was merely the first step.

The participants agreed to a process in which the next step is to discuss the draft of the civil society response to how the IMF itself envisages its role in LICs. The process is being facilitated by the Eurodad secretariat in cooperation with Oxfam GB and Trocaire. The objective is to present a coordinated Eurodad position on the role of the IMF in Low Income Countries at the Spring Meetings in April 2004.

Debt and governance / reform of the Global institutions

As part of the Monterrey consensus, the international community has set itself the task of reforming international multilateral institutions to make them more representative, more efficient, and more coherent.

These developments can have important consequences on the governance issues linked with debt or financial crises resolution. This is particularly the case of the asymmetric roles played by creditors in institutions such as the Paris Club or the IMF. In this regard, the 2003 debates on debt governance have shown that the views of many stakeholders are evolving in a more progressive direction that further efforts could foster a breakthrough in the near future. In 2004 the secretariat plans to develop its expertise and lobbying in this area (see OBJECTIVES and ANTICIPATIONS for 2004).
Structural Adjustment and Poverty Reduction Strategies

PRGF research programme

A major output in 2003 was the PRGF research programme that was done in cooperation with Oxfam GB. This research resulted in a matrix answering 55 questions about 18 countries’ PRGFs. The work was cross-cutting involving both policy analysts at Eurodad, EPEP and Oxfam, with significant work on the matrix and its user guide supplied by Tom Streather (Eurodad programme officer).

On the PRS and Structural adjustment the main highlight was the paper Streamlining conditionality - what has happened? The paper focused on streamlining because this is one of the key features of the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility. By comparing data from three countries the paper showed that experience with streamlining is highly mixed across countries. The main finding was that countries that in the Fund’s opinion are ‘good performers' face fewer conditions than countries with a 'bad' track record. The paper suggested that the World Bank is taking over conditions left by the IMF in an aggressive manner. Finally the continued reliance on policy-based conditionality continues to severely undermine country ownership.

All three papers in the programme are available at the Eurodad website and they have been downloaded several thousand times between them since posting.

In January 2003 a small amount of research was done in relation to feedback to the IEO’s PRSP/PRGF evaluation. This resulted in a two-page document with 11 concrete recommendations to the evaluation. The letter was shared with all members before it was sent and discussed with those who provided feedback.

PRSP/PRGF Advocacy

Eurodad staff participated in the Technical Workshop on ‘Macro Analytical Issues in Taking the PRSP Approach Forward’ organised by the IMF at the Bank/Fund Spring Meetings. The workshop brought together a number of representatives from low-income country governments, NGOs, academia, donor agencies, and the IMF/World Bank to focus on macroeconomics and poverty reduction strategies, and how to align PRGFs with PRSPs. The three main topics discussed were: (a) macro policies for poverty reduction; (b) macroeconomic consequences of large aid flows; and (c) fiscal and external debt sustainability.

Eurodad participated in the debates, and Francis Lemoine gave a presentation on fiscal and external debt sustainability. One of the outcomes of the workshop was recognition of the need to make more realistic and sustainable growth projections. Secondly after the workshop the Fund took off the table their proposal for a two-scenario macroeconomic programmes approach including a 'baseline macroeconomic framework' and a 'business plan'. After the workshop Eurodad prepared together with Oxfam GB and the Bretton Woods Project a paper addressing some of our outstanding concerns.

During the Spring Meetings Francis Lemoine and Soren Kirk Jensen met bilaterally with the Deputy Director at the IMF’s Policy Development and Review Department (PDR), Masood Ahmed, to present the main findings from the PRGF research. With the same purpose they also met with the Deputy Director of the IMF’s Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) - David Goldsborough - and a team of IEO economists working on the PRSP/PRGF evaluation. Finally, Soren Kirk-Jensen joined a group of Nordic member NGOs in a meeting with the Nordic/Baltic constituency's Executive Director.

Other meetings included one with Jim Adams, Bank Vice President who was presenting the World Bank's new operational policy on structural adjustment. In this meeting he addressed the question of the Bank's failure to streamline conditionality in line with this initiative in the Fund and the emerging problem of the Bank taking over conditionality left by the Fund.
There was also a meeting between the Eurodad secretariat and Caoimhe de Barra from Trocaire with European Commission DG development in March. This aimed to assist and support Trocaire in discussing modalities and priorities for EC engagement in PRSP processes with DG development. This was another occasion to outline the focus of the PRGF research programme with key policy makers but the meeting also covered other issues such as PRSC, PSIA, budget support and conditionality.

Member support and networking on PRS/structural adjustment issues

In October Soren held roundtable discussions with members in the Nordic countries. The main achievement with this exercise was that it really helped us listen to the thoughts of members on how the network should function better and to consider opportunities for cooperation. The policy team supported SLUG in writing their application to NORAD.

There has also been close cooperation with British and Irish members on the PRGF research programme; the cooperation with Oxfam GB, Trocaire and Christian Aid has been particularly valuable. Despite not being directly involved in the first phase of the PRGF research programme Trocaire provided valuable comments on the papers. After this we supported Trocaire/CIDSE’s country specific work on PRGF that resulted in a substantial input to OED and IEO’s PRSP/PRGF evaluations.

Alliance building on PRS/structural adjustment issues

The work done in 2002 on creating a platform for a critical dialogue on mainstream poverty reduction policies among NGOs and Networks in Brussels was continued in 2003. A highlight was the agreement to establish a CONCORD working group on aid and participation. However, a drawback in this respect is that so far it has been impossible to broaden the focus beyond the EU Cotonou agreement.

In this year we aimed at building alliances with two academic institutions on poverty reduction policies. The first is University of Antwerp. This institution is planning a 6-week training on participation in PRSPs for southern participants. They have expressed interest in involving Eurodad in this programme and this has resulted in an initial meeting promising potential for future cooperation. The second is the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in London. This institute has been working for some time on a research programme that aims at bridging the gap between research and policy-making. This is an interesting programme to which NGOs in general and Eurodad in particular has a lot to contribute. Eurodad provided feedback to one of their papers on the role of research in the creation of the PRSP and participated in a workshop in London where the programme was discussed.

Information sharing on PRS/structural adjustment issues

PRS-Watch continues to be one of the leading mediums for keeping people updated on issues related to poverty reduction policies. There has been on average 6 PRSWatch postings per month. It is a service that is still highly appreciated both by members, partners and a broader group (mostly academics). The number of subscribers to PRSWatch now totals 650.

Last year different versions of PRS-Watch were introduced (analysis, country info, and brief). The intention was that people quickly would be able to determine whether it was of interest for them. With PRS-Watch brief particularly, the intention was to create space for more of a two-way dialogue. It is questionable, however, to what extent the first of these objectives has been reached and the second has not. Further improvements to this service will be considered next year.
Economic Policy Empowerment Programme (EPEP)

Research partnerships

In December EPEP began collaboration with the Secretariat and Oxfam GB on a joint research and advocacy programme regarding the IMF (See above: PRGF research programme). In the first phase, from January to April, Eurodad agreed to produce four outputs – three thematic papers and one overview of the main indicators of 11 PRGF agreements - for discussion at the Spring Meetings of the IMF. EPEP’S contribution to this was a joint paper with Oxfam GB entitled ‘Pro-poor Macroeconomic Policies Require Policy and Social Impact Analysis’. We focused on macroeconomic issues which were raised by Southern partners at the Eurodad Annual Conference 2002, and related them to the IMF’s policy framework. For the second phase of the programme, EPEP contacted a number of Southern partner organisations who had expressed interest in researching country studies on the role of the IMF.

The second main EPEP research partnership was the Alternative Macroeconomic Modelling Discussion. Because consultations made it clear that the stakeholder group for this project was very diverse and spread across the world, and that we would require extensive feedback on the modality of an effective first meeting, EPEP opted to convene a reference group to discuss the make-up and objectives of the discussions electronically. The discussions helped EPEP to identify where they needed to focus, particularly in terms of making more explicit the types of modelling which will be used. The project framework document has begun to clarify these issues. As part of this process, EPEP commissioned and co-edited (in collaboration with Bretton Woods Project and Oxfam GB) a briefing comparing key features of orthodox and heterodox models, which has been made available as a draft discussion document. In July, EPEP began to organise an international exchange workshop in collaboration with the New Rules for Global Finance Coalition, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and Oxfam International, on the subject of poverty impact assessments of macroeconomic policies. The workshop, in mid-October, brought together top heterodox researchers and several IMF, World Bank, and UNDP officials, to discuss a number of models, including those in the paper commissioned by EPEP.

The final major EPEP research partnership of 2003 concerned Economic Policy Literacy Modules. In January EPEP began discussion with a number of interested stakeholders to establish a research partnership for developing a series of modules on core economic policy issues, for use in training CSO staff in basic policy analysis. EPEP began by mapping existing economic literacy materials on the internet. This exercise confirmed impressions that there are a number of policy areas where there is a deficit of materials, particularly on more technical macroeconomic issues such as investment regulation, fiscal management, and privatisation. EPEP has drafted an introductory module for readers with no previous experience in economic policy, and is developing a module outlining the links between different international policy frameworks such as the RSP, PRGF, and HIPC. Partner organisations have been invited to develop modules based on their expertise and ongoing work; these include World Development Movement on investment policy, Oxfam GB and Novib on IFI policy processes, and IFAD on productive capacity and rural development. The Citizens' Network on Essential Services is currently drafting a module on private service provision.

European Training and Exchange Workshops

EPEP organised a daylong workshop on North-South partnerships in May, bringing together representatives from 13 European organisations, to discuss good-practice in developing partnerships with Southern organisations, and in linking programming activities with policy research. Just Associates, who have long-term experience in empowerment strategies consultancy, facilitated the workshop. EPEP prepared a report on this workshop which includes participants’ suggestions for follow-up activities; for example, to develop an internet listserve with tools for better practice in N/S partnerships, and to hold a similar training workshop facilitated by Southern partners.
Bretton Woods Project and BOND (the UK development NGO platform), held a workshop in February to introduce PRSPs to their members - EPEP was allocated a few seats to coordinate Eurodad member participation - North-South Coalition (Denmark), Kepa (Finland), and Trocaire (Ireland) attended by invitation.

**Mapping exercises**

EPEP worked with Trocaire to establish new Terms of Reference for the Rwanda mapping CSO exercise which we originally commissioned from Seracob. Following the format used in West Africa, the new terms of reference (ToR) focus only on policy content, and subsequent consultations will lead to new ToR for researching the participation environment. In addition to fulfilling the initial objectives of the country mapping, the results of this research will also be used for initial training of Trocaire partners in macro-policy analysis. The new ToR for Rwanda also incorporate questions from the ToR for IMF case studies; Trocaire decided in consultation with partners to focus their research, training, and advocacy work on the IMF following Eurodad’s IMF/PRGF research project.

**West Africa programme and capacity building work**

In depth consultations in the three West African programme countries were started in 2002 and continued in the first quarter of 2003. This led to the identification of the programme objectives and priorities and an outline of what activities may be undertaken within the programme.

The West Africa programme also developed sound relationships with partners and key civil society actors both within and beyond West Africa, and built on the relationships with EUROMAD members interested in the programme.

ICCO have agreed to fund a range of activities in Ghana, and ACDEP - the Northern Ghana strategic partner - to open a new position for an Advocacy and Empowerment officer to be trained by and work on EPEP activities and take forward their new policy and empowerment work. In addition, Diakonia - West Africa have recruited a part-time officer to work on the EPEP programme and have integrated PRSP issues into their new 3 year funding application. Ibis – Ghana approached EPEP to assist in developing an advocacy strategy, and have pledged to support a training programme for programme officers in empowerment in economic policy.

The EPEP country research was completed in Burkina Faso, and the first exposure and sensitization workshop held in May. Two strategic partners were identified in Ghana, and brought into the programme - ACDEP and ISODEC, with sound relations developed. The Ghana country research is in final drafting and the first Economic policy exposure workshop took place in N. Ghana in September 2003. A second workshop took place in Accra in late October and a strategic partner was identified in Mali.

**SE Africa liaison and Case Study development**

In early 2003, EPEP programme activities to be undertaken in the region were identified and prioritized, these included: mapping of stakeholders in economic policy processes, documentation of good practice civil society case studies, private sector research and above all networking and linkages/relations building with selected stakeholders in the region. There has been considerable progress in these areas although formidable challenges still exist.

The Uganda mapping study commissioned by EPEP in collaboration with our partner Uganda National NGO Forum to identify and establish the capacity and potential of CSOs to engage in economic policy in specific sectors was finalized and the report is available. The impact of this report is two-fold: it has helped identify various actors in the economic policy process, the existing frameworks for engagement in these processes and the existing civil society capacity to do so which was valuable in the process of in identifying and prioritizing our activities in Uganda (and the region as a whole) and also in identifying areas of good practice worth
sharing widely. Secondly, this report has helped inform the development of Uganda NGO Forum’s latest strategic programme for the next five years.

Upon completion of the EPEP case study framework earlier in the year\(^1\), the main activity in the last quarter of 2003 was embarking on documentation of good practice civil society interventions in influencing economic policy. The primary aim of the case studies was to provide clear, well-documented examples of constructive civil society interventions in pro-poor policy making and monitoring. The case studies were intended to promote, capture, disseminate and facilitate cross-learning between organizations, inspiring action and empowerment.

EPEP case study framework was completed and distributed to organisations in the region for comments. Following in-depth discussions on the framework with different organisations case study areas were identified and a number of case studies were documented collaboratively with the participating organisations. Below are the case studies documented from Southeast Africa Region:

- National Collaboration for PRSP Engagement: The Experience of Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR), Zambia
- Gender Budgeting Programme: Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE) – Uganda
- Monitoring Poverty Reduction Policies in Uganda: The Experience of Uganda Debt Network in Monitoring the Poverty Action Fund (PAF)
- Can a Junior Minister chair a Cabinet meeting? Assessing the Effectiveness of a Civil Society-led tripartite review initiative of Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPRI) in Uganda
- The Intermediary Gender Networks in Tanzania: A means to Empowering Women and the Marginalized Groups in districts to take their Rightful Place and Role in the Local and National Development Process. Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP)

The case study framework was also used by different organisations in West Africa to document the following case studies:

- Influencing the Poverty Alleviation Strategic Framework in Mali: OMAES
- Grassroots sensitization and civic education in Ghana: ISODEC’s ‘water for all’ campaign
- HIPC expenditure tracking and district and national advocacy in Ghana: SEND Foundation’s HIPC Watch Project
- Corruption monitoring and advocacy in Burkina Faso: RENLAC
- Campaigning and Advocacy on trade and the WTO in Ghana: the General Agricultural Workers’ Union of the TUC
- Methodologies for fighting poverty in Burkina Faso: INADES Formation
- Working to change agricultural policy and practice in Ghana: ACDEP

Almost all of these case studies have been shared with different organisations and partners in the region to promote sharing of good practice experiences and inspire action. The recently concluded West Africa Conference on Civil Society and Economic Policy was the main forum where the case studies were shared. There are also increasing requests for the case study framework.

2003 has shown that there is increased and growing acknowledgement and recognition by different stakeholders in the region of our information resource base and role in facilitating cross-learning and enhancing civil society involvement in economic policy processes; this is manifested for example in the growing requests for EPEP to make input at various fora

\(^1\) The final draft of framework and methodology for case study series was completed in collaboration with partners including Just Associates. Selected case studies have been identified and documentation has begun. This process has enhanced EPEP’s relationships and collaboration especially with the case study organisations.
including workshops in terms of comments and presentations on key national, regional and global economic policies and civil society experiences. Input was for example requested for Zambia, Ethiopia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and through correspondences with various organisations in the region; such input is seen as a catalyst to inspire action and open innovative approaches on how civil society can proactively and effectively contribute in the economic policy processes.

A framework for a joint initiative of Uganda NGO Forum and EPEP aimed at developing a civil society advocacy strategy on FDI in Uganda was finalized and agreed on by both parties. This initiative is based on the recognition of the increasing focus of the Forum on the private sector in relation to poverty reduction. It will initiate and facilitate development of strategies by civil society towards improved social and poverty reduction impact on FDI.

EPEP has been able to establish linkages/relations with a number of stakeholders both at the national and regional level. This has been helpful in enhancing EPEP's prioritised contribution in the region in terms of first appreciating the existing state of affairs. A glowing example is our contact in Uganda made with Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) that led to considering a forum for civil society to dialogue with UIA on issues of foreign investment and corporate social responsibility. The NGO forum is pursuing this on behalf of its members.

In the last quarter of 2003 EPEP engaged in some comprehensive action learning and networking. The Uganda National NGO Forum and DENIVA introduced a National Civil Society Development Policy Forum to be jointly hosted on a regular basis to bring together a selection of top-notch academicians, civil society thinkers and analysts to discuss selected topics of relevance to the development agenda in Uganda. Following a mini-survey on civil society and NEPAD in Uganda that was done by EPEP in collaboration with NGO Forum and MWENGO, EPEP was requested to coordinate and organize the first Civil Society Development Forum that focused on discussions on "the value addition aspects of NEPAD". EPEP's contribution in this regard was highly appreciated. A report of the workshop is available.

In September 2003, UNDP Ethiopia invited Eurodad/EPEP to a Strategic Planning Workshop in Addis Ababa on the Role of Civil Society in the Implementation and Monitoring of the SDPRP/PRSP. At this workshop, a presentation on 'Effective civil society engagement in the PRS Cycle - Key Perspectives and lessons from other PRSP countries' was made and this was well received by the participants. The event also helped to catalyze more contacts in the region for the programme. In the final report of the workshop, Eurodad/EPEP contribution was valued.

**Information Management**

The position of EPEP Information Management Officer was created in January 2003 because of a perceived need for greater focus on capturing Programme learning and packaging Programme information. In the early stages, focus was placed on producing general material such as a new leaflet and an overview of projects and on expanding the website. Later, a format for a newsletter was developed and a dedicated listserv set up. Regular updates on Programme progress were sent to all stakeholders during the year. A system for monitoring interest in, and feedback on, the Programme was also established and maintained throughout the year.

Much time has been invested getting to know many of the national networks working on similar issues to Eurodad / EPEP. A great deal of knowledge has been gained about where priorities are complementary, on the different types of N/S cooperation between our members and their Southern partners, and on our Southern colleagues opinions and views on these partnerships. This qualitative research when combined with the more quantitative mapping will be invaluable when planning for future joint research and advocacy between Eurodad and similar Southern Networks.

EPEP worked with partners on a number of country reports documenting the national economic policy processes and opportunities for civil society intervention, and reviewing the
actors involved, their strengths, weaknesses and experiences. Reports were completed in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Indonesia, Rwanda and Uganda.

In addition to the above, the Information Management Officer worked in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Zambia to document civil society organisations and their programmes on economic policy. This information is stored in the online database created for this purpose in Phase 1 (2002).
2003 MEETINGS, EVENTS and CAMPAIGNS

In 2003 Eurodad organised or participated in many events and strategic meetings. Below these are listed in chronological order.

7th February 2003: organised civil society strategy meeting on debt campaigning, Brussels.


26th March 2003: Meeting with European Commission DG Development (Brussels) to discuss EC engagement in PRSP processes.

23rd/24th April: Spring meetings in Washington:

Meeting with Deputy Director at the IMF's Policy Development and Review Department (PDR) to present the 2003 PRGF research programme.

Meeting with the Deputy Director at the IMF’s Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) and staff working on the PRSP/PRGF evaluation to present the 2003 PRGF research programme.

Meeting with the Nordic/Baltic constituency's IMF Executive Director to assist and support Nordic member NGOs and advocate the findings from the 2003 PRGF research programme.

May 2003: organised workshop on North-South partnerships bringing together representatives from 13 European organisations, London.


August 2003: Participated in a seminar organised by Debt and Development Coalition Ireland on the role of the IMF in low-income countries. The seminar focussed on Eurodad’s three papers on the role of the IMF.

6th-7th August 2003, Lusaka Zambia: Deo Nyanzi (EPEP) was a resource person (and made a presentation) at the Workshop on International Financial Institutions.


October 2003: Eurodad secretariat held roundtable discussions with members in Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark) to present the secretariat’s work and listen to member suggestions.

6-7 October 2003, Addis Ababa Ethiopia: Deo Nyanzi (EPEP) was a resource person (and made a presentation) at the Strategic Planning Workshop on the Role of Civil Society in the Implementation and Monitoring of the SDPRP/PRSP, organized by UNDP-Ethiopia.

Mid-October 2003: EPEP organised an international exchange workshop in Washington DC in collaboration with the New Rules for Global Finance Coalition, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and Oxfam International, on the subject of poverty impact assessments of macroeconomic policies. Participants included top heterodox researchers and several IMF, World Bank, and UNDP officials.
Late October 2003: Second EPEP workshop (1st in Sept. see above) on Economic policy exposure in Accra; this workshop identified a strategic partner in Mali.

1st.-3rd. December 2003: The 2003 annual conference and general assembly was held in Prague; it was called: IDEOLOGY and EVOLVING ACRONYMS: Progress or Doublespeak? Over 100 participants from all around the world attended. The comprehensive conference report is available at: http://www.eurodad.org/aboutus/default.aspx?id=410

8th/9th December 2003: Eurodad participated in a ‘Debt Delegation’ to the European Parliament organised by Debt and Development Ireland together with Jubilee Netherlands, Jubilee Debt Campaign (Britain) and the Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network. The purpose of the delegation was to encourage MEPs to press the Irish EU Presidency due to start in January to make debt a priority.
**2003 OUTPUTS and PRESENTATIONS**

**Policy papers/briefings and background papers**

_Eurodad secretariat_

Listserves:

- PRSWatch: 2-3 postings/week on average
- Debt: 1 posting/2 weeks approx.

15/11/03: _Introductory pack to the Eurodad Annual Conference 2003: Overview of key topics and terms_: Mainly designed for those attending the introductory session (mainly E. European participants) but also new members, this provides a refresher course on debt, PRSP, structural adjustment issues.

24/10/2003: _Eurodad 2003 PRGF Matrix_: As part of the 2003 PRGF research programme (see below) a matrix comparing and contrasting 18 PRGF programmes via a series of 55 questions was produced (this was an expansion of the document produced in May with only 11 countries –see user's guide below) Available at: [http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=473](http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=473)

10/06/03: _Evian, the G7 and HIPC:s the bottle is still half empty_ This article ranks G7 countries’ debt policies for HIPC:s. Available at: [http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=472](http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=472)

01/06/03: _PRGF Matrix User Guide_: A comprehensive quick reference guide to the most salient patterns evident across the eleven different PRGF programmes, with a section analysing the conditionality of the programmes. This paper will be updated in early 2004 to cover the additional 7 countries (18 now in total) added to the matrix in October 2003. Available at: [http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=473](http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=473)


22/5/03: _Is the PRGF maximising finance for poverty reduction?:_ One of the three generic papers of the PRGF research programme. Discusses the role of the IMF as gatekeeper, and how this gets in the way of increased financing towards the MDGs. Available at: [http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=457](http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=457)

22/5/03: _Pro-poor Macroeconomic policies require poverty and social impact analysis_: One of the three generic papers of the PRGF research programme. This paper was in fact a joint effort by EPEP and Oxfam GB. Discusses the flaws in the IMF's macro model and the need to systematically carry out PSIA on the macroeconomic framework. Available at: [http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=457](http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=457)

22/5/03: _Streamlining of structural conditionality - what has happened?:_ One of the three generic papers of the PRGF research programme. Discusses the extent to which the IMF has streamlined its use of conditionality and returned to its ‘core mandate’ and how this relates to increased national ownership. Available at: [http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=457](http://www.eurodad.org/articles/default.aspx?id=457)

02/05/03: Comments on ‘IMF Staff Note on Macroeconomic Programming for Poverty Reduction’ Following the Technical Workshop on ‘Macro Analytical Issues in Taking the PRSP Approach Forward’ organised by the IMF just before the spring the spring meetings; Eurodad prepared - together with Oxfam GB and the Bretton Woods Project - a letter addressing some of the concerns we were left with after the workshop.

EPEP


Ongoing work

EPEP commissioned and co-edited a briefing comparing key features of orthodox and heterodox models, which has been made available as a discussion document.

Economic literacy: EPEP has drafted an introductory module for readers with no previous experience in economic policy, and is developing a module outlining the links between different international policy frameworks such as the PRSP, PRGF, and HIPC.

The Uganda mapping study commissioned by EPEP in collaboration with our partner Uganda National NGO Forum to identify and establish the capacity and potential of CSOs to engage in economic policy in specific sectors was finalized and the report is available.

EPEP worked with partners on a number of country reports documenting the national economic policy processes and opportunities for civil society intervention, and reviewing the actors involved, their strengths, weaknesses and experiences. Reports were completed in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Indonesia, Rwanda and Uganda.

A report was circulated on the May workshop on North-South NGO partnerships which includes participants’ suggestions for follow-up activities.

Presentations

30/11/03: Introductory session to Eurodad Annual Conference, Prague:

- Soren Kirk Jensen: PRGF and PRSC in a nutshell
- Deo Nyanzi: Brief introduction to PRSP

6th-7th August 2003, Lusaka Zambia: Deo Nyanzi (EPEP) at the Workshop on International Financing Institutions - "Introduction to Poverty Reduction Support Credit (PRSC) and Poverty Reduction Growth Facility (PRGF)".

6-7 October 2003, Addis Ababa Ethiopia: Deo Nyanzi (EPEP) at the Strategic Planning Workshop on the Role of Civil Society in the Implementation and Monitoring of the SDPRP/PRSP, organized by UNDP-Ethiopia - ‘Effective civil society engagement in the PRS Cycle - Key Perspectives and lessons from other PRSP countries’

--- See Report: The Role of Civil Society in the Implementation and Monitoring of the SDPRP; Report of the Strategic Planning Workshop, 6-7 October 2003, Addis Ababa prepared by UNDP Ethiopia, in cooperation with UNDP CEA SURF.
OBJECTIVES and ANTICIPATIONS for 2004

Results of restructuring

As explained by Jean Somers (Chair of the board) in her note above, in light of the merging of the secretariat and EPEP that will take place in 2004, the last quarter of 2003 saw significant attention given to considering and redefining the network’s vision, aims, and objectives. These redefined foundations are outlined in the Introduction: What is Eurodad?

One of the main results of the restructuring process will be a new structure reflecting a renewed emphasis on aligning the successes in the coordination of Northern research and lobbying efforts, with the new progress in building strong relationships in the South. It will further reflect the membership’s desire to operate more as a network with multiple activities facilitated by the Secretariat, and to integrate the ongoing work and partnerships of the members into the work members undertake together through the Secretariat. It is also important that our limited resources are used to add value to, and not duplicate, the work of the members, something which can only be achieved by remaining in close touch with members as their plans evolve.

The work of the secretariat and the work of EPEP will be integrated so staff responsible for undertaking research and lobbying are also responsible for building and maintaining relationships with partners. This will enable much closer integration of Northern member and Southern partner priorities in each work area. It will also enable better identification and maximisation of opportunities for bringing Northern members and Southern partners together on projects of common interest - such as joint lobbying initiatives.

Furthermore, a much greater emphasis has been placed on liaising with Network members and their existing and extensive Southern partnerships to ensure the greatest possible flow of information, utilisation of resources, sustainability of relationships and opportunities for issue-based coalitions as the basis of our work.

Identified work-plans and priorities for 2004

Prioritised areas are outlined below. The new coordinator and team will refine these ideas when they are in place (anticipated by Spring 2004). On the basis of the recommendations of the Eurodad General Assembly 2003 the secretariat will do more to emphasise support for the advocacy of members and synthesis of research materials produced by diverse organisations.

Debt sustainability

As part of the Monterrey consensus, the international community has set itself the task of reforming international multilateral institutions to make them more representative, more efficient, and more coherent. This could have important consequences for the governance issues linked with debt or financial crises. This is particularly the case of the roles played by creditors in institutions such as the Paris Club or the IMF. The secretariat plans to develop its expertise and lobbying in this area through its work in the CONCORD Financing for Development Working Group which will focus on the reform of global governance arrangements: raising the voice of Southern countries at the IMF and World Bank boards, enhancing the role of the UN ECOSOC, developing international insolvency procedures (and in the meantime supporting the creation of a working group on debt comprising all stakeholders - creditors, debtors, civil society, multilateral institutions - in the UN). Other potential advocacy opportunities such as the G7 summit, the finalisation of European Commission and Dutch government papers on debt will also be explored.
**Financing for development**

The Eurodad Network will continue to closely monitor developments in overall resource flows to developing countries, including the potential impacts of new mechanisms such as the International Finance Facility (IFF). Eurodad has commissioned an independent assessment of the IFF in the context of the CONCORD Working Group on Financing for Development. The study will be published shortly. Furthermore, we envisage organising a meeting for Eurodad members and those of other European Networks to discuss the study with a view of reaching a common European position on this initiative.

**Poverty Reduction Strategies**

Eurodad will continue to discuss how it can best complement the many activities of network members on PRS issues. Among options under consideration are developing a PRSP matrix. This could be similar in style to the PRGF matrix but with fewer questions. This would provide a good basis for monitoring the PRSP initiative in a way that could replace the former (and overly ambitious) intended strategy of creating country profiles. The project should begin with a review of all new PRSPs that come out. This would make sense because a lot of countries are still working on their first PRSP whilst at the same time the ‘old-timers’ (e.g. Uganda, Tanzania, Burkina Faso and Bolivia) will soon start to develop their second PRSP. This approach would help us to gradually shift our focus from process to content of PRSPs. This would be an ongoing assignment that interns could easily be involved in. Every year at the time of the Annual Meetings this (combined with PRS-Watch document reviews) could form the basis of a Civil Society PRSP progress report.

**PRGF**

Following the addition of seven new countries to the PRGF matrix (originally eleven countries) in September 2003, the first 2004 priority will be to update the PRGF Matrix User’ guide and analysis with the new country information. Beyond this, there is a general plan to revise, update and expand the matrix. An idea for further work on PRGF could be to make a series of economic policy literacy modules on each of the key features of the PRGF. These should not be as comprehensive and research-based as the first three papers of the PRGF research programme, but more oriented towards explaining to members and partners what is the content of the features, how they can be used and what Eurodad’s recommendations are for improving them (e.g. pro-poor and pro-growth budgets).

**Structural adjustment/PRSC**

Eurodad should start monitoring and conducting research on PRSCs. Particularly; efforts should be made to hold the WB accountable to its promises about this being different to structural adjustment and Washington Consensus policies. This is important as the Bank is currently taking over the responsibility for much structural work from the Fund as a result of the conditionality streamlining initiative. Eurodad could make a compilation of information and analysis from countries that already have PRSCs in order to put early pressure on the World Bank in this process.

**PSIA**

There is a natural link between work on PRSC/Structural Adjustment and Poverty and Social Impact Assessments, a fairly new instrument for assessing the likely outcome of donor-backed policy changes. This would require consideration of how best to coordinate this work with organisations such as Oxfam and Bretton Woods Project which have taken a lead on this issue during the last year.
**IMF’s role in Low Income Countries**

Following the 2003 Eurodad Annual Conference and General Assembly Eurodad should formulate a position on this issue and advocate with its members on the basis of it. Some additional applied policy research could be carried out to support this position. Opportunities include the IFI Spring Meetings and the launch of the IEO’s evaluation of the IMF’s role in PRSP/PRGF. Eurodad may consider making a public campaign out of this in collaboration with our members.

**EU related work**

To engage actively in the new Concord Working Group on participation and aid after pressure from Help-age and us with the aim of drawing lessons and creating synergies between Washington and Brussels policies from a civil society perspective. For example the EU is currently developing guidelines on participation). This engagement should improve our capacity to support members that want to meet with people in the EU institutions.

**Economic Policy Empowerment (Capacity building)**

One of the final activities/events of EPEP is planned for January. There will be a West African Civil Society and Economic Policy Conference in Ouagadougou, the first part of which will facilitate cross learning between different organizations and countries on good practice in civil society engagement through presenting case studies. The second part will facilitate organizations in developing engagement strategies, and identify capacity-strengthening and support needs for engagement.
EURODAD MEMBERS

2003 updates and 2004 work programmes

Eurodad has almost 50 member organisations in 15 countries. Below are accounts from Eurodad network members on their 2002-03 activities in the secretariat's core areas of work. For members whose current and planned activities are not listed, please visit their websites. In 2004 Eurodad plans to produce more regular ‘member update’ mailings informing groups of each others’ plans and the potential for linking up.

AUSTRIA

ØFSE/KOO

During 2003 the Austrian Foundation for Development Research (ÖFSE) continued to focus its policy work on PRSPs (a focus which was initiated in 2002). This involved organising a seminar on PRSP and Economic Policy in May 2003 and contributed to a publication on poverty reduction in relation to the seminar; commissioned two studies on PRSP in Mozambique and Uganda; organised seminars on PRSP in Mozambique, Uganda and Nicaragua; wrote guidelines for analysis of PRSP-documents for country co-ordinators of the Austrian Official Development Co-operation; wrote and published (online) an analysis of PRSP-processes; Published on MDGs/PRSP and development co-operation; facilitated a workshop on Poverty Reduction at a national conference on development policy.

In the areas of International Finance/Debt relief they were also very active. In 2003 they: held a meeting with Michel Camdessus and CIDSE members in the run up of G8 summit in Evian on ODA, debt, global governance, CTT (Tobin-tax); held another meeting with the Austrian Finance Ministry on SDRM/FTAP; produced a publication on International Financial Flows; met with Austrian Representatives of IMF and World Bank to discuss the Annual Meetings; contributed to seminars and university courses on Debt and Financial Flows; attended the Eurodad annual conference.

Studies and documents available at www.oefse.at or at: www.koo.at

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BELGIUM

11.11.11

In 2003 11.11.11. did some significant work on debt issues. Their recommendations on debt relief were an important part of the memorandum they presented to the political parties in the run up to the national parliamentary elections. Local groups visited a large number of candidates to the elections to identify their position and commitment to their memorandum requests. They continued their action on the debt of DRCongo to Belgium, acknowledging that their attempt in 2002-2003 to keep Congo out of the traditional HIPC approach failed. They note that this has had serious consequences: huge arrears have been rescheduled, transformed into new debt towards the IFIs, and one of the problems is that until then, all this debt was 100% linked to the old Mobutu regime. They explained that: by accepting the HIPC treatment, the new government has accepted and ‘legitimized’ the debt; their problem is that after HIPC debt relief, from 2005 onwards, the Congolese government will have to spend almost a third of its government income to debt payments. They plan to continue lobbying on this issue.

Their work on PRSP included: attempts to get the PRSP discussion in to government circles; co-organisation with the ministry of development cooperation of a one day conference on PRSP, with southern input (presenters were drawn from Uganda NGO Forum, Focus on the global south, and Eurodad); and further cooperation on PRSP with Belgian academics.

They also did some work on the IFI reform: two meetings with Willy Kiekens, the Belgian representative to the IMF; and production of a booklet on IMF (title: ‘big mouth, small ears’). Finally, with regards to Tobin tax and financial markets; they missed one vote to get a law proposal on a Spahn tax through in Belgian parliament (they intend to try again with the new parliament in 2004); they revived the ‘financial action
network’ (network on financial issues with other NGOs, the two major trade unions, ATTAC, the coordination of the environmental organisations); and they co-organised sessions - at a national and European level, and at the world social forum - on the Tobin-tax.

http://www.11.be/

- Broederlijk Delen: www.broederlijkdelen.be

DENMARK
- IBIS: www.ibis.dk
- Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke: www.ms-dan.dk

FINLAND
- Kepa: www.kepa.fi

FRANCE
- Agir ici

In partnership with AITEC and CRID, Agir ici have been working on the reform of the International Financial Institutions since 1998. Their main objectives are: to educate the public and to mobilise NGO’s in France on IFI reforms (every year they launch a campaign on a selected theme concerning IFI); to ask for more transparency and accountability from the French Government on IFI issues; to relay southern initiatives and participate in international actions.

The campaign they implemented in 2003 aimed to promote a universal access to healthcare and to reassert the role of the Government as guarantor of the universal right to health. In order to achieve this they have been asking the World Bank to: cease promoting the privatization of health services and to redirect its financing towards public and supportive health system; to stop supporting the utilization of user fees, which limit the access to health for the poorest populations; and finally to deliver its aid through grants instead of loans, so that financing access to health no longer adds to States’ indebtedness.

Also in 2003, Agir ici, in partnership with some European colleagues, carried out a study on the democratic scrutiny of IFI’s. They are currently working on ways to involve parliamentarians, organisations and individuals in better scrutiny in Europe.

For the 60 year anniversary of the Bretton Woods institutions, Agir ici plan to push for governance reforms, with a focus on the selection of the new President of the World bank at the end of 2004.

http://www.agirici.org/

- ACDE (NGO Network for Financing Development)

Activities of the secretariat of the network in 2003 were as follows:

To support their members for collaboration with the World Bank: Firstly; follow-up of WB prepared and financed projects and strategies: monthly report of procurement notices and operational summary of prepared projects. Secondly, providing training and information on WB mechanisms and procedures: 2 training sessions on NGO collaboration with the WB. Finally; lobbying towards WB for a greater collaboration with NGOs: 1 mission in WB headquarters with 5 NGO members

Debt processing mechanisms to finance development: Firstly; follow-up of HIPC and French bilateral debt alleviation initiatives and PRSPs: reports on HIPC in Cameroon, Madagascar and on the PRSP implementation, follow-up report on the implementation of the French bilateral initiative. Secondly; training and information on HIPC and French mechanisms and PRSPs. Finally; in the context of civil society participation to HIPC initiative, creation of a self-assessing diagnosis of the training needs for local NGOs: 1st experience in Cameroon.

Their work plan for 2004 includes: launching of a working group of members on AIDS, renewed survey on French NGO collaboration with the WB; preparation of a guide on WB “social funds” for NGOs; new reports
in French on HIPC in Guinea, Burkina Faso, Senegal; facilitation of a training needs diagnosis in Madagascar and a survey on the participation of Malagasy NGOs in the PRSP process.

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http://www.coordinationsud.org/ajppui/financement/acde.html

- CCFD: www.ccfd.asso.fr
  Plateforme sur la Dette et le Developpement: www.dette2000.org

**GERMANY**

- Erlassjahr 2000:
Erlassjahr continued to work on debt issues, focusing particularly on the possibilities of creating new mechanisms for debt governance. They produced a series of papers and conducted activities to popularise the issues with their supporters across Germany.

  www.erlassjahr.de

- Kindernothilfe: www.kindernothilfe.de
- MISEREOR: www.misereor.de
- WEED: www.weedbonn.org
- World Vision Germany: www.worldvision.de

**IRELAND**

- Debt and Development Coalition
In 2003 DDCI focused on getting the Irish government to actively promote its policy supporting 100% cancellation for HIPCs including BWI debt. A particular target was to get the government to make debt a priority for its January – June 2004 EU Presidency. Activities included a number of popular postcard and email campaigns to Ministers, TDs (MPs) and MEPs and a street event to mark the first anniversary of the adoption of the policy. They also commissioned Jubilee Research to produce a report ‘Can the World Bank and IMF cancel 100% of poor country debt’. Also, DDCI organised a debt delegation to the European Parliament with other national debt campaigns and networks which resulted in an invitation to address the Parliamentary Committee on Development Cooperation in January 2004.

Additionally, in 2003 DDCI made submissions on PRSP/PRGF/PRSC issues to the Irish government and to the Parliamentary Committees on development cooperation and finance. Research - which is to be followed up in 2004 - on the role of the EC in the PRSP was carried out.

In 2004 they plan to keep the pressure on the Irish government during the EU Presidency by working together with other European campaigns and networks with a view to the work on the EU and debt rolling on into the upcoming Dutch Presidency and the 2005 British Presidency. Also, in light of the BWI 60th anniversary DDCI will focus on the need for democracy and accountability. Finally; they plan to extend and strengthen their support base in Ireland for debt cancellation.

  www.debtireland.org

- IJND: www.jesuit.ie/ijnd
- Trocaire: www.trocaire.org

**ITALY**

- Campagna per la Riforma della Banca Mondiale: www.crbm.org

Eurodad annual report 2003
With regard to the PRSP processes in various countries, Plan Nederland took part in a dialogue with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS/DVF Marten de Boer). Plan Nederland made an inventory of the involvement of the Plan International offices in the countries that have a PRSP process. Their involvement appears to vary quite a bit. It can be full participation (Vietnam, Sierra Leone), thematic consultation (e.g. in Burkina Faso on health and education), indirectly (through membership of participating national networks and umbrella organisations in Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Tanzania, Zambia and Kenya). In other countries Plan's involvement is very limited or non-existent due to two reasons: a deficient consultation/participation process in general and/or the fact that Plan International country offices are not viewed as national representatives of the civil society as Plan is mainly working at local level. The results of the inventory were shared with some other Plan International offices in western countries (International Headquarters in the UK and national offices in Finland and Norway). Plan Nederland invited a delegation of Kenyan children to Europe in order to lobby for debt relief on behalf of the Kenyan children, and to advocate for spending the freed-up money on health and education. The Kenyan children visited some MEP's in Brussels and took part in several activities in the Netherlands. A report of their visit is available on the Plan Nederland website.

Plan Nederland, together with eight other national Plan offices in Europe, recruited a European Liaison Officer (Mrs. Karen Schroh) based in Brussels to build lobby and advocacy capacity and to establish a financial relationship with the EC. Mrs. Schroh attended the Eurodad General Assembly and Annual Conference on behalf of Plan Nederland.

For 2004, Plan Nederland will continue to be involved in a dialogue and information exchange with the Dutch Ministry. In addition, Plan Nederland has committed itself to co-organise the last of a series of seven debates that will be organised in the Netherlands in light of the EU Dutch presidencies by the Dutch NGDO community. The closing debate will take place in December 2004. Lastly, Plan Nederland will continue to stimulate Plan offices in their national lobby activities that are mainly sectoral, and support their involvement in a PRSP process when and if relevant.

In Brussels, a Plan Europe network of eleven Plan International national offices (Netherlands, UK, Ireland, Belgium, Spain, France, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Germany) is about to be established and will solicit for membership of CONCORD. A European advocacy strategy is being compiled that will focus on child related issues (and thus only indirectly on debt relief or PRSP issues).

http://www.plannederland.nl/

- **BBO**: [www.bbo.org](http://www.bbo.org)
- **Cordaid**: [www.cordaid.nl](http://www.cordaid.nl)
- **NIZA**: [www.niza.nl](http://www.niza.nl)
- **HIVOS**: [www.hivos.nl](http://www.hivos.nl)
- **ICCO**: [www.icco.nl](http://www.icco.nl)
- **United Churches in the Netherlands**: [www.kerkinactie.nl](http://www.kerkinactie.nl)
- **OIKOS**: [www.antenna.nl/oikos](http://www.antenna.nl/oikos)
- **NOVIB**: [www.novib.nl](http://www.novib.nl)
- **WEMOS**: [www.wemos.nl](http://www.wemos.nl)
NORWAY

- **SLUG**

SLUG’s campaigning focus in 2003 was on illegitimate debt and collaboration with southern networks.

They held their annual meeting in March, where representatives from Erlassjahr and Jubilee Debt Campaign UK were invited. Focus of discussion was to follow up on strategy discussion with the European network on how to collaborate on common campaigning. SLUG have consolidated work with national organisations in the coalition such as: Attac, SAIH - Students and Academians International Aidfund, Latin American Groups of Norway, and Changemaker – youth group of the Norwegian Church Aid. SLUG in Bergen arranged a three day conference on Illegitimate debt in October. Joseph Hanlon, Jürgen Kaiser and Alejandro Bendanja were present along with about 70 participants. SLUG collaborated with the Nordic network on a common letter to the Nordic/Baltic constituency before World Bank/IMF spring meetings and annual meetings. They facilitated a seminar on the FTAP process during the Norwegian Globalisation Conference (Social Forum). Participants included Prof. Kunibert Raffer from University of Vienna, Anahi Maldonado (activist and politician from Argentina) and a representative from Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Gjermund Saether. The seminar gathered over 50 participants. On a general level, SLUG intensified their focus on PRSPs throughout 2003.

SLUG attended/hosted many productive meetings in 2003: they were present at the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre in January as well as a Eurodad strategy meeting in Brussels in February and a meeting about the ECA project of Eurodad in Paris in April. They attended the World Bank and IMF spring meetings in Washington, and participated at G8 demonstrations and alternative conference in Annemasse, France, in June. Two people did a pilgrim walk in the Auvergne region of France during the G8 meeting, talking to people along the way about the debt crisis. SLUG participated in an international meeting with a north/south working group on Illegitimate Debt in Genève in June and Buenos Aires in October, they met with the Nordic network in Oslo in March and in Stockholm in November, as well as attending a meeting with a European Network on the issue of Ecuadorian negotiations in the Paris Club in Ramsau in September in addition to participating at Erlassjahr's Annual meeting the same month. Finally, SLUG had two meetings with official authorities at the Foreign Ministry, in April and September.

SLUG’s 2003 outputs include: three issues of the Campaigns newsletter, "Gjeldsbrevet", including one on the Illegitimate debt of Argentina. A report from the Tribunal, Norwegian Hearing on Third World Debt, held during the Globalisation Conference in Oslo 2002. A discussion paper on "Debt, responsibility and participation". They worked on a new design for the web page.

SLUG made some significant achievements over the last year. Through the campaigning on the illegitimate debt from dictatorships, Changemaker has managed to bring the issue of illegitimate debt on the political agenda in Norway. This has set a precedent for the work of SLUG in the future. We are also very pleased with the new project cooperation with the organisations of the coalition, which allows us to consolidate a broader activity.

[http://www.slettgjelda.no](http://www.slettgjelda.no)

- **Norwegian Church Aid:** [www.nca.no](http://www.nca.no)

SPAIN

- [Intermon Oxfam](http://www.intermon.org)

SWEDEN

- [Forum Syd](http://www.forumsyd.se)

IN 2003 Forum Syd focused its advocacy work around WTO, IMF and the general policies of the World Bank. Activities outside of the trade area were, for instance: collaboration with Swedish Jubilee – facilitating a seminar on the Jubilee Plus report on MDG and sustainable debt; publishing a new book on the debt-trap which includes background on FTAP and illegitimate debts; writing a Nordic letter to the ministers for the spring meetings pointing out positions on SDRM and Voice issues and they wrote a Nordic letter to the ministers for the IFI Spring meetings, pointing out positions on PRS. Forum Syd worked with the Bretton Woods Project holding a meeting with national parliamentarians on possible reforms on the work procedures with IMF and World Bank issues. They started to work on illegitimate debt, writing a letter to the Madrid meeting on Iraqi debt. They did some advocacy work on water privatisation and IFI-conditionality, as well as some research providing an overview of PRS-studies; and finally, they released a case study on Nicaragua and the agriculture assessment of the World Bank and IMF-conditions.
Their plans for 2004 include continuing work on illegitimate debt, PRS and macroeconomic IFI-conditions and water privatisation.

http://www.forumsyd.se/

- **Diakonia**

One main focus area of Diakonia in 2003 has been PRSP, both in advocacy work carried out in Sweden and in activities carried out together with partners. In August the PPPR project - People Participating in Poverty Reduction, a joint project of Diakonia, Church of Sweden and Save the Children Sweden, held a global seminar in collaboration with the Danish North South Coalition on PRSPs. The PPPR project has also produced the report *Reducing Poverty or repeating mistakes?*, a summary of partner experiences of PRSPs in nine countries. The report and the findings of the seminar have both been used as a basis for advocacy work.

Diakonia plays an active role in the Swedish Jubilee Network. During 2003 the network raised issues on PRSP, debt sustainability and the MDGs, illegitimate debt, democracy and transparency in the World Bank and IMF, in regular meetings with officials and in letters in time for the World Bank and IMF meetings.

During 2003 Diakonia worked hard to influence the new Swedish policy for global development presented by the government in May. Diakonia held meetings with government representatives and political parties and has put forward concrete suggestions of amendments to the policy in relation to for example debt, poverty reduction and people participation.

In 2004 Diakonia will continue to focus on PRSP and debt, together with trade, in its advocacy work in Sweden. Together with the Swedish Jubilee Network activities will be organised in relation to the 60th anniversary of the Bretton Woods institutions.

- **Afrika Grupperna: www.afrikagruperna**

- **Church of Sweden: www.svkyrkan.se**

**SWITZERLAND**

- **Swiss Coalition of Development Organisations**

In line with the consultancy contract with the Swiss government, the Debt-for-Development Unit (DDU) worked in two areas in 2003; supporting the counterpart funds of the Swiss debt-reduction facility, and monitoring the PRS processes in selected countries.

Most of the 12 original counterpart funds have come to an end, i.e. their resources have been allocated. Four funds however, have a long-term disbursement horizon or a refunding strategy that preserves the funds’ resources. Apart from monitoring and advising these funds on behalf of the Swiss government, DDU has successfully developed exit strategies for Switzerland aiming at handing the funds over to national institutions in the target country.

The objective of the second area is to advise the Swiss government on potential interventions in support of the PRSP processes, with a civil society focus. To accomplish that, DDU has embarked on a two-pronged approach. First, it carried out two case studies, one on civil society's perspective on the PRSP process in Ghana, with special emphasis on issues of participation and ownership. The second case study was on the involvement of CSOs in the monitoring of the PRSP in Burkina Faso. The findings of the country studies have also informed the second approach, which concerns the development of a meta-monitoring for PRSP processes. The focus of the meta-monitoring is on monitoring processes rather than PRSPs directly. DDU is currently working on a coherent concept for the meta-monitoring. An integral part of DDU’s work is the dissemination of information related to debt and PRSP issues by means of interviews, articles, presentations, and the provision of background information.

DDU’s priorities for 2004 are very much the continuation of this year’s activities. DDU will assist the remaining counterpart funds in the implementation of the exit strategies while carry on the monitoring and support of the funds’ operations. Regarding the case studies in Ghana and Burkina Faso, discussions are under way about a follow-up to implement the recommendations made in the reports. Furthermore, a third country case study is planned for the coming year. Finally, considerable time needs to be invested in advancing the development of the meta-monitoring, which will help DDU to provide high-quality advice to the Swiss government on effective support of PRSP processes.

http://www.swisscoalition.ch/english/pagesnav/framesE4.htm?T&T_Eg.htm
UNITED KINGDOM

- **ActionAid UK**

  ActionAid’s main advocacy and campaign activities in 2003 were as follows:

  Food rights: they continued their work on food patents and TRIPS, and investment rules in developing countries. ActionAid also worked intensively around the WTO meeting in Cancun and was represented on the UK delegation. HIV-AIDS: their focus was on pressing the UK government to meet its fair share of the Global Health Fund for AIDS, Malaria and TB. ODA: they continued their work on Aid Untying with a legal complaint against several EU members for their tied aid policies being in contravention of EU competition rule. Conflict Diamonds: ActionAid UK was a key participant in the Kimberley process. Education: they lobbied around the Education Fast Track Initiative (FTI) at the 2003 Spring Meetings and produced new research on the FTI, and the 2005 MDGs.

  In 2004 their strategic priorities will be as follows:

  Aid: First of all they intend to work on donor conditionality, focusing on service privatisation and trade liberalisation conditions in IFI programmes, and its impact on poor people. Secondly, they will look at Technical Assistance, and its role in shaping policy in developing countries. Third on the agenda are issues related to Donor transparency. Finally, they will engage in ongoing lobby work on 0.7% aid levels, aid untying, MDGs, debt and IFIs. Trade and investment: at first they will work on the ‘corporate control of agriculture, and donors’ role. Secondly: ongoing tracking work on Singapore Issues, agricultural subsidies. They will also look at the Cotonou agreement, and finally they will advocate on IFI trade and investment policy.

  HIV-AIDS: they will engage in ongoing work on the Global Fund.  
  [http://www.actionaid.org](http://www.actionaid.org)

- **World Development Movement**

  WDM’s debt related activities in 2003 were as follows:

  March: Organised a media stunt with Jubilee Debt Campaign protesting against the Big Food Group taking the Guyanan Government to court over a £12 million debt claim. The Big Food Group dropped the claim.


  May: Published 'Treacherous Conditions', a report analysing how conditions attached to debt relief are unsuccessful, undemocratic and unfair. Organised a media stunt 'Race against debt' with UK MPs. Published ' Richest Picking', an explanatory guide to poor country debt.

  October: Launched Colludo campaign on the conditions being attached to the HIPC process. Published 'Debt and destruction in Senegal', a case study written by a southern author backing our case on WB/IMF conditions.

  Summary of planned debt related activities for 2004:

  To continue our work exposing that the conditions attached to the HIPC process are unsuccessful, undemocratic and unfair. We will pursue this aim through public outreach, popular and effective campaigning, national and local media work, detailed research and high-level advocacy. We will also continue to argue for the need for more debt relief to be given to countries beyond what the current HIPC process provides.

  - CAFOD: [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)
  - Christian Aid: [www.christian-aid.org.uk](http://www.christian-aid.org.uk)
  - Jubilee Research: [www.jubileeresearch.org](http://www.jubileeresearch.org)
  - Oxfam UK: [www.oxfam.org.uk](http://www.oxfam.org.uk)
  - Save the Children: [www.savethechildren.org.uk](http://www.savethechildren.org.uk)
  - Tear Fund: [www.tearfund.org.uk](http://www.tearfund.org.uk)
  - Wateraid: [www.wateraid.org.uk](http://www.wateraid.org.uk)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Members’ details</th>
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<td><strong>11.11.11</strong></td>
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<td>Action Aid</td>
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<td>ACDE</td>
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<td>ASTM</td>
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<td>Afrikagrupperna</td>
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<td>Agir Ici</td>
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<td>BBO</td>
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<td>Broderlijk Delen</td>
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<td>CAFOD</td>
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<td>Campagne per la</td>
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<td>Riforma della Banca</td>
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<td>Mondiale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christian Aid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church of Sweden</td>
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<td>CCFD/Plate-forme sur la Dette et le Developpement</td>
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<td>Cordaid</td>
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<td>DDC</td>
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<td>Diakonia</td>
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<td>Erlassjahr 2000</td>
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<td>Forum Syd</td>
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<td>HIVOS</td>
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<td>Intermon</td>
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<td>IJND</td>
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<td>Jubilee Research</td>
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<td>KEPA</td>
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<td>Kerkinactie</td>
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<td>Kindermothilfe</td>
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<td>KOO Austria</td>
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<td>SMIEROR</td>
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<td>Norwegian Church Aid</td>
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<td>ÖFSE</td>
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<td>Oikos</td>
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<td>Oxfam GB</td>
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<td>Save the Children UK</td>
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<td>SLUG</td>
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<td>Swiss Coalition</td>
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<td>WaterAid</td>
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<td>World Devt Movement</td>
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<td>WEED</td>
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<td>WEMOS</td>
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<td>World Vision Germany</td>
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GOVERNANCE and ADMINISTRATION

Organisational culture

In accordance with our objectives, the organisational culture of Eurodad is one based on the values of innovation and learning. Management of staff varies according to the needs of the individual and how to best harness their strengths and skills. A core team, working with a variety of strategic partners in Europe and the South reflects the organisational objectives of empowerment of Southern organisations, cross fertilisation of knowledge, increased collaboration and cooperation between actors and the role of the programme as an innovator, broker and support body. Learning is explicitly built into the framework of the organisation - both for staff regarding skill and personal development and in the programming. ‘Mistakes’ are seen as valuable opportunities for learning and refocusing.

Board members

The work of the organisation is directly overseen by the 9-strong Board of Directors, which meets once per quarter. Board members are elected from the membership for renewable 3-year periods by the annual General Assembly which is made up of all 48 members. Every effort is made to ensure regional and topic diversity among the Board members.

In light of the integration of the two separate units of the secretariat and EPEP A Southern Steering Committee will be formed (several members have already been invited) to advise the Board generally, and particularly to guide the identification advocacy targets, partners and strategies in/ for the South. This has been initiated to ensure that decision-making and accountability structures reflect those with a core stake in the work of the Network. The southern partners with whom we have been working most closely have already accepted the invitation to participate. The Committee will have a minimum of 5 core members, which they can choose to supplement with additional members to reflect current priorities or needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jean Somers - Chair</td>
<td>Debt and Development Coalition</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Paul Heerschap</td>
<td>Hivos</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Lawson - Treasurer</td>
<td>Oxfam GB</td>
<td>UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter With</td>
<td>IBIS/North-South Coalition</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Koehler</td>
<td>Campagna per la Riforma della Banca Mondiale</td>
<td>Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sihle Dube</td>
<td>NIZA</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susanne Luithlen</td>
<td>Erlassjahr 2000</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean Merckaert</td>
<td>CCFD/Plate-forme Debt et Developpement</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kjetil Abildsnes</td>
<td>SLUG</td>
<td>Norway</td>
</tr>
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</table>
**Eurodad finances**

Eurodad employs an external accountant (Interfiduciare) and an external auditor (Clybouw) to help produce and oversee its financial statements. Because of the management transition in the organisation in Spring 2004 the audit has not yet been completed. It is expected to be available at the end of August. Eurodad will be pleased to send a copy of the audit to any member who requests it. The final, audited, figures will also be entered into the version of this annual report which will be posted on the Eurodad website.

Below is the summarised financial statement of Eurodad.

**Eurodad summary accounts 2003**

**Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member income</td>
<td>153,806</td>
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<tr>
<td>Official funders (SIDA and TMF)</td>
<td>494,743</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridge funding/EC guarantees</td>
<td>40,304</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual conference fees</td>
<td>3,831</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reimbursements and cost recuperation</td>
<td>3,678</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial income</td>
<td>3,541</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>699,904</strong></td>
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**Expenditure**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services and other goods</td>
<td>-361,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remunerations, social security costs and pensions</td>
<td>-349,565</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial charges</td>
<td>-4,881</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>-716,429</strong></td>
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**Result**

**-16,526**

**Balances**

<table>
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<td>2002 income carry forward</td>
<td>131,902</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003 result</td>
<td>-16,526</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004 cumulative balance</td>
<td>115,377</td>
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The full accounts and audit are available from Eurodad on request.